

****DRAFT****
COVERT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Covert Township Hall

The Regular Meeting of the Covert Township Board was brought to order by Supervisor Palgen at 7:00 PM.

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

Members Present: D. Cook, D. Palgen, L. Taylor, W. Pritchard

Members Absent: K. Harrington

Also Present: Roxanne Seeber, Township Attorney

Public Comment

- Rev. W. C. Askew, Sr., Van Buren County Road Commissioner, shared that ditching is currently underway in Covert, and asked if the Township was interested in sharing half the cost of any major roadwork. The county purchased a new compacting machine for gravel roads and is still seeking a new manager.
- Gail Patterson-Gladney, Van Buren County Commissioner District #1, distributed the latest county news and shared services available to veterans until September 30th. The Veteran Service Office open house had about 250 in attendance. Patterson-Gladney also shared a flyer on a speaking event Generation High.
- Dana Getman, Van Buren United Civic Organization Trustee, thanked the Township Board for their constructive conversations with the President to better understand the requirements expected to provide services to Seniors.
- Margarette Cooper-McDonald, Covert resident, asked if there was any progress made on the walkway from the Public Housing facility to the Post Office.
- Kate Ronan, new Covert resident, shared that she just purchased two buildings on the corner of 32nd Street and Blue Star Highway. One is a residential rental and the other will be a store. Ronan expressed her adoration of Covert and left copies of a survey for the public to complete to have a better idea of what she can offer in her store due to open summer 2020.

Information Update

D. Palgen shared the following information:

- The property owner on 32nd and M-140 has plans to construct a commercial building that may have a flea market and other retail space. Nothing has been submitted to the Planning Commission yet.
- Notice has not yet been given to residents about road work to be done east of M-140 on 28th.
- A bridge on 48th Avenue west of 82nd Street is deteriorating and will be addressed by the Road Commission.
- There is a hole in 34th avenue and West Street. The Road Commission will be conducting exploratory excavation to determine the cause and repair.
- Wilderness Dunes fire lanes 9 and 10 have inquired about extending city water service to three homes on fire lane 10.

Chief Updates

- Police Chief Allen shared that his department has increased road enforcement and training. Two officers are now trained in impaired driving recognition. Chief Allen explained why there was an increase in non-criminal traffic accidents.
- Fire Chief Myers shared a recent Stop the Bleed training and upcoming public class on August 27th from 6-8. An e-commerce trading area has been established in front of the Fire/Police Complex and is under 24 hour surveillance. Chief Myers also attended a special Rescue Task Force meeting to be better prepared for active assailant situations. Recent illegal burning incidents have also occurred, and he shared burning regulations to the public.

Consent Agenda

- *Draft* Minutes of the July 9, 2019 Regular Board Meeting
- *Draft* Minutes of the July 30, 2019 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- Clerk's Invoice Register Report and Payroll Period Reports as presented
- Treasurer's Revenue Receipt Distribution, Banking, & Budget Report as presented
- Police Chief's Report as presented
- Fire Chief's Report as presented
- Public Work Report as presented

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by W. Pritchard, **to approve** the Consent Agenda with changes to the July 9th draft minutes as notated by D. Cook.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Meeting Minutes and Board Liaison Reports

- *DRAFT* July 17, 2019 Airport Authority Meeting Minutes were presented.
- D. Palgen introduced Joyce Williams, the newest member of the Housing Commission.

Unfinished Business

D. Palgen shared the latest research conducted in preparing for the potential sale of the Old Medical Center and Fire Station. This includes comparable analysis from several realtors and appraisers.

New Business

Motion by W. Pritchard, seconded by D. Cook **to approve** Covert Township Resolution #2019-07 “Resolution on Demolition at Property Address 47119 M-140/Parcel #80-07-035-029-00”, with a six (6) day extension as resolved by the Township Board.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 1, CARRIED

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by D. Palgen, **to approve** Covert Township Resolution #2019-08 “Resolution on Demolition at Property Address 25490 75th Street/Parcel #80-07-003-045-00”, with no deadline extension, as resolved by the Township Board.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by W. Pritchard, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** Covert Township Resolution #2019-09 “Resolution on Demolition at Property Address 77731 CR-378/Parcel #80-07-016-010-00”, with an extension to complete by October 1, 2019, as resolved by the Township Board.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by D. Cook, **to approve** the purchase of two Motorola APX 6000 portable radios in the amount of \$8,515.60.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by W. Pritchard, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** the quote from Don Woodhams, Inc to purchase a 2020 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Patrol Vehicle in the amount of \$34,310.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by D. Palgen, **to approve** opening an internal propotional position of Detective with a \$1.50 per hour pay increase as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by W. Pritchard, **to approve** the purchase of an unmarked police vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$18,000 to be used for major investigations and training transportation.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by D. Cook, **to approve** sponsoring Firefighter Matthew Schimmel to attend the Previously Licensed Police Academy to re-obtain his police certification at the Macomb Emergency Services Training Center at the cost of \$1,050 for one week training and hotel not to exceed \$150 per night.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by D. Palgen, **to approve** the installation of a 50 amp circuit within the Fire Station for the new compressor in the amount of \$2,900.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by W. Pritchard, seconded by L. Taylor, **to table** the Transfer Station Policy and Procedure pending legal review.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by L. Taylor, **to table** the Transfer Station Attendant Job Description as presented to the Board pending legal review.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by L. Taylor, **to table** the changes to the 2019/2020 Transfer Station Fee Schedule as presented pending approval of revised policy and procedure.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** the re-appointment of Mary Joyce Haywood to the Planning Commission effective August 13, 2019 thru August 12, 2022.
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 1, CARRIED

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by D. Palgen, **to approve** a Resolution 2019-10 authorizing Police Chief Allen to trade in two old police vehicles to Woodhams Ford of South Haven.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 0, CARRIED

Motion by L. Taylor to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

Next Regular Board Meeting- Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Daywi Cook, Covert Township Clerk