

**Lake Township-Roscommon County
Regular Board Meeting
November 12, 2019 @ 7pm**

The Lake Township Board met on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 for a regular board meeting. Dave Emmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America was recited.

Present: Dave Emmons - Supervisor, Tonya Clare-Clerk, Harry Trier-Treasurer, Chris Lukatch-Trustee, and Anthony Farhat-Trustee.

Motion: Clare to approve the November 2019 agenda with the addition of Fire Withholding Insurance Company under New Business. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor.**

Motion: Trier to approve the October 8, 2019 regular meeting minutes. **Second:** Lukatch. **All in Favor.**

Correspondence: Emmons received letter of **resignation** from Stringfellow. **Motion:** Emmons to accept resignation of Stringfellow from Lake Township Planning Commission. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor.** Emmons thanked Stringfellow for his work. Additional correspondence from Michigan Public Service Commission will be posted on Township website.

Public Comments: Several residents made comments or read statements regarding short term rentals expressing varying opinions. A resident commented on Medical Marihuana. Clare introduced Austin Martin the new Lake Township Liquor Inspector. He is currently with the Roscommon County Sheriff's Department and has experience as a liquor inspector.

Budget Amendments: There are two budget amendments relating to ZBA. The township fiscal year ends March 31, 2020. The ZBA wage budget will increase by \$1000.00 and the ZBA printing budget will increase by \$300.00. The total increase for the ZBA budget will be \$1300.00. **Motion:** Emmons to increase ZBA budget by \$1300.00 for fiscal year ending March 31, 2020. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor.**

Financial Report: Trier presented the Treasurer's Report-Period ending October 31, 2019 and made it available to the public which he reported currently balances. Trier discussed number of trash parcels we are currently being billed by Republic is 1588, reality is 1609. Emmons will contact Republic to make correction. Trier stated check number 42537 for \$855.24 is for estimated postage to mail Winter tax bills. Discussion to add insert to Winter tax bill, with addition of new Township logo and updated contact list, information must be to Harry by Sunday.

Approval to Pay the Bills: T. Clare provided the public with the credit card distribution report as well as a report of all payroll and accounts payable checks, including descriptions, written since October 9, 2019. Check number 42495 was approved at 10/8/2019 Regular Board Meeting. **Motion:** Emmons to approve to pay the bills (checks #42495 through #42537). **Second:** Farhat. **All in Favor.**

Fire Chief's Report: Fire Chief Wrzesinski provided a written report including and Incident Summary Review, Policy and Procedure Review, and monthly expenditures. Fire Chief Wrzesinski requested Board approval to hire David Russo Jr. on as a probationary Firefighter for six months. **Motion:** Clare to hire David Russo Jr. probationary Firefighter. **Second:** Lukatch. **All in Favor.** Fire Chief Wrzesinski requested Board approval to promote Clare Travelbee from Firefighter 1 & 2 to Lieutenant. **Motion:** Emmons to promote Travelbee to Lieutenant. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor.** Vance, 911 Coordinator, spoke to the Board regarding 800 MHz radios for the Fire Department. Communication is moving from VHF to 800 MHz. The upgrade will allow the Fire Department to continue communication with surrounding EMS especially in the case of a mutual aid call. Fire Chief Wrzesinski is requesting Board approval of \$51,682.69 to purchase Digicom 800 MHz pagers and radios. **Motion:** Emmons to purchase Digicom 800 MHz radios and pagers in amount of \$51,682.69 for Fire Department. **Second:** Farhat. **Roll Call Vote: Farhat, Yes, Trier, Yes, Clare, Yes, Lukatch, Yes, Emmons, Yes.**

Ordinance Enforcement Officer's Report: Rose submitted report of complaints and land use permits issued to board members.

Planning Commission Report: Mika reported on three meetings taking place from September through October 24, 2019.

ZBA Report: Hull reported ZBA hearing on November 14, 2019. Hull and Farhat expressed concern for completing Ordinance 55.

Assessors Report: Houserman stated Board of Reviews scheduled on December 10, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.

Supervisors Report: Emmons reported on the meetings that he has attended this month. Made visits to local township halls to get ideas for a Lake Township Hall. Work continues on dangerous buildings located in Lake Township.

Clare explained some of the duties the new deputy clerk is learning and performing, and thanked her for her help.

