

**CLARK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2021, 8:00 AM**

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: 8:02 AM

Roll Call: Present: Clymer, Fitzgerald, Rutledge, Schuster Absent: Patton

Others Present: Fred Mulhauser, Paula Welmers, Dirk Heckman, from the Mackinac Road Commission, Pat Wilson, Paul Wilson, Dennis Wenzel, Illyene Pickles, Deputy Clerk.

Inquire if Public Comments are to Address Agenda Items:

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: Schuster made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Fitzgerald supported. All ayes. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

- Approve meeting minutes from August 17,2021, Special Meeting August 27, 2021
- Invoices General: \$74,954.70 and Sewer Fund: \$2,163.90.
- Service Contracts: None
- Special Events: None
- Budget Amendments: None

Motion: Fitzgerald made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Schuster supported. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Letter from Dean Bryner regarding the Clark Township Community Center.
- (2) two Egle permits: Thomas McDonoff, Chris Horsburgh.

Old Business & Updates

-Hometown Heroes Banners – Abby Baker from the Hometown Heroes Banner Project sent over (2) two separate contracts for the board to review. Fitzgerald said she prefers the (1) one page contract. Fitzgerald would like to see this project started.

Motion: Fitzgerald made the motion to approve the Hometown Heroes Banner Project (1) one page contract. Rutledge supported. All ayes. Motion carried.

New Business

- Pt. Brulee Road Conditions, petitions – Clymer asked if there was a representative at the meeting. Paula Welmers stood up to speak on behalf of the Point Brulee property owners. Their petition is to have a low-speed limit set on Point Brulee Road. Paula said roads without posted speed limits allow vehicles to drive at (55) fifty-five miles per hour. Clymer suggested the property owners attend the next Road Community meeting. Clymer said the Point Brulee residents can contact Luke Jaroche, the Road Committee chairperson, at Maple Sawmill to let him know they would like to be at the next meeting. Dirk Heckman from the Road Committee told the board and the community members that the County Road Commission legally cannot set a regulatory speed limit on a gravel road in the State of Michigan. Fred Mulhauser said the property owners on Point Brulee have several VRBO properties in their area which has increased traffic flow. With that comes vehicles that are traveling too fast for that road. This is a concern for safety for people walking, bike rider's and regular traffic on Point Brulee. Paula said it is a gravel road on top of mixed asphalt and dirt. Dennis Wenzyl asked what the right of way on Point Brulee is. The reason Dennis asked is he is concerned about the trees that are falling across the road and would like to know who is responsible for removing them? Dirk Heckman said it is (66) sixty-six feet. Dirk said the Mackinac County Road Commission will remove them when there is a hazard, or a tree falls in the road.

2. Review propane pre-buy - Rutledge told the board she has taken the propane costs from 2020-2021 and the suggested amounts from Autore Oil and came up with amounts for the board to approve for each township property for the pre-buy in the amount of \$15,293.00. Clymer suggested next year that we shop rates for propane.

Motion: Fitzgerald made the motion to approve the propane pre-buy in the amount of \$15,293.00. Schuster supported. Roll Call Yes-Fitzgerald, Clymer, Rutledge, Schuster. Motion carried.

3. Tassier Road ditching project and amend Road Committee Budget – Clymer said there has been issues on Tassier Avenue where the road tees off. There are ditches that only come up partway up the hill. Park Avenue is overgrown and the three driveways adjacent to the area have frost damage causing damage to the culverts. Clymer asked Dirk Heckman to put together a proposal for Tassier Avenue. The Road Commission came up with an estimated project cost of \$6,578 with the cost to the township being \$5,591.

Motion: Schuster made the motion to approve the Mackinac County Road Commission project on Tassier Avenue in the amount of \$5,591. Fitzgerald supported. Roll Call Yes-Fitzgerald, Clymer, Rutledge, Schuster. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

General Fund: \$459,231.02

Sewer Fund: \$57,485.57

Fitzgerald said yesterday was the final day property taxes could be paid without late penalties. Fitzgerald said customers can pay their taxes at the township office until the end of February.

Supervisor's Report

Clymer said Anderson & Tachman were here performing the annual audit for Clark Township.

Clymer told the board that we had an eviction of Donald Moore at the airport on property owned by the township. The board voted to evict Donald Moore on August 27th. The township voted on August 27th to have our attorney, Erin Evashevski, file legal proceedings against Moore. Moore decided to sign the release in lieu of going to court.

Clymer said he attended several Zoom meetings regarding the EUP Broadband Collaborative. Clymer said this give Clark Township the information to work with the collaborative and seek funding for broadband in the Eastern Upper Peninsula. Clymer said the federal funds for these kinds of projects usually only bring it up to the property line. Clymer said additional funding will be needed either from the state or township level to bring to the residence. Clymer said Great Lakes Islands Alliance, a group of islands across the Great Lakes, is part of the collaborative to get broadband to their islands.

Clymer and Rutledge have been working with our phone system provider, Avaya, to get a new phone system for Clark Township. Clymer added that the township system is over twenty years old. The quote from Avaya is \$327.40 a month for the service. Clymer would like to do research before the township commits to a contract.

Principals of governance is a long-term association from Michigan Township Association asking communities to consider signing on to. Clymer said there are fundamental errors that he is conversing with MTA to correct before we make a decision. More research is needed.

Committee/Commission Reports

Airport Committee- Did not meet.

Ambulance Corp- Report given.

Code Enforcement Officer-Report given.

Fire Dept – Report given.

Heritage Park- Meeting Wednesday.

Hessel Harbor Committee- Did not meet.

Recreation Committee- Did not meet.

Planning Commission – Working on the Master Plan.

Road Committee- Did not meet.

Road Ends Committee- Did not meet.

Sewer Advisory Board- Did not meet.

Public Comments:

Paul Wilson voiced his concern about the parking on Meridian by the Les Cheneaux Distillers. Wilson said Meridian has basically turned into a one-way street. Clymer said the State of Michigan took away the enforcement of parking away from townships. The fire marshal establishes how many occupants can be in a business and then based on that number enough parking spaces must be available before the business can be permitted. Clymer said he would be willing to talk to the Distillery owners about investing into additional parking.

Adjournment: 9:06 A.M.

Motion: Schuster made the motion to adjourn meeting. Fitzgerald supported.