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**FIFE LAKE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD MEETING  
APPROVED MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2019**

**ROLL CALL:** Supervisor Linda Forwerck,-X, Treasurer Cathy Sorrow-X, Clerk Terry Street-X, Trustee Elizabeth Pearson-X, Trustee Dawn Zimmerman-X.  
Quorum Established.

Sorrow made **Motion** to approve the Agenda as amended moving Cemetery Report to New Business 4, add MTA Workshop to Other Business, add Street Light US 131and Lakeshore Drive to Old Business 3. Zimmerman Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

**Conflict of Interest** – N/A

Street read the purpose of the **Consent Calendar**. Sorrow made **Motion** to accept the Consent Calendar consisting of August 22, 2019 Township Board Minutes, Financial Report and bills to be paid with the removal of the Bills, Street Seconded All in Favor, **Motion Carried**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**CITIZEN COMMENT-**

Malissa Bertram of Lake Ann, commented on the Medical Marijuana Facility Ordinance. Specifically, buffer zones, variance or waivers for residential zones. May have additional comments during Medical Marijuana Facilities later on agenda.

Anna Rowe Love of Marsh Road in Fife Lake is a fourth-generation bicentennial farm owner. Unfortunately, she lost a lot of history during a fire. She has forty-five years of IT experience and has worked with Pontem, our Cemetery Software. Looking forward to working with Sexton, Lisa Palamdon and the Fife Lake Cemetery Committee.

Jeff Gurke of Wil-Pet Drive in Fife Lake has been added to the Agenda under Old Business -Street light at US 131 and Lakeshore Drive.

**REPORTS**

**County Commissioner** – Rob Henschel-Absent. Nate Alger spoke on behalf of County. A complete County Committee engaged with Townships on the Census Bureau with a great level of cooperation. \$1900.00 for revenue per person.

**Fife Lake Village** -Dave McGough-Village President, reported the prep work for Merritt Street to Blue Road is complete. Street added MDOT was good to work with on Round About, a street lights there

will cost \$37.00 per month.

Habitat for Humanity is asking for help, Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., putting the siding on. If interested just show up.

Run off on Cyclamene Street is getting resurfaced.

Scarecrow Festival October 12, 2019.

**Sheriff Department-** Chris Clark reported for Deputy Meiers, they will be very busy with walk to school days.

**Ambulance/Fire/Emergency Planning** Robert Melancon reported for EMS. Statistics of 27 runs 23 transfers. Motorcycle Enduro ride on October 5, 2019 requires EMS on site. There will be free hot dogs provided.

October 12, 2019 Fire/Ems Station will hold an Open House in conjunction with the Scare Crow Festival.

**Fire Chief**, Scott Tinker, reported on nine runs throughout the past month. Chief Tinker is concerned with the monies needed for equipment repairs and gear. The tanker used for hauling water is twenty-eight years old, with a roster of twenty-three Fire Fighters. The need for gear can be costly. Grant writing continues. There is currently enough money for daily operations, but there is concern for monies in the future. Meetings are held every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. at the Fire/EMS Station.

**FLAUA-** Gifford reported Compliance Officer Ravary has been busy organizing storage areas. Still a couple of issues to clean up with Fleiss and Vanderbrook looking into other Engineer Companies for future assistants.

Sorrow resigned as Authority member for the Fife Lake Township, we will need to replace this Township position.

Almost all of Vans Lane residents will be or already hooked up.

**Zoning-**Debbie Rodriquez reported on the statistics of Township zoning, applications are slowing down.

There was a productive meeting with the County.

There was a meeting on October 9, 2019 with Pat Dunlap and Brownie Newman with Solar Power. Consumers Power has been a challenge financially and timely. We are hoping they don't back out of the project.

**Planning Commission** – Zimmerman reported Site Plan of Stage 2 Pugsley Planned Development has been adopted and sent to the Fife Lake Township Board.

FLAPC will be discussing a Rotary Grant with the help of Elise of State Craft, October 8, 2019 regular scheduled meeting.

**Civic Center South-** Street reported meeting held September 12, 2019. Ice rink caulking to be done,

other fall maintenance.

**Cemetery Committee** -Moved to New Business on the agenda.

### **Special Order of Business**

Presentation Power Point – Presented by Mac Mclelland. The Brownfield Plan with the Pugsley Plan Development. Brownfield Plan may be viewed at the Fife Lake Township Hall.

Brownfield working in conjunction with North Bay to present this to the Grand Traverse County. Hopefully they will be able to be back at the Township Board by spring to iron out details keeping life simple at the Township level.

Forwerck commented the Township Attorney has advised acting too soon could close other doors. Discussion with the Developers Attorney and Brownfield Consultant will help to make a more educated decision. Fife Lake Township Attorney recommends a special meeting to be held before the 16<sup>th</sup> to clear any questions or concerns for resolution acceptance or denial.

