

**WEST TRAVERSE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2011**

Supervisor Sandford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Roll Call: Bartlett, Sandford, Hollingsworth, Fisher.

Absent: Baker.

Visitors: John Riggs, Alford LaCount, Chris Baiardi, Cindy Baiardi, Jerry Lauer, Sue Matsko.

Approve Agenda & Additional Items: Agenda was approved with no additional items.

Public Comments: None.

Approve Minutes: **Hollingsworth made a motion to approve the Regular meeting minutes of October 11, 2011 as presented. Bartlett seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Correspondence: Correspondence was reviewed.

Clerk's Report: Fisher gave results for the November school election. The township received a dividend credit from the Workmen's Comp Insurance fund.

Treasurer's Report: The 2011 winter sample tax bill was approved and we are just waiting for the county to print the taxes to be able to mail them out. Revenue sharing was received in the amount of \$20,004.

Planning Commission: At this time, there are no new agenda items, so the December meeting may be cancelled unless something else comes up. Sandford pointed out that the PC was supposed to discuss private recreational areas in the A-1 district.

Recreation/Thorne Swift Committee: The final plans and additional funding for the Hoyt Rd. Trail have been approved.

Thorne Swift Nature Preserve: Riggs reported that the Nature Center has been winterized. 420 feet of new boardwalk has been installed on the Cedar trail. New displays have been made for the Nature Center.

Proposed: November 15, 2011

Approved: December 13, 2011

Supervisor's Report: Sandford reported that the Medical Marijuana Committee met in October. They will be attending a seminar in Traverse City on November 30, 2011. Cemetery Rd. and Hoyt Rd. paving will not be done until next year. The Township had paid ahead for Cemetery Rd. and also paid the Road Commission in error for part of the Franklin Park project. Sandford will ask for a check back to cover those expenses. It was agreed that the Township will continue to rent the current postage machine for another year. There was discussion regarding updating the township's computer system.

Budget Report: The current budget report was reviewed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Township Policies: Sandford presented the final draft for the Township Policies.

Thorne Swift Nature Preserve Lease Extension: The lease was signed to renew the Thorne Swift Nature Preserve for another five years.

Sewer System Survey: The sewer system survey came back and there were several concerns regarding the upkeep and current condition. It needs a thorough cleaning. It was agreed that a representative from H2O in Motion will accompany Supervisor Sandford to discuss with the Sewer Authority the survey and the problems that need to be addressed in January, 2012.

False Fire Alarms: There was discussion regarding false fire alarms in the township. It was agreed to follow the Fire Authority's recommendation to excuse Mr. Horn's false fire alarm charges. The situation with the false alarms for Mr. Marshall will be tabled until a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Amendments: **Bartlett made a motion to adopt the resolution to amend the 2011-2012 budget whereas, some expenditures approved by the Township Board are in excess of the amounts originally budgeted and approved by the Township Board on March 29, 2011, and whereas, prudent administration and Michigan Law require the Township Board to amend its budget in a timely manner to ensure that no expenditures exceed previously approved budget amounts, now therefore be it resolved , that the Township's 2011-2012 operating budget is hereby amended as provided in the attached spreadsheet dated November 15, 2011.**

Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

Vote: All yes.

Consider Three Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance:

Sandford made a motion to approve the suggested recommended amendment to the zoning ordinance with regard to permitted signs and district requirements, Ordinance 4-11. Bartlett seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Hollingsworth – yes, Sandford – yes, Bartlett – yes, Fisher – yes.

Bartlett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 5-11 as submitted and recommended by the Planning Commission. Fisher seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Sandford – yes, Bartlett – yes, Fisher – yes, Hollingsworth – yes.

Bartlett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 6-11 as submitted and recommended by the Planning Commission. Sandford seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Fisher – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Bartlett – yes, Sandford – yes.

Payables & Payroll: **Hollingsworth made a motion to approve payables and payroll as submitted. Bartlett seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Public Comments: John Riggs thanked the Board for their support at Thorne Swift.

Board Comments: Fisher wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Adjournment: **Hollingsworth made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandford seconded the motion. Vote: All yes.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be December 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cynthia Fisher, Clerk

Transcribed by:

Susan Matsko

Township Secretary

Proposed: November 15, 2011

Approved: December 13, 2011