

**WEST TRAVERSE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2017**

Supervisor Sandford called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Baker, Lauer, Hollingsworth, Baiardi, Sandford.

Visitors: Brandon Goldsmith, Jana Goldsmith, Kyle Knight, Mary Jane Zako, Louis Zako, Hugh Jacob, Suzie Jacob, Paul Mooradian, Mary Kreid, Sue Matsko.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Supervisor Sandford presented Brandon Goldsmith with a Proclamation congratulating him on his achievement of obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

Approve Agenda and Additional Items: The agenda was approved by consensus.

Public Comments: Matt and Susan Jacob said that they are looking for property in the Harbor Springs area for a garden plot. They wanted to know if the Township would have any interest in having gardens on their public land, possibly a community garden. Baker will bring up the subject to the Recreation Committee.

Louis Zako introduced himself and proceeded to explain why he feels the Township should renew an affiliation with the Petoskey District Library.

Kyle Knight introduced himself as the new Harbor Springs Police Chief.

Approve Minutes: **Baiardi made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 14, 2017 as presented. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Correspondence: The correspondence was reviewed.

Appointments for 2018: **Lauer made a motion to approve the following appointments: Remove Wayne Chellis from the Water Committee; appoint Cindy Baiardi as the Township representative on the Harbor Springs Area Airport Committee; designate Cindy Baiardi as Chair of the Office Committee; appoint Kristi Hollingsworth to replace Bob Sandford on the Office Committee; appoint John Baker to replace Bob Sandford on the Personnel Committee. Hollingsworth seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Baiardi made a motion to appoint Pete Wallin to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term expiring December 31, 2020. Baker seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Lauer – yes, Baiardi – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Baker – yes, Sandford – yes.

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Hollingsworth made a motion to appoint Paul Mooradian to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term expiring December 31, 2020. Baiardi seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Hollingsworth – yes, Baker – yes, Lauer – yes, Baiardi – yes, Sandford – yes.

Hollingsworth made a motion to appoint Chris Baiardi to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3 year term expiring December 31, 2020. Baker seconded the motion.

Sandford expressed his opinion on this motion:

“The reason that I did not recommend re-appointing Chris Baiardi to the ZBA last year is the same reason that I can’t vote for him now. While Chris is certainly qualified to serve, in my opinion it is a conflict of interest for the spouse of a Board member or PC member to be on the ZBA. In this case, Chris’s spouse, Cindy, is on both the Board and the Planning Commission. While the Zoning Enabling Act permits it, I think that it has a potential, regardless how much they might deny it, for the spouse on the Board and PC to influence the position of the spouse on the ZBA. It is again my opinion that this was demonstrated very clearly in one of the more contentious ZBA cases in recent years involving storage buildings on State Rd.”

Roll Call Vote: Lauer – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Baiardi – yes, Baker – yes, Sandford – no.

Hollingsworth made a motion to appoint the new chair of the Planning Commission or another member designated by the Planning Commission to the Zoning Board of Appeals to serve until his/her term on the Planning Commission expires or until December 31, 2020, whichever comes first. Baiardi seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Baker – yes, Lauer – yes, Baiardi – yes, Hollingsworth – yes, Sandford – yes.

Booster Stations: An update was given on the booster stations.

Budget Schedule for Fiscal Year 2018-2019: The budget schedule for fiscal year 2018-2019 was reviewed.

Summer Tax Collection Letter: **Baiardi made a motion to approve the 2018 Summer School property tax collection agreement letter to be sent to the Harbor Springs Public Schools. Baker seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

2018 Road Improvement Plan: The road improvement plan for 2018 was reviewed.

Thorne Swift Residence Roof Estimates: Five estimates were received for replacing the roof on the residence at Thorne Swift.

Lauer made a motion approve the bid from Shingle Roofing to replace the roof on the Thorne Swift residence with the bid of \$14,260 plus \$240 for the ridge vent on the gables using Certainteed Landmark dimensional shingles and metal valleys. Baiardi seconded the motion.

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There was discussion regarding the dates of the initial estimates and as to how long the bid would be valid. It was agreed to table this until the contractors can be contacted to find out if the bids are still correct or if they have changed since being submitted.

Fire Authority Budget: Chief Cupps had presented a compensation proposal with increases for both the firefighters and himself. There was discussion regarding the compensation and it was agreed that the proposal for the firefighters was supported, but not the amount of increase being requested for the Chief. There was a lot of discussion regarding the purchasing of a new aerial truck.

Clerk's Report: Baiardi presented her report.

Treasurer's Report: Hollingsworth presented her report. The Deputy Treasurer will be in the office all day on December 27 in order to collect taxes.

Planning Commission: The new Zoning Ordinance review should be finished at the meeting tomorrow and be ready to send to the Township attorney and County for their review.

Baker made a motion to approve the funding for Joel Wurster (township attorney) to review the new Zoning Ordinance. Lauer seconded the motion.

Vote: All yes.

Zoning Administrator's Report: Randy Frykberg had presented his written report.

Recreation/Thorne Swift Report: The Recreation Committee will be meeting to review Rules and Regulations for the Township property. Baker had been notified that the roots from some of the pine trees are starting to buckle the pavement on the trail. He will see about getting an estimate for taking care of the roots. There was discussion regarding the ropes that protect the trail from snowmobiles.

LTBBOI Litigation: An update on the LTBBOI litigation was reviewed.

Supervisor's Report: No report.

Payables and Payroll: **Baker made a motion to approve the payables and payroll as presented. Lauer seconded the motion.**

Vote: All yes.

Public Comments: Paul Mooradian had a question as to what type of paving would be done on State Road. The Road Commission is suggesting chip seal in 2019.

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Board Comments: Lauer had received information that there is a problem with a culvert on Quick Road between State Road and Lightfoot Road which looks like an erosion problem. The Road Commission will be notified of the problem.

It was decided to hold the next Board meeting on January 9, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cindy Baiardi, Clerk

Transcribed by:
Susan Matsko
Township Secretary

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