Board Consensus to follow Fife Lake Township Attorney recommendations.

Pearson made **Motion** to have a Special Meeting October 7, 2019, 6:30 p.m. to act on resolution for Pugsley Planned Development-Brownfield Plan, Zimmerman Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried.**

Discussion and questions for Mac as follows:

Since the presentation offers no tax dollars for the first fifteen years how will the Township offset costs. Evaluation of property potential up is to one-million-dollar tax unit. Only Pugsley land exempt unless add to Brownsfield Plan.

Chris Clark, Nate Alger and Chris Forsythe agree as property owners, they want this done correctly. Gregg Garth works with the portion of business already in operation in Grand Rapids, interested in moving the World Headquarters to Fife Lake.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**The Budget** Committee met last week, back to the original. Lega council informed the Township cannot capture a \$5000.00 license fee without justifying the costs incurred for each license. \$38,150.00 was added to revenues we may never see, so cuts will be necessary.

Transportation license fee along with Testing Facility license fee will be removed. The License Fees will cover 2 Grower, 2-Processors, 2-Provision Centers.

Street reported he missed the meeting as he was not informed of being a member. Zimmerman stated this is the same committee we utilized in the spring.

Sorrow gave input on the Cemetery and if the need for money is in demand, we may need to move money to get needed money for various aspects of the cemetery.

Street reminded, the budget is our guide that may need adjusting.

Zimmerman added the Committee worked and researched for three hours to come up with the figures reported.

The loss of Camp Pugsley revenue sharing will affect Fife Lake budget in 2021 with \$45-50 thousand less per year.

There may need to be a millage, since the only time this has ever been done was during the Headlee Amendment.

Forwerck made **Motion** to adopt the report as amended Budget, Zimmerman Seconded;

Discussion;

Street suggested installment payment plan for the Grand-Kal project. The Grand Traverse County may work with the Township on this.

Forwerck- Lakeshore drive is bad we will be setting up a Road Committee.

Board Consensus to explore payment plan for Grand Kale project with Grand Traverse County. Roll Call Vote on motion to adopt budget as amended budget: Pearson-Abstain, Zimmerman-Yes, Forwerck-Yes, Sorrow-No, Street- No. 1-Abstain, 2-Yes, 2-No, **Motion Failed**.

Street suggested we relook at the budget.

Forwerck asked County Administrator Nate Alger for some assistance on how they deal with budget issues. He stated, the County Commission sets up the budget annually. Budget cuts are made as a Board. If cuts are necessary then a percentage across the board cuts and or individual programs. Expenditures are cut by percentage starting with non-personal line items. Hours worked can be adjusted but never wages.

Forwerck asked about getting assistance from Dean Bott.

Street proposed a budget board workshop to be held October 2, 2019 at the Fife Lake Township Hall. Bring up to date budget to be worked on at the workshop Monday.

**Elise Craft Resolution** provided Resolution #2019-001, Stage 2 of Pugsley Planned Development. Forwerck made **Motion** to approve the Resolution#2019-001, Stage 2 Pugsley Planned Development, Sorrow Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

**H&R Block**, Charity Sawyer has resigned. In her place is Emily Escajeda, is already working with Auditors. Street said the Audit went well, but we received a list of recommendations for possible future improvements.

Street provided a new time sheet which was recommended by H and R Block to be used. Please make sure your using correct time sheet see Street for questions or concerns. Timesheets must be turned in by 4:00 Wednesday, the week prior to Fife Lake Township Board Meeting.

**Appoint Lakeshore Drive Street Committee-**

It has been determined the Lakeshore Drive Committee will consist of John Verhey, Lyle Spaulding, Carol Hayes, Pam Lawrence, Barney Theisen, Mike Kattrech, Tom Gray and Greg Sova, Special Assessment District mentioned.

Forwerck made **Motion** to appoint these people to the Lakeshore Committee for advice and recommendations, Zimmerman Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

### **Cemetery Report appoint cemetery committee members-**

Sorrow issued Cemetery Committee rules and regulations. Members must be appointed by the Township Board. Maintenance and improvements are recommended by the Cemetery Committee to the Fife Lake Township Board to act on as needed. Betty Ingersoll Chaired this Committee until 2014 when she handed the reigns to Sorrow. Board Officials can advise from the audience but not to sit on Committee.

Forwerck made **Motion** to remove Forwerck and Sorrow from the Cemetery Committee, Supervisor will attend on advisory basis, Zimmerman Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

Marie Voice informed the leadership by Forwerck and Sorrow has been very much appreciated.

Forwerck made **Motion** to appoint Anna Rowe Love and Debbie Rodriguez to the Cemetery Committee, Sorrow Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

Marie Voice added Anna is very knowledgeable and will be an asset to the record keeping of Cemetery activity.

