

**Approved 9.13.23 Minutes of July 12, 2023 Regular St. James Board Meeting |  
St. James Township Hall | 37735 Michigan Ave | Beaver Island, MI | 5:30 pm**

**Present:**

McDonough, Welke, Cole, Gillespie

**Absent:**

Fingerroot

**General**

Supervisor Welke called to order a regular meeting of the St. James Township Board at 5:32 pm on July 12, 2023.

**Finance and Administration**

**Moved** by McDonough, supported by Gillespie to accept the June financial report and approve the Payments request.

**Motion Carried-Unanimous**

There was discussion regarding the contract with Verizon, however board members requested more information before a decision is made to accept the proposed Lease Agreement.

**Moved** by Cole, supported by Gillespie to hire a temporary worker as a fill in for cleaning services due to pending absences of the regular worker at a salary to commensurate with the position.

**Motion Carried-Unanimous**

The assessor held office hours at the township hall from 9am-12pm and 1pm-3pm on July 13, 2023.

The appraiser visited the island to begin preparing for the appraisal of the Karnes property. An insurance agent also checked in to ensure all township sites are properly insured.

**Public Works, Health, and Safety**

Shelby Harris and Trustee Cole provided new information about the Master Plan. There were 18 public comments made in the 63-day window leading up to the public hearing held recently. Changes are still being made to the Plan.

**Moved** by Cole, supported by Gillespie to approve Ordinance No. 1 of 2023, an ordinance to amend section 6.14 and section 11.08 of the St. James Township Zoning Ordinances concerning critical dune regulations. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: McDonough, Welke, Cole, Gillespie

Nays: None.

**Resolution 2023.07.12.23** to Allow Golf Carts to Operate in St James Township in accordance with the Michigan Vehicle Code. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: McDonough, Welke, Cole, Gillespie

Nays: None.

**The Resolution was declared adopted by Welke with Gillespie charged to certify the Resolution.**

Treasurer McDonough stated that the fireworks display was successful. Future plans may include the encouragement of donations to help fund the show for 2024.

**Moved** by McDonough, supported by Gillespie to increase the stipend from \$500 to \$600 each for the two pyrotechs due to fewer pyrotechs carrying out the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks display.

**Motion Carried-Unanimous**

Engineers from Fleis and VandenBrink will be coming to the island to check on proposed projects highlighted in the Master Plan including but not limited to: Wojan/Gillespie Park, Donegal Bay Bike Path Phase II, and SCDA Engineering Assistance.

#### **TIS Program**

Shelby Harris gave a summary of the work she's been doing with TIS, including projects to promote pollinators and their importance on the islands, helping with various public gardens. Work has also been done to encourage less cutting and mowing, especially along the roads where many helpful plants grow. Shelby and TIS interns have focused on endangered species as well as the invasives this year. Upcoming plans include surveying of the outer islands, a boat washing station event, and collaborative work with CAKE CISMA.

#### **Miscellaneous**

**Moved** by Cole, supported by McDonough to reschedule the August Regular Township Board Meeting to August 16 at 5:30pm.

**Motion Carried-Unanimous**

#### **Public Comment**

None.

**Moved** by McDonough, supported by Gillespie to adjourn at 6:48 pm.

Submitted by:

Tessa Jones, Deputy Clerk  
St. James Township  
COUNTY OF CHARLEVOIX