Old Business:

Cemetery:

Farhat collected information from three other townships regarding cemetery fees to determine if Lake Township fees are in alignment. Lake Township cemetery fees are behind compared to townships in our area. In the future the cemetery may require a software mapping program, Pontem, valued at \$3,200.00. The cemetery funds are depleting. Recommendations are to grow this fund so we have the ability to possibly purchase this software in the future to help identify graves, create a section of the cemetery just for cremations, and create electronic cemetery records.

Recommendation as follows:

	Current:	Proposed:
Resident burial plot:	\$100	\$200
Non-Resident plot:	\$300	\$500

Open/Close Cremation:	\$100	\$200
Open/Close Vault:	\$370	\$500
Storage:	\$0	\$100
Transfer Ownership:	\$0	\$ 20
Disinterment Grave:	TBD	\$600
Disinterment Cremains:	TBD	\$200

Foundation: Currently, Lake Township does not charge for this, other Townships charge \$.30 per square inch. Would like to acquire more information on this prior to making a decision. Farhat tabled Pontem software until more information available.

Motion: Farhat to adopt cemetery fees as listed above, effective with new fiscal year April 1, 2020. **Second:** Lukatch **All in Favor.**

Discussion for sale of cemetery plots to reflect 25% off for Veterans. Placard and flag placed on every Veteran grave site.

Medical Marihuana:

Emmons recommends the Board help the Planning Commission with Medical Marihuana, he suggests we take what we currently have to attorney, to understand how township protects itself when choosing who will occupy provisioning center. Trier stated he is in favor of two provisioning centers in Lake Township. Trier stated there is no set way to pick people, some townships use lotto system. Emmons discussed a questionnaire. Mika expressed the Planning Commission would like to have the opportunity to work on Medical Marihuana. Emmons stated he would allow the Planning Commission some more time.

Short Term Rentals:

Emmons explained Lake Township ordinance does not have a special use for rentals under RR-1, R-1, R-2, R-3 and R4 it states single family dwelling. Farhat stated enforcement of this will be very difficult. Emmons continued House Bill 4046 prohibits local governments from using zoning laws to prohibit property owners from letting out a home or condo for vacation or short-term rentals. Emmons stated properties have been rented for years and years up here and until lately he was not aware of any issues. With that, is Lake Township going to say we are not going to allow anyone in the township to rent property (short term) or is the Township allowing an ordinance that restricts the way they operate. Additional public comments were made regarding short term rentals. Emmons stated he received a petition from residents. Emmons continued a letter will be sent out to every resident stating what our ordinance currently is, a informational letter. Next the Planning Commission will address the idea of a short term rental ordinance.

New Business:

Asbestos Testing:

Emmons stated asbestos testing must take place per DEQ on dangerous building located on E Houghton Lake Drive. Three bids were received and opened. **Motion:** Emmons to accept bid from Sierra Technical Services of not more than \$1,100 for asbestos testing. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor.**

Appointment:

Emmons introduced Kirstie Russo as new member of Planning Commission.

Motion: Emmons to appoint Kirstie to Planning Commission. **Second:** Clare. **All in Favor.**

Notary:

Clare questioned if anyone on Board was a Notary. Clare explained cost and procedure to have a notary for the Township. Trier mentioned the Deputy Treasurer, Cheryl Trier is a notary. Cheryl Trier consented to be added to Township contact list and website as a Notary for our community.

Snow Plow Bids:

Clare stated three bids were received. Three bids were opened. **Motion:** Trier to accept Quality Lawn Care snow plow bid with the per time amount of money. **Second:** Emmons **All in Favor.**

Special Assessment Street Lighting: Emmons tabled.

Township Hall Committee Report:

Emmons presented conceptual township office building. **Motion:** Emmons to go out for architectural bids on proposed township hall. **Second:** Lukatch.

Motion passed 4 votes in favor, 1 opposed.

Fire Withholding Insurance Company:

Clare stated Township signed up for Fire Withholding Insurance in 1991. Lake Township has the right to escrow 25% of fire damage. In this case it amounts to \$12,746.00. This insurance aids the township with fire damage clean up should the resident possibly abandon or not bring the home back to livable standards. The funds would be held in escrow until the home is repaired. Board feels we will not participate in this individual case. Farhat requested copy of resolution.

Meeting Adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Surprenant, Deputy Clerk

Approved as written at 12/10/2019 Regular Twp Board Meeting