

**COVERT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at Covert Township Hall**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

The special meeting of the Covert Township Board was brought to order by Supervisor Palgen at 5:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Supervisor Palgen.

Members Present: K. Harrington, D. Cook, D. Palgen, L. Taylor, M. Rendell  
Members Absent: None

Also Present: Laura Fogarty, *Office Manager*, Glenn Lindsey, *SAFEbuilt representative*, George Piggee, *Dept. of Public Works Manager*, Julian Allen, *Police Chief*, Doug Myers, *Fire Chief*.

**Public Comment**

None

**New Business**

*SAFEbuilt representative, Glenn Lindsey, led a presentation to the board. They are a full service firm offering building, mechanical, plumbing and electrical inspection. The board discussed administrative procedure and fees.*

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by K. Harrington, **to approve** the Township Board to enter into closed session under MCL 15.268(a); to consider periodic personnel evaluations of public employees.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 5, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by D. Cook, **to approve** the Township Board to adjourn closed session

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 5, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by D. Palgen, **to approve** the Township Board to return to the Regular Township Board Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 5, No: 0, CARRIED

## **2019/2020 Fiscal Year Budget Discussion**

*M. Rendell presented a draft budget by department for the 2019/2020 Fiscal Year. A discussion included setting up the Museum donations and the Campground as self-supporting funds. M. Rendell will consult with our auditor on how to set this up. Specific questions on proposed capital costs over the next several years, as well as the recommended addition of a sergeant position by the Police Chief were discussed. George Piggee, Dept. of Public Works Manager, presented his schedule to replace equipment.*

*D. Palgen led a discussion on options to modify the payment of “in-lieu of insurance” and the employee contribution for all employees to match that of the Fire and Police Union Contracts.*

*The AccuMed fee schedule recommended by the Fire Chief was discussed. Consensus was that the mileage rates, as well as the grass fire fee may be too high.*

*The recommended fee schedule for the Transfer Station was presented by D. Cook. Consensus was to either postpone increasing the fees or gradually increase over time, so that the service may be self-funding in the near future.*

*The recommended fee schedule for building permits was presented by D. Palgen. A discussion was had on whether to mirror the state’s fee schedule so that we may better cover costs of this service.*

*A table of possible increases in salary and pay rates was presented by M. Rendell. The Consumer Price Index over the last 12 months is approximately 2%. This is often used as a measurement for changes in cost of living. A discussion on whether to increase the salary of elected officials based on the Salary Compensation Committee’s recommendation was had, as well as whether to raise the rate for other boards and commissions.*

*The employee and independent contractor contracts for the Ordinance Inspector and Building Official were discussed. D. Palgen will look into whether the contracts should be consolidated.*

*Boards and Commission Meeting dates were discussed with no changes recommended.*

*The Holiday Schedule was discussed, with possible changes to the dates in which the Township Hall will be closed from Christmas to New Year.*

*D. Palgen presented the latest developments in the New Covert Generating litigation.*

*M. Rendell submitted a letter of resignation from Covert Township and Covert Township Board effective June 30, 2019.*

Motion by K. Harrington to adjourn at 10:02 PM.

Next Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

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Daywi Cook, Covert Township Clerk