

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2020

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.

The Governor's Executive Order has been lifted and the Lee Township Board will resume as previously with the exception of maintaining social distancing, which will limit seating capacity, and the requirement of masks to be worn when in attendance.

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

Board Comments: Supervisor Owen expressed the board's condolences for the families of Steppney Black and Albert Rawson. Trustee Black passed away on July 20, 2020 and has served the residents of Lee Township for more than 20 years. Director of First Responders, Albert Rawson passed away suddenly on July 21, 2020 also serving the community for many years. Both men unselfishly served the residents of Lee Township and they will be deeply missed. Trustee Galdikas presented on behalf of the Lee Township Board to Pam Rawson and Caroline Black, gift certificates for a memorial tree in memory of both men.

Clerk King announced the results from the August 4th primary. In the Township positions of Trustee results were as follows: Lisa Galdikas 115, Ann Hatfield 103 and Sam Bale 90 votes. For Township Clerk results were as follows: Heather Friel 82, Pam Booth 60 and Josephine Hardester 53 votes. Both Galdikas and Hatfield will be uncontested for Trustee and Heather Friel will be uncontested for Township Clerk on November 3rd ballot.

Citizens Comment: Resident D. Palmby commented on noticing all the fishing on the township lakes and wondered if the township would consider expending funds toward stocking the lakes. He also commented on the Facebook site Pullman Informed regarding a recent post from a resident that was concerned about the treatment of the lake. Palmby stated that the treatment is posted at the lakefronts and at the post office but suggested that the board consider a plexiglass notice holder for better visibility. He also mentioned that the dredging signs need to come down.

Guest Speaker: None

Commissioners Report: None

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the minutes from July 13, 2020 with correction. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the minutes from the Fire District meeting on July 13, 2020. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

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

Deputy Report: During the month there were 135 calls of which our deputy took 42 calls or 31% calls. During the month there were a few cases of individuals driving away without payment at the Mobil station and also more car deer accidents with the cooler weather.

Fire Department Report: During the month of July there were 7 calls. Of these calls there were 2 brush fires, 2 motor vehicle, 2 downed power lines and 1 medical assist. Training for the month was engine and truck operations. Chief Chamberlain commended the fire department for the exceptional job getting things together for the service that took place at the station for Albert Rawson. Lastly, he provided the board members with proposals for the replacement of air packs to be reviewed.

First Responders Report: During the previous month there were 40 calls. A request was made for a special meeting to be set for August 24th at 6:30 pm for the purpose of discussing the vacancy of the director position Albert Rawson held.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Harris is processing deeds and transfers as normal. The Board of Review was held July 21st for correction of fact and mutual mistakes. Harris presented a land division for parcel number 020-007-20/ Mendez. *A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the land division for parcel #020-007-20 as approved by the assessor. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.*

Ambulance Reports: Trustee Galdikas reported that Life EMS moved into the Fennville station and has begun coverage for the Fennville Area ESC.

Building Inspector's Report: During the month there were 3 electrical, 3 mechanical, 5 building and no plumbing permits issued. Total improvements to the township were \$162,000.00.

Community Center Report: During the month the facility was rented with 1 graduation party and also the weekly recurring events.

Cemetery Report: Supervisor Owen reported that the new sign is up and a flower box with flowers has been added thanks to May and Randy Davoren. Currently the pump house is being cleaned up and issues are being addressed.

Library Report: No report

Transfer Station Report: No Report

Lake Board: No report

Newsletter Report: Trustee Galdikas reported that the newsletter has been sent out and is available in English and Spanish at community kiosks and on the Township website.

Holiday Committee Report: No report

Pullman Pride Report: The annual event raised \$1705 for the scholarship fund. Although participation was lower this year, some added activities, including the Lumberjack competition sponsored by the McNamaras, drive-in movie, and a parade honoring our veterans and 2020 graduates were a nice addition. All activities took place outdoors with social distancing. Thanks to all who attended and supported the event.

Road Committee Report: Committee member C. Pugh gave a recap on the road work that has been done. In the area of 56th and 102nd east of the curve as well as 103rd to the bridge near 53rd to 104th. He announced that the county would be completing the improvements around October 1st. Currently the ACRC is taking bids and going through the permit process.

Beautification Committee Report: During the month of July there were 2 free dump days which had good response and all containers were filled at Transfer Station.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Dangerous Building: A hearing was held on the property on 53rd Street of which the owner did not attend. A hearing officer has been hired and a hearing took place last month with the property owner with a 21 day timetable to remove the dangerous building. The required 21 days has passed. The board agreed with the hearing officer's decision that the structure on the property meets the requirements for demolition. The board will notify the property owner they have another 21 days in which to complete this per the Dangerous Building Ordinance.

Motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas for the township to move forward with upholding the Dangerous Building Ordinance and to clean up the property on 53rd Street if it is not completed by the property owner within the designated timeframe. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Assessor's Renewal of Contract: Supervisor Owen presented the renewal contract which includes a slight increase but remains the same then for 3 years.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to renew the contract with current assessor. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Legal Aid Assistance Center: Director Linda Teeter presented information for the board to review with a request for the township to enter a contract in the amount of \$2,000.00 per year. The services have been provided during the shutdown while working by phone and email from remote locations. Linda spoke of local resident Marty Curley who is working with her and doing an excellent job in serving those that are in need of their services. In July they served 174 residents. Of those serviced 20.6% are divorces (25.9 new and 23.6 existing) and 6.9% are landlord cases. Currently they are hoping to hire a 3rd part time person to have the office open on Fridays. They have contracts with 6 other townships and will be presenting to 3 more in the near future. The board will review before making the decision.

Board Appointment: With the passing of Trustee Black, the board has 45 days to appoint a replacement to serve out the remaining term until the November election.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by King to appoint Ann Hatfield to serve as Trustee for the remainder of the term. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills:

A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to authorize the Clerk to pay bills as presented with the addition of newsletter invoice. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Galdikas, Owen and King. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to authorize the Clerk to pay the wages for the Election workers from the August 4th Election. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Galdikas, Owen and King. Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Jacquelyn King, Clerk