

Lee Township  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 12, 2021

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

**Members Present:** Trustee Hatfield, Trustee Galdikas, Supervisor Owen and Clerk Friel.  
**Absent:** Treasurer Lowery

**Amendments:** None

**Board Comments:** Supervisor Owen stated how nice it is to be back to in-person meetings; that it was nice to have a little “normal,” even with the masks, and thanked community members for joining.

**Citizens Comment:** None

**Guest Speaker:** The committee for Beautify Pullman presented. Members present were Debbie Laraway, Shirley Kay, Judy Neafsey, Patty Conway and Marlana Garcia. Debbie made an introduction and Patty continued the presentation discussing the history and goals of the committee. Presenting a slideshow of projects the committee has initiated, and begun work on to beautify our town. The initial project of adding plants/landscaping and other developments in town will be completed by the end of May. The presentation also offered possible future projects, including a mural and upgrades to Ravenswood Park, including budget projections to complete them. The Beautify Pullman committee and projects rely on donations and volunteers from both businesses and private donors to complete all of their projects.

**Approval of Regular Board Minutes:**

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the regular board meeting minutes dated March 8, 2021. All voted: “Aye.” Motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the special board meeting minutes for the annual budget meeting, dated March 27, 2021. All voted: “Aye.” Motion carried.*

Trustee Galdikas gave the treasurer’s report in the absence of Treasurer Lowery.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Friel to receive the treasurers report. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Galdikas, Owen, Hatfield, Friel. Motion carried.*

**Commissioners Report:** None

**Deputy Report:** Deputy Jackson was unable to attend the meeting, as he was involved in a case, as backup in another county.

**Fire Department Report:** Fire Chief Chamberlain reported that in March there were 17 runs, including 4 structure fires, 4 wild grass, 1 medical assist, 1 auto, 1 wire down, 1 illegal burn. They participated in fire fighter down training and started township hall cleanup. The brush unit project from Fennville is coming along. He discussed possibly finding a use for the old township police car, as we cannot sell it, so we may as well use it. He proposed, after discussion with other EMS members, to turn it into a backup EMS/utility vehicle. The fire department and first responders will work on it and use it jointly. Many of the expenses can be avoided, as they will do the work themselves, and have many of the items that will be

needed to stock the vehicle. The Chief plans to have numbers together to present the board by next month. Supervisor Owen thanked the fire department and first responders for always working hard to be conscious of the budget and their willingness to work hard on projects.

**First Responders Report:** Pam Rawson reported that in the month of March there were 34 calls total, 33 medical, and one fire assist. It was day 90 in the year, and they have had 100 calls.

**Assessor's Report:** Kyle Harris was unable to attend, due to family reasons. Supervisor Owen stated that he is working hard processing emails, phone calls.

**Ambulance Reports:** None

**Building Inspector's Report:** Supervisor Owen reported in the month of there were 7 electrical permits, 2 plumbing permits, 4 mechanical permits and 2 building permits, bringing in \$120,000.00 in improvements into the community.

**Community Center Report:** Trustee Hatfield stated that there were no rentals for the month of March, due to state restrictions, but there are some on the books coming up in the month of April. Trustee Galdikas stated that Pastor Medina is planning on volunteering to do maintenance projects at the Community Center, as the township provides materials.

**Cemetery Report:** Supervisor Owen reported that we were able to secure an earlier opening with the Allegan County Work Crew, and the leaves have been cleaned up, and they will continue to work on cleaning up the cemetery and clearing around headstones. The scheduled cleanup for May 1 & 2 will take place in township parks.

**Library Report:** Clerk Friel passed on a report from Debbie Laraway. The library has been gifted technical supplies from the Pullman School, thanks to Pam Rawson for the consideration. Thank you to the board for helping with the Dewey Decimal System upgrade. Robert and Nicole are working hard to implement the system, and Pam Booth faithfully volunteers her time and has for years. The Facebook page is getting a lot of positive attention. The library is planning on being a presence in the Memorial Day Parade.

**Transfer Station Report:** Supervisor Owen reported there were 71 tickets in March and they brought in \$995.00.

**Lake Board:** None

**Newsletter Report:** Trustee Galdikas asked that information for the spring/summer newsletter be forwarded to her in the next month. The next newsletter will go out mid-June.

**Holiday Committee Report:** None

**Pullman Pride Report:** Trustee Galdikas reported that we have reached the deadline for scholarship applications. A planning meeting for Pullman Pride Day 2021 is scheduled for Thursday, April 15 at Camp Channing (790 53<sup>rd</sup> St).

**Road Committee Report:** Supervisor Owen reports that two culverts on 103<sup>rd</sup> are being replaced, and the shoulder grating has begun. No date yet for the HMA asphalt. The wildflower seeding plan is moving forward to plant non-obstructive wildflowers along 103<sup>rd</sup>, to make for a prettier drive.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Library Upgrade Fee-** Supervisor Owen stated that the board cannot approve the system at this time. The board needs to know who owns the building to determine if the township can legally cover the costs. A decision can be made when it is determined if the building is township or privately owned.

**Gravel Road Program-** Supervisor Owen presented that the program changed this year, and that last month we voted to allow Allegan County Road Commission to bid on the job. The bid was for \$17,000.00. Owen suggests we approve as long as the costs do not exceed the \$17,000.00 bid to cover 51<sup>st</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup>.

*A motion was made by Supervisor Owen and seconded by Trustee Galdikas to approve the Gravel Road Program at a cost not exceeding \$17,000.00. Roll call vote was taken, Yes- Galdikas, Friel, Owen, Hatfield. Motion carried.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Police Deputy-** Supervisor Owen mentioned that Deputy Jackson has been Interim Deputy for Lee Township for over a month now. Deputy Jackson is thrilled to be part of Lee Township and work in a specific area. Trustee Galdikas stated that the feedback from residents has been all positive, his interactions are positive, and he seems like a good fit for the community.

*A motion was made by Supervisor Owen and seconded by Clerk Friel, to remove interim position title and assign Deputy Jackson as the full-time contract deputy for Lee Township. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.*

**Land Division- Sollman-**

*A motion was made by Supervisor Owen made a motion and seconded by Clerk Friel, to approve land divisions for 12-029-013-00 and 12-029-014-00. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.*

**Community Center Chair-** Supervisor Owen would like to appoint Trustee Hatfield as new Chairperson for the Community Center. All members present agreed by saying "Aye."

**Payment of the Bills:** Presented by Clerk Friel

*A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to approve the payment of the bills presented by the Clerk. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Galdikas, Hatfield, Friel, Owen. Motion carried.*

**Correspondence:** None

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Minutes submitted by:  
Heather Friel, Clerk