

**Posted 7.17.24 Minutes of June 19, 2024 Regular St. James Board Meeting
St. James Township Hall | 37735 Michigan Ave | Beaver Island, MI | 5:30 pm**

Present:

Gillespie, Cole, Welke, McDonough, Fingerroot

Absent:

None

General

Supervisor Welke called to order a regular meeting of the St. James Township Board at 5:32 pm on June 19, 2024.

Cynthia Pryor requested time for public comment on item 5b under Public Works, Health and Safety.

Finance and Administration

Moved by Cole, supported by Gillespie to approve the Payments as requested.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Moved by Fingerroot, supported by Welke to approve the payroll costs associated with the following employee:

Seasonal Gardener: \$25/hour rather than \$21/hour approved on May 15, 2024. The stipends will remain as approved on May 15. This will increase the wages budget line item in parks and recreation from \$10,500 to \$12,500 and the pay roll taxes from \$819 to \$975.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Public Works, Health, and Safety

Supervisor Welke shared updates on island organizations. From the Airport Commission, it was noted that work is being done with an engineer to establish the proper guidelines for the project, based on FAA regulations. The Waste Management Committee has been looking into options to help increase recycling and decrease the amount of trash going off the island. The Housing Taskforce has been meeting, and recently discussed the need for a child care center and what could be done to help with that issue.

The Bike Path Project is awaiting a few necessary adjustments before a second round of preliminary engineering can be done. Updates will be provided as the project progresses.

Supervisor Welke also noted that there is a repair needed at Marina South that is currently in progress.

Larry and Rene Adrian-Rogers have requested that their property be rezoned from R1 to Harbor District. The St. James Planning Commission approved the request, but Charlevoix County Planning Commission did not. After some discussion, the board

decided it would be best to refer the property owners back to the St. James Planning Commission for evaluation of other options.

Moved by Gillespie, supported by Cole, to return Charlevoix County Planning Commission's denial of the rezoning request for the Adrian-Rogers property to the St. James Township Planning Commission for consideration of the rezoning options suggested by the county.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Discussion was held about small dwelling overlay. Trish Scott and Cynthia Pryor provided information on behalf of Port of Saint James Association (PSJA), sharing their want to have the minimum square footage requirement lowered. There was mention of possibly trying this change on an inland portion of PSJA or even across the entire area. The board expressed their concerns with smaller dwellings effecting property values of currently existing larger dwellings. Ultimately, the board recommended getting more information about this before proceeding. Also encouraged was getting input from PSJA members on this idea and then meet with St. James Township Planning Commission.

Moved by Fingeroot, supported by Gillespie to request that the St. James Township Planning Commission hold a joint session with the St. James Township Board to discuss a small dwelling overlay within the township.

Motion Carried-Unanimous

Public Comment

None.

Moved by Cole, supported by Fingeroot to adjourn at 6:37 pm.

Submitted by:

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