

**Posted 4.17.23 Draft Minutes of April 12, 2023 Regular St James Board Meeting |
Beaver Island Community Center | 26215 Main St. | Beaver Island, MI | 5:30 pm**

Present:

Gillespie, Welke, McDonough, Fingerroot, Cole

Absent:

None.

General

Supervisor Welke called to order a regular meeting of the St James Township Board at 5:30 pm on April 12, 2023.

Supervisor Welke added an item to the agenda regarding raises for Gillespie and McDonough for their work with the Marina. Cole requested as well as an update from the supervisor on a meeting held with the Charlevoix County Sheriff. McDonough suggested an update about the 4th of July fireworks. Shelby Harris requested the TIS update include the administrative update as well. All were added to the agenda.

Moved by Fingerroot, supported by Gillespie to approve the meeting minutes of Regular Board Meeting on March 8, 2023, and Special Meeting and Budget Public Hearing on March 23, 2023.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Moved by Gillespie, supported by Cole to set Public Comment at St. James Township board meetings as part of two agenda items. The first being "Public Comment for Agenda Item(s)" which will be placed after the review/approval of prior meeting minutes. This comment period is to be used for the public to declare their interest in providing input at subsequent agenda items. This input will be stated after the board discussion and before the action, if any. The second "Public Comment for General Purposes" will be placed before the adjournment. All public comments are limited to two minutes per person.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Finance and Administration

Moved by McDonough, supported by Gillespie to accept the monthly finance report and approve the regular payments.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Discussion was had regarding upcoming expenses at the Sewer, including repairs and maintenance needs.

Moved by McDonough, supported by Fingerroot to adopt the FY23/34 Sewer Budget, an Enterprise budget, as discussed as well as rescind the 3/8/23 motion to transfer \$15,000 to the Sewer Capital Improvement Fund. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Cole, Fingerroot, Gillespie, McDonough, Welke

Nays: None

Moved by Welke, supported by Fingerroot to increase the salaries of Gillespie and McDonough by \$1,000 each for their work with the Marinas.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Discussion was had regarding upcoming expenses at the Marinas, including repairs and general maintenance.

Moved by McDonough, supported by Fingeroot to adopt the FY23/24 Municipal Marina Budget, an Enterprise budget, as discussed. Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Cole, Fingeroot, Gillespie, McDonough, Welke

Nays: None

Moved by Fingeroot, supported by McDonough to authorize the supervisor to establish a FY23/24 contract with Marlene Wiser as the harbor master.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Resolution 2023.04.12.23 Authorizing Township Supervisor to make an offer for acquisition of the Masini Beach Property in the amount of \$134,615 and complete the close of this purchase (at an estimated \$284 cost). This property will be designated as part of the Jewell F Gillespie Park. Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Cole, Fingeroot, Gillespie, McDonough, Welke

Nays: None

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

Moved by McDonough, supported by Cole to authorize the Supervisor to contract with Piazza Appraisal Service to perform the appraisal on the Karnes Beach Property.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Moved by Gillespie, supported by McDonough to approve the FY23/24 Airport Commission Budget.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Moved by McDonough, supported by Fingeroot to authorize B. Marsh to approve the Peaine Township Maintenance Agreement on behalf of the Waste Management Fund (TS/RC).

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Moved by McDonough, supported by Cole to approve the posting of the vacant Planning Commission position.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Moved by Fingeroot, supported by Cole to accept the resignation of G. Broder and approve the posting of the vacant Waste Management Committee position.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Update on 4th of July Fireworks: McDonough states that we should be all set for the fireworks. It has been expressed that the pyrotechs that will be setting them off would like an increase in pay, but it would not be a likely issue with Peaine's budget for the event included.

Shelby Harris gave an update on her planning assistant work and how the ETEP grant is progressing. The BIA will be providing an update on broadband soon. The Master Plan is still being worked on, with a public hearing to be set following the completion. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the rezoning of the old DNR property on May 2, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

She also gave an update on TIS as two interns have been hired for the summer. MSU extensions boat washing portable station will be coming to the island July 27th, to raise awareness about washing boats. Written permission from the Township is needed for this.

Concerns were expressed regarding medical coverage during the Emergency Management/Exercise; however, it was reported that Charlevoix EMS will be on the island covering Beaver Island EMS for real 911 calls during this time.

Moved by McDonough, supported by Gillespie to approve the request from Jeremy Fogg at 38085 Michigan Ave., Beaver Island, MI 49782 for bottomlands approval. Specifically, that the Township Board has no objections to Mr. Fogg acquiring the requested up to 80' by 40' bottomland rights.

Motion Carried

Policing: Supervisor Welke reported that she and Maria Dal Pra, supervisor for Peaine Township met with Sheriff Vondra and Lt Church to discuss policing on the island. Both supervisors need more time to process the information for presenting it to the boards and community. One example of a change in how the community needs to do business as we move forward is that all calls to phones involving a deputy request, a report, or needing a response, must be done through calling 911. Calls to a deputy's phone (office or mobile) must be discontinued.

Strategic Discussion: A discussion was had regarding the board's priorities, which is also based on the public's suggestions, for the Master Plan (MP) update. Cole stated it would be difficult to complete other tasks before the completion of the MP and aligning an updated Zoning Ordinance and a new Capital Improvement Plan with the MP. Further consideration for Blight and Nuisances will be undertaken. All board members were in agreement this these priorities and that some of the actions associate with the priorities could occur simultaneously. There was an understanding that the township board needs the resources to meet these expectations.

Public Comment

None.

Moved by McDonough, supported by Gillespie to adjourn at 6:55 pm.