Discussion on Cemetery mowing and clean up to finish the 2019 Fall season needed.

Forwerck made **Motion** the Fife Lake Township hire Nicole Precord to finish out the 2019 Fall Season. Street Seconded. Roll Call Vote Finds; Street-Yes, Sorrow-Yes, Forwerck-Yes, Zimmerman-Yes, Pearson-Yes, **Motion Carried**. If Nicole Precord agrees on the position, we can hire her immediately.

Discussion on all Township grounds and maintenance will also need to be completed for the Fall 2019 season.

Sorrow made **Motion** to hire Nicole Precord for all Fife Lake Township grounds maintenance for 2019 fall season, Pearson Seconded. Roll Call Vote Finds; Zimmerman-Yes, Pearson-Yes, Street-Yes, Sorrow-Yes, Forwerck- Yes. 5-Yes. 0-No, **Motion Carried**.

If Nicole Precord agrees on the position, we can hire her immediately.

### **Bills to be paid-**

Banner bill was sent to the Chamber of Commerce for \$385.00, Brittan Banner.

There is a special line item for Police Community.

Auditors recommend bill be sent to Township.

Gail Burdzy, Chamber Treasurer, recommends Chamber give money to Township as a surplus by adding a surplus account. Sorrow said we use General fund.

Street made **Motion** to follow the auditor recommendation. Have the company resend bill to Fife Lake

Township, donation monies will come to the Fund Balance, Pearson Seconded Discussion on cleaner way to create a sub account through the Chamber and Township. Street **rescinded his Motion to read**; Donated money rolled over to Chamber of Commerce then the Chamber can pay the bill. Forwerck Seconded, All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

Other Bills to paid are the Sanitation bill for the porta-potty at the Township boat access, \$320.00- Security Sanitation. Cintas-\$300.99.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Medical Marijuana Ordinance Draft**-Medical Marijuana Facility Draft (can be viewed at the Fife Lake Township Hall).

Proposed property to property explained.

The U.S. 131 Road Side park. Exempt from the rule for Churchs, Schools and other Public/Gatherings.

Attorney Graham can write variances in the ordinance.

Fife Lake Township Board will hopefully be able to act on the Medical Marijuana Facility Ordinance during the regular scheduled meeting October 24. 2019. If so thirty days after publication making December 1, 2019 a possible effective date.

Board discussion on granting licenses:

Section 6 talks about different ways to consider applications through the Fife Lake Township Board. Three options looked at are the Lottery, First Come/First Serve, Interviews. Board Consensus the Lottery would work the best with concerns of one person needing all three licenses to fully operate only getting one of the three needed.

The Fee schedule should be up to date for future choices.

Malissa Bertram and Ricky Newton said \$5,000 is not unreasonable.

Attorney suggested \$500.00 making sure we can justify the costs., Township considered \$1500.00 and the FLAPC looked more at \$2500.

Pearson made **Motion** to start the Fee Schedule with \$2500.00 Street Seconded, All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

Sorrow made **Motion** to include the option for a variance under 5f. Medical Marijuana Facility Draft, Zimmerman Seconded, All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

Medical Marijuana Facility Ordinance will be on October Agenda.

## **Grand Kal Road Project**

Grand-Kal Project underway per Grand Traverse Road Commission and Residents. An additional culvert may be needed, a DEQ permit will be needed for this process.

## **Street Light at M-186 and M-113**

Jeff of Wil Pet, citizen concerned about street light at the U.S. 131 and Lakeshore section is not lighted. Discussions with Consumers Power and Rick Liptak of M-DOT to utilize the lines are underway.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

MTA Workshop- Forwerck request going to Leadership/Team Work and Fixing the Roads, Workshop in Thompsonville. The cost is \$136.00 and in the Education Fund per Budget. Sorrow made **Motion** to send Forwerck to the MTA Workshop for Leadership/Teamwork and Fixing the Roads. Zimmerman Seconded, All in Favor, **Motion Carried.**

## **CITIZEN COMMENT-**

Gail Burdzy, Resident of the Fife Lake Township and Village also Treasurer of the Fife Lake Chamber of Commerce reiterated the importance of Community Support including Township and Village needs volunteers and monetary support to remain active in events that make our area flourish.

Ricky Newton very thankful for the efforts of everyone involved in making the process happen and understanding the need for timely diligence.

Kingsley High School Students attended the Fife Lake Township Board Meeting for class credit.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Forwerck call for Adjournment. All in Favor,  
Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 pm.

September 26 Draft Minutes Prepared by: Leigh Gifford, Recording Secretary.  
August 22, 2019 Minutes Approved by Fife Lake Township board 09-26-2019.

September 26, 2019 Minutes approved by the Fife Lake Township Board at the regular scheduled meeting October 24, 2019.