

**CARROLLTON TOWNSHIP BOARD  
DEPARTMENTAL MEETING  
Monday, September 13, 2021**

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

There being a quorum, Supervisor Abney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Also in attendance: Director Craig Oatten and Office Manager Megan Weaver.

**Acceptance of Agenda:**

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

**Public Comments:** None.

**Pending Business:**

Oatten stated that his police officers continue to impound junk vehicles in the township.

The brush pickup service was moved up from September 20 to September 13 due to the powerful storms that came through September 7 knocking down power lines and trees/limbs across the township. Discussion followed. Douglas stated that he was concerned with how long the streets were blocked where he lives and the fact that emergency vehicles would not be able to get through. Oatten responded that due to the excessive amount of damage in the township, the crews were overwhelmed and did the best they could. Douglas suggested that Consumers Energy be called to let them know of the concern.

Abney passed out an article authored by Michigan Township's Association (MTA) reference blight and asked the board members to consider making it a handout for the public. He also suggested that Township employees read it and sign the top page and it be put in their personnel file. Discussion followed. Thurston stated that she was not in favor of the format of the article (3 pages) as it was hard to keep the attention of the citizens with an article that long. She also felt that the article was written by MTA and geared towards elected officials as the reader, not the general public. Abney disagreed and thought the article directly related to the blight problem in Carrollton Township. Thurston thought the article made some very valid points; she just thought that it would be better received by the public in a different format. More discussion followed. Weaver offered to take some of the article's main points and put it in a different format for review at the next meeting. It was board consensus to have her do so.

Oatten stated that for the December 2020 winter tax collection season, the road millage should have brought in roughly \$405,000. The amount that was not collected and sent over to the

County Treasurer as delinquent was \$27,862. The County pays the Township the delinquent amount to make the Township whole at the time of settlement in March every year. Then, they proceed to try and collect from the property owners and eventually begin the foreclosure process after two years of delinquency.

Once foreclosed, the properties are put up for auction and those that don't sell become Land Bank properties and the Township is charged back for the tax millage amounts not collected. Oatten wanted the board members to keep this in mind moving forward when choosing road projects. While foreclosures are not nearly as abundant as they were a few years ago, the Township should still plan for a percentage that will be charged back to the Township each year. Discussion followed.

Oatten reminded the board members that Thursday, September 16 at 6pm was the board meeting at the schools for the Hanchett Sewer District residents. Weaver had sent out bright pink postcards to all property owners in the district notifying them of the meeting. She also posted it on the Township's website and Facebook page. Oatten stated that he, Weaver and Sumption would be meeting with Spicer Group the following day to go over the final presentation for Thursday's meeting. Both Fritz and Thurston were unable to attend. Discussion followed.

### **Public Comments:**

Rose King, 3427 N. Michigan, asked how large the tree limbs can be for brush pickup. Response: Between 2" and 6". Anything smaller is considered yard waste and anything larger will not fit in the chipper.

### **Director Comments/Updates:**

Oatten stated that he was still waiting for a response regarding the DWAM grant application.

The proposed cell tower lease agreement from MD7 was still being reviewed by the Township's attorney. Oatten was concerned with some of the language and wanted it reviewed before it was signed.

Oatten discussed the fact that currently there were no Michigan Dept. of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) orders in effect for the COVID-19 pandemic. While the Township has a COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan on file, some of the specifics were no longer applicable, including the requirement of masks and pay for employees that are possibly exposed and quarantined under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). Discussion followed. It was board consensus to require employees to use PTO time if they must quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure. If they do not use PTO time, they will not be paid for being absent from work.

### **Board Comments:**

Douglas commented on how great the Dumpster Day event went. He thanked the volunteers.

Douglas asked that a CAVS Committee meeting be set to update the group on the current road

projects and discuss future plans. Discussion followed. It was board consensus to set the CAVS Committee meeting for Thursday, October 28 at 6:00pm.

Douglas suggested that the board members do another walk-thru of Carrollton Center (Skyway Plaza). It was board consensus to have Oatten check with the owner and see if September 29 at 6:00pm was a good time to do so.

Thurston stated that she called Saginaw County for the status of 449 Balsam, and it was currently in bankruptcy so the Township could not enforce anything as far as the condition of the building/property at this time. She asked that Oatten let Mr. Jones know as he inquired at the previous meeting.

Abney and Fritz thanked the volunteers that worked on Dumpster Day.

**Adjournment:**

It was moved by Fritz and supported by Thurston to adjourn. There being all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry W. Fritz, Clerk

Public in attendance:

Rose King     3427 N. Michigan