

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE*

ST JAMES TOWNSHIP, BEAVER ISLAND, CHARLEVOIX COUNTY, MICHIGAN

MEETING MINUTES FOR February 23, 2022 @ 11:00AM @ ST JAMES Governmental Center

Attendees: Joe Moore, Paul Cole, Shelby Harris, Cynthia Pryor, Kevin McDonough, Theresa McDonough, Aaron Nordham on line, Kitty McNamara on line

Call to order, input on agenda, approve minutes of January meeting

Campground Improvement Project - McDonough Update

An extension has been received from the DNR on the Recreation Passport Grant to end March 31, 2022. McDonough Construction has finalized the placement of the drain field, septic, electric to sites, clearing of campsites, development of utility building to house electric, hot water heaters and plumbing, development of outside showers with plumbing to the drain field. There is still some plumbing work and concrete work to the outside showers, concrete work on a walkway and the installation of picnic tables, picnic rings and signs in early spring – concrete work dependent on weather. It is doubtful that this work can be completed by March 31st and we may need to file another extension with the DNR. To be reviewed end of February. Kitty is still tracking this and Cynthia is working with her to get all DNR compliant work completed, inspected and the township reimbursed. Recently filed a reimbursement request for \$78,746.96.

Erosion signs DANGER getting to old beach path and fencing at edge of cliff and add lighting to roadway. Roadway needs to be re-worked and graveled.

New Business: Kevin McDonough of McDonough Construction gave an overview of items that are still outstanding and a timeline. Construction Costs to finish is: \$66,192. Aaron Nordham of Performance Engineering will submit his anticipated costs. Both Kevin and Aaron feel a three-month extension is very appropriate, especially given the need for frost-free load limits are removed as well as the weather/ground temps for doing the needed concrete/gravel work. There will be a meeting with Alex McBride of the DNR to ask for an extension of three months. Work is anticipated to be done in time to open up the Campground for Memorial Day.

Charlevoix County Park Millage Grant: Shelby is coordinating a grant project for more work being done at the Campground. Kiosk, fencing around dangerous areas and the bluff by campsites are being included in a grant proposal: \$10,000.

Road Safety – Main St: Waiting for Specifications from the County. Have four cross-walks and adding two more – one on either end of the Boat Dock. Done in the same style as the

existing Crosswalks and adding a right turn only at the gate at the boat dock. No personal loaders are allowed in the boat dock. No idea of costs.

Harbor View Park: Needs to be finished by Memorial Day. Cynthia will get with Johnny B to ensure it is done on time.

Pocket Garden : Still reviewing increasing the landscaping budget for Heidi.

Storage Space: County has not responded to Joe's information relative to the County leasing space in the Marina Storage Facility.

Township Dark Sky: Need to do more research on the sample Ordinance specifics as given to us by the Dark Sky group. We need to really get an assessment of the Island areas that require compliance before adopting a Dark Sky ordinance

Gull Harbor Preserve: Idea is still percolating – Shelby is following up with LTC.

Recreation/Trails: Trails brochure Chamber is working with Port St. James and others in getting a good Island Trails Map. NLMIC is focused on working with trails committees etc. but not putting dollars into development, oversight and enforcement. Shelby works with all Island groups with Invasive Species. Paul thinks that a full time Recreation position for the Island is needed – position shared by the Townships.

Signs: Cynthia is working a township plan of several signs: Recognition signs for Marina, Mt. Pisgah, Campground; signs for parking at Font Lake; St. James Township property signs at Port St. James lots in the Association. Looking at other signs on St. James properties – Governmental Building, old DNR building, Gull Harbor preserve, etc.

DNR Building: Roof needs full replacement and a few items of electrical and aesthetic items on the interior. Sheriff still wants to use the building – Joe is having a continuing discussion with them about their needs. Thinking of using for other things like summer housing of the TIS Interns.

Electrical Costs: Need to get someone from off-Island to look at what is needed to upgrade electrical poles.

Next Meeting Date is March 16, 2022

*Public Works Committee established by Township Board on 12.7.2016. Current Members: Supervisor Moore, Trustee Cole and Trustee Fingerroot.