

COVERT TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 9, 2021
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:

N. Barnes (Van Buren Co. Covert MI)
K. Harrington (Van Buren Co. Covert MI)
D. Palgen (Van Buren Co. Covert MI)
B. J. Rose (Van Buren Co. Covert MI)
L. Taylor (Van Buren Co. Covert MI)

Members Absent: None

Covert Township Attorney for Bauckham, Sparks Seth Koches recapped the protocol and procedures for the Electronic and Telephone Meeting requirements.

Public Comment

Rev. W.C. Askew, Sr., Van Buren County Road Commissioner, shared updates on seasonal scheduling; tree trimming and gravel and seal coating should be done by March 31, 2021. A Road Commission tour is scheduled for March 24th at 9a.m.

Gail Patterson-Gladney, Van Buren County Commissioner District #1, shared several updates including: Van Buren County Land Bank Commissioners approved a transfer in the amount of \$ 5,500.00 from the delinquent tax fund to the Land Bank Authority Fund. Approval of purchase for (3) vehicles for the Sherriff department including (1) Animal Control not to exceed \$33,000.00; and Investigation division (2) not to exceed \$50,000.00 total. Approval for replacement of 50 PC/or Laptops Computers in the amount of \$50,690.00. Van Buren County Covid-19 report as of March 3rd Positive cases 4,720; Deaths (85).

Chief/Manger Updates

Police Chief Allen reports February was very busy; but March has been slow with not much to report. The Covert Police continue to be active in assisting other agencies as well as going after drunk drivers has been an increase, some drug activity, targeting areas where there have been previous activities of fencing automobile parts, and no firearms this month.

Acting Fire Chief Wild shared March 19, 2021, the Fire Dept will be hosting a Covid-19 Vaccine Administration clinic. Life bags 15 has come in and staff has been trained on them and they are now being utilized. Approved for Licenser renewal with no questions. State will come in and do an inspection on the ambulances and other fire equipment and vehicles to ensure all are in working order and meeting all standards. Caution on grass fires in this season. A warm Welcome to our New Paid on Call Employee: Chad Medlin.

Public Works Manager Piggee accounts the season of snow passing there are visible tires all over in different locations, duties will be including, Cemetery maintenance, grooming, removal of old flowers and broken items etc.

Consent Agenda

- ***Draft*** Minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- Clerk's Invoice Register Report as presented
- Treasurer's Revenue Receipt Distribution, Banking, & Budget Report
- Police Chief's Report as presented
- Fire Chief's Report as presented
- Public Work Report as presented

Motion to APPROVE the Consent Agenda as presented with no changes, by L. Taylor, seconded by K. Harrington.
Roll Call Vote Yes 4 No 1

Meeting Minutes and Board Liaison Reports

- None

Unfinished Business

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by B. Rose to TABLE removing the February 9, 2021 Treasurer's Report until more information has been clarified.

Roll Call Vote Yes 4 No: 1

Motion by Rose, seconded by Harrington to TABLE the discussion and action regarding the paying employees when off due to COVID.

Roll Call Vote Yes: 5 No 0

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Rose, seconded by Palgen to APPROVE the request of the Public Works Manager Piggee to purchase a new Salt Spreader for the Department of Public Works as quoted by Greenmark Equipment in the amount of \$1,880.00.
Roll Call Vote Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Taylor, seconded by Barnes to APPROVE the New Police Mutual Aid Agreement between Van Buren County Association of Chiefs of Police and the participating units of local government; to include Covert Township.
Roll Call Vote Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Taylor, seconded by Palgen to APPROVE Resolution Adopting Township Freedom of Information Act Procedures and Guidelines in compliance with the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, Public Act 442 of 1976, as amended and presented.
Roll Call Vote Yes 4 No 1

Motion by Palgen, seconded by Barnes to APPROVE hiring Mrs. Hinman for the position of Clerical Assistant at an hourly rate of \$15.92 and not to exceed 25 hours per week.
Roll Call Vote Yes 3 No 2

Motion by Palgen, seconded by Harrington to APPROVE Free Transfer Station Days for two weekends: May 8th and May 15th, 2021.
Roll Call Vote Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Taylor, seconded by Palgen to DENY hosting the Covert Township 2021 Memorial Day Parade
Roll Call Vote Yes5 No 0

Commented [C1]:

Motion by Rose, seconded by Palgen to APPROVE Supervisor Palgen to sign USDA Eligibility Letter for Financial Assistance. Recommended is \$728,000.00 loan at 1.75% and a grant of \$595,000.00.
Roll Call Vote Yes 4 No 1

Motion by N. Barnes to adjourn @ 9:07 PM.

Next Regular Board Meeting- Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Naomi Barnes, Covert Township Clerk