

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Lee Township Hall located at 877 56th Street, Pullman, Michigan.

Members Present: Trustee Black, Trustee Galdikas, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Owen and Clerk King.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Comments: Clerk King gave an update on the August election. There were 121 residents that voted passing both the road millage and the First Responder's millage by an average of 69% approval. She also pointed out the front flower box which has been replaced with a beautiful round stone flower bed that will be planted with all season perennials. Both the work and materials were donated. The work of removing the wood box and weeds was done by Tim Looman, Sam Hambley and Doug Statum and plants will be donated by Christopher Hart and Deb Laraway. This wonderful beautification group is dedicated to the beautification of the 4 corners as well as the other locations in the township and have raised money through breakfasts and donations. The Beautification program has been a passion with residents that are working together as well as with the Lee Township Masterplan committee to improve our township.

Citizen's Comments: Resident B. Jacobsen stated she saw the election on the news and asked about how the elections are advertised. Clerk King stated that the law requires the elections to be published in the local newspaper but that she had signs out within the township regarding the millage, notices in the windows of the township hall and office as well as information in the township's tax brochure and township newsletter. Resident S. Lacy questioned where the township was at regarding water billing. Would they continue to bill or will the process be changed soon. A resident living on the channel of Lower Scott Lake inquired about the weeds and wondered when they would be removed. Resident B. Lewis commented on how good 58th Street is after the recent road work. Resident A. Jacobsen had a concern about local fireworks. She has called the Sheriff's department on several occasions and they directed her to the township board. Also commenting on the weeds in the channel were resident C. Giesler and A. Horvath. Both would like to see them cleaned out of the channel. Jeff Kruithof gave an update on services offered at the Linking Center, including the summer school program that 40 local students participated in, August 24th backpack giveaway and gearing up for winter coat giveaway.

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Owens from Lakeshore Advantage spoke about their mission to help locate the local talent for the business in the area. They work mostly with Allegan County and have found that there is a shortage of labor current. They are working with the schools and community colleges to make sure they are educating for all types of careers. They are also noted that housing at an affordable level has been a challenge for those who work full time but having difficulty finding affordable housing. Allegan County's representative is Greg King.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the minutes from the July 8,2019 Regular Meeting with correction. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black to approve the meeting minutes for the Annual Fire District meeting. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

A motion was made by Black and seconded by Galdikas to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Commissions Report: No report.

Deputies Report: During the month there were 130 complaint with Deputy Tatrow taking 28% of the calls at 36 complaints. Reminder that school is starting soon so we need to be extra careful to watch for the lights on the buses and the children walking in the morning and afternoon. Also, deer/car accidents are on the rise so drivers need to be extra careful.

Fire Department: During the month there were 12 fire runs: 3 medical assists, 1 downed power line, 1 electrical, 1 controlled burn and 3 fire alarms. Training was on drafting. Chief Chamberlain reported that they had an opportunity to purchase a boat and used the Lee Township Volunteer Funds. The boat cost \$2,200.00 and will hold up to 1700 pounds and will be used in water rescue.

First Responders: Total calls for the month were 45 of which 44 were medical and 1 fire assist. The year-to-date total is 252 calls in the 224 days.

Assessor's Report: No report. Assessor Harris will not be in the office on Friday but will be available on August 30th from 9 am to 12 noon.

Ambulance Report: No report.

Building Report: During the month there was 5 electrical permits, 3 mechanical, 4 building and no plumbing permits for total improvements of \$67,100.00.

Community Center: No report. Lisa Wideman from Meals on Wheels would like to set up a lunch to talk to the community about setting up a congregate site. The meeting/lunch will be held at the Community Center early in September.

Cemetery Report: Committee member, Eva was at the cemetery on Friday and she stated that B. Whitfield is doing a great job. She also requested that Supervisor Owen contact the Sheriff's Department to get the work crew out to do fall clean up in October.

Library Report: More volunteers have expressed interest in working at the library which would allow for library to be open more hours. The crafting group is meeting at the library and invite those that are interested in joining them. A special thank you to Pam Booth for all her dedication in volunteering her time to keep the library open on Wednesdays.

Transfer Station: During the month there was \$1,188.00 collected and 78 tickets redeemed.

Lake Board: Committee member Eleanor reported that the lake treatments are complete for the season.

Newsletter Report: Trustee Galdikas reported that the next newsletter will go out in November.

Holiday Committee: No report

Pullman Pride Committee: Trustee Galdikas thanked all those that donated and came out to enjoy the day. \$1,820.00 was raised for the scholarship fund. The donation break down was general donations were \$1,142.00, vendors \$290.00, gift basket raffle \$122.00, T-shirt sales \$240.00 and face painting donations \$26.00. There were 2 previous scholarship recipients helping during the day. Anyone interested in purchasing a T-shirt can contact Lisa.

Road Committee: No report. New roads are looking great.

Clean Team: Needs volunteer. Still trying to wrap that committee in with the Beautification committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Free Dump Day: The Free Dump Days have been a great success. The final date is scheduled for August 17th and 18th from 9 am to 3 pm. Information is on the website leetwp.org, Facebook, and also flyers have been posted at various locations in the community.

Ordinances: Discussion was continued on the need for enforcement of ordinances by having a Code Enforcement officer. Michigan Township Services, Tasha Smalley was there to talk about their services. Currently they are not able to provide a code enforcement services but if they are able to take on another community, they would be able to do the inspections and paperwork getting the information prepared for court action. Currently Clyde Township is using their services. They are providing Clyde Township with a Proactive Code Enforcement services which is an estimated \$12,000.00 to \$15,000.00 per year. The township will continue to look for solutions to this problem and more discussion will take place in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

49th Street Culvert: Supervisor Owen presented a work order from Allegan County Road Commission with cost to the township of \$130,000.00 for a cement culvert. There are other alternatives to save on cost such as having another wooden bridge done. The wood style bridge has a life of about 50 years and there are some wood bridges in Allegan County that have been there since 1960's and are still in good working condition. There is a significant savings. The bridges are constructed and sent to the Allegan County Road Commission to be installed. The installation generally takes 1 to 2 days. The average cost for the wood bridge is \$25,000.00.

A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Black to sign the work order for a wooden bridge. Roll call was taken: Yes – Galdikas, Black, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

A Special Meeting was scheduled for August 26th at 6:30 pm for discussion on township water billing for residents in the municipal well area.

Payment of the Bills: *A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.*

A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Black to pay the election staff for the August election. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Black, Galdikas, Lowery, Owen and King. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Supervisor Owen read correspondence from Eva Pacholski. She commended the First Responders for their great work in her recent illness.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Black adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Minutes submitted by: Jacquelyn A. King-Lee Township Clerk