

CARROLLTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 28, 2021

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Supervisor Abney	Present
	Clerk Fritz	Absent - excused
	Treasurer Thurston	Present
	Trustee Douglas	Present
	Trustee Westphal	Present

There being a quorum, Supervisor Abney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Also in attendance: Director Craig Oatten, Office Manager Megan Weaver, DPW Superintendent Don Sumption and Fire Chief Bob Tetloff.

Acceptance of Agenda:

It was moved by Douglas and supported by Westphal to accept the agenda as presented. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Public Comments:

Andrew Lamia, 2836 N. Michigan, stated that he felt he was mistreated at the last Planning Commission meeting by some of the commission members and Zoning Administrator Jim Gray when discussing the site plan for 2824 N. Michigan. Abney disagreed with Mr. Lamia's explanation of how he was treated as he attended that meeting. Mr. Lamia continued to ask questions about the property near 2824 N. Michigan and who owned which parcels. Oatten stated that he was still fulfilling Mr. Lamia's multiple FOIA requests, and he would have everything ready for him to pick up by the end of the week.

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Westphal and supported by Abney to approve minutes for: June 1, 2021 - regular meeting and June 14, 2021 – departmental meeting. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Correspondence:

It was moved by Douglas and supported by Abney to receive and file the correspondence as listed for June 2021. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Accounts Payable:

It was moved by Thurston and supported by Douglas to approve the June Accounts Payable in the amount of \$171,906.35. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Committee/Commission/Board Reports:

Tetloff thanked the DPW for tearing out the old concrete pads at the Fire Station.

Oatten reported that 54 junk vehicles had been tagged in the Township.

Oatten stated that for the 4th of July holiday, fireworks are allowed June 29 – July 4 between 11am and 11:45pm. He has directed his police officers to give tickets out this year with no warnings.

Sumption informed the board that Consumers would be in the south end of the Township working on a gas main replacement. They have staked the areas with wooden stakes painted green.

The Atlanta Road project was completed. Sumption had not heard when the Skyhaven road project would begin. Abney asked if the cost of the Atlanta project came in over or under the original estimate. Oatten responded that there had not been any invoices received yet, but when they come in, he would let the board know the final cost.

Sumption reported that the new slide was in for Hanchett Park and would be installed that week.

Pending Business:

Oatten stated that he had confirmed with the property manager of Carrollton Center that the building next to Skyhaven Ct. would be painted soon.

Abney stated that he had talked with a resident that lived in Skyhaven Subdivision about the proposed sewer lateral project. Abney explained to him that the residents in the subdivision could petition for a special assessment district to fund the project. Abney stated that the resident was not interested in doing so. Discussion followed. Abney asked if the Township could hold an informational meeting regarding the sewer lateral project. Oatten stated that he would have to check with the attorney on whether that was allowed as there are certain rules when it comes to petitioning for a special assessment district.

Oatten informed the board that he had submitted the requests to Consumers Energy for streetlights on Hanchett St. at the intersections of Pioneer Trail, Tulane, and Ridgeland. He would bring further information when it was available. He added that it could take 2-6 weeks for a cost estimate to be received.

Oatten stated that he had checked with the State Law regarding violation notification for long weeds/grass. The 10 days that the Township gives the property owner to cut their lawn is not in the State Law, but rather past practice. It used to be 20 days, and then 14 days, and in recent years, lowered to 10 days. Much discussion followed. Oatten stated that he would direct the code enforcement officer to mail the letters as soon as the weeds/grass are reaching the six-inch height.

New Business:

It was board consensus to set the annual Tire Drive for Saturday, August 14, 2021, 9:00am – Noon and the annual Dumpster Day for Saturday, September 11, 2021, 8:00am – Noon.

Oatten stated that his police officers inquired on whether they could do the Adopt-A-Road program for their community service hours. Response: Yes.

Weaver presented the proposed adoption agreements for the Township's pension plan with Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS). She explained that the Township had negotiated with the three bargaining units for employees to begin contributing towards their pension starting with 1% of their gross wages beginning April 1, 2021. Weaver further explained that while not all the management contracts had been renewed and the Compensation Commission still needed to meet to set the elected officials' wages and benefits, MERS required all employees in the two divisions to contribute. If some employees were not required to contribute, they would need to be carved out into their own separate division with MERS. Discussion followed.

Oatten stated that he had already talked to Code Enforcement Officer Sal Salazar (non-union), and he was willing to contribute. Oatten had already begun to contribute the 1% retroactive to April 1. Weaver and Sumption both had contracts that were expired; but they both knew the MERS contribution rates would be included in their renewed contracts. More discussion followed. It was moved by Thurston and supported by Douglas to approve the proposed MERS Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreements (copies attached) requiring an employee contribution of 1% of gross wages retroactive to April 1, 2021; 3% of gross wages beginning April 1, 2022; 5% of gross wages beginning April 1, 2023; and 6% of gross wages beginning April 1, 2024; and to authorize Office Manager Megan Weaver to sign the agreements. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Weaver requested a separate motion for those employees that are management or non-union. It was moved by Thurston and supported by Abney to require all non-union employees including the code enforcement officer, department heads and elected board members to contribute towards their pension plan as described in the MERS Adoption Agreements previously approved. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Oatten informed the board that he had the Township's attorney review the current sidewalk ordinance and everything was in compliance with State Law.

Public Comments:

Andrew Lamia, 2836 N. Michigan, stated that he appreciated the Township cutting the lawn at 2831 N. Michigan. He asked what could be done about the tree. Oatten stated that they were contacting the owner in reference to the tree being a safety hazard.

Rose King, 3427 N. Michigan, cited several code enforcement violations that she was aware of.

Director Comments/Updates:

Oatten stated that both he and Weaver had attended the American Rescue Plan Act webinar hosted by the State of Michigan Department of Treasury on June 17.

Oatten informed the board that late that afternoon, he received communication from Spicer Group that the DWAM Grant application had been approved. It was not for the full amount of \$1 million, but a partial amount that would help in funding the water lead line identification mandate passed down by the State.

Weaver stated that the annual audit had begun that morning and the auditors would be in the office for most of the week.

Board Comments:

Westphal stated that she planned on organizing the community-wide garage sales again this year. The dates would be Thursday – Saturday, August 5-7, 2021.

Adjournment:

It was moved by Westphal and supported by Thurston to adjourn. There being all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry W. Fritz, Clerk

Public in attendance:

Rose King 3427 N. Michigan

Andrew Lamia 2836 N. Michigan