

COVERT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DRAFT

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021

6:00 p.m.

COVERT TOWNSHIP HALL

The Regular Board Meeting of the Covert Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Harrington at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Harrington.

Members Present: N. Barnes, D. Cook, K. Harrington, M. Rendell and L. Taylor.

Absent: None

Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Gladney reports AARPA funds has set aside 7,000,000,000 for Board band programs. There have been several requests for the money and it is going quickly. There will be no meeting this month scheduled for Dec. 28, 2021. The deadline to spend funds is December 2024. Contact information can be found at vbco.mi.gov. under aarpa.

Commissioner Askew reports the road commission is preparing for the winter, and are actively gearing up for plowing season. He reports the employees are happy and everything is going well. The wood from trees falling down is first come first serve basis, in the road or ditches not on individual's property lines.

Public Comments

Barbara Norman voiced her concerns about the condition of the Christmas lights and urged the township to be more diligent in the appearance and upkeep of the township.

Chief/Manager Updates

Police Chief Allen reports last month was very busy. There had been a stream of breaking and entering that were solved; due to the diligence of the community. The city of South Haven will be transcribing major cases for the department. He will keep the board updated. The Officer posted at the Covert School is working out well.

Acting Fire Chief Wilkinson reports November's calls were down due to Covid calls which assessed 86% of the calls were for the unvaccinated; 14% were those who were six months beyond their due date for the second shot. .02% had not had their boosters. The health department is opened to give shots Mon-Thurs. walk ins are welcome. EMS licenses have been renewed.

Manager Piggee reported to the township all completed projects, the special projects which included the planting of a new Christmas tree in the Memorial Park, the general maintaining of all the township properties and awaiting bids for the sidewalk project at the Memorial Park.

Supervisor's Report

Attorney Updates

Attorney Brian Knotek reports he has spoken with Supervisor Harrington concerning the questions raised about the Lift Station and has not heard from F&V, and Paul Bristol but assured the Board that he will follow up with them. Concerning the M-140 case was adjourned due to the Attorney falling ill.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the November 9, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

Clerk's Invoice Register Report and Payroll Report as presented

Treasurer's Revenue Receipt Distribution, Banking, & Budget Report

Motion by Taylor, seconded by Harrington to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No: 0

Meeting Minutes

APPROVED* Minutes of the 10.13.2021 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes

DRAFT* Minutes of the 11.10. 2021 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes

APPROVED* Minutes of the 09.09.2021 Senior Advisory Meeting Minutes

DRAFT* Minutes of the 11.18.2021 Senior Advisory Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 11.17.2021 Airport Authority Meeting

Minutes of the 11.30.2021 Health Committee Meeting

Unfinished Business – NONE

New Business

Motion by Harrington, seconded by Taylor to approve the addition of PNC Bank to our Investment Policy.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No: 0

Motion by Rendell, seconded by Barnes to table the Credit Card Use Policy Revision.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Cook, seconded by Rendell to approve the Interim Fire & EMS chief Professional Service Agreement made by and between the Township of Covert and Chief Julian Allen, for a period of 3 months, with the option to extend up to 6 months, with a stipend of \$5000.00, split into two payments of 2,500.00 each, to take effect immediately.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 3 No: 2

Motion by Cook, seconded by Rendell to approve estimate for Fire Engine 1971 for repairs and to obtain estimates for a new engine with full specifications.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 4 No 1

Motion by Barnes, seconded by Taylor to approve the request of Christina Clayton and Hazen Hess to replace the Christmas Tree that was donated by their father Jack Hess, at the Covert Community Park.

Motion by Cook, seconded by Rendell to approve the October invoice from VBUCO for Transportation in the amount of \$436.75, and invoice for November in the amount of \$124.74 as the final payment.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Rendell, seconded by Harrington to approve PW Manager Piggee proposal that Transfer Station remain closed in observance of the holidays and open Monday, December 27, 2021 and Monday, January 3, 2022 and these dates shall be posted to the Fire Station marquee.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Rendell, seconded by Barnes to Approve the estimate from H&S Fleet in the amount not to exceed \$8,000.00 to complete the repairs as quoted on estimate wo#0016.

Motion by Taylor seconded by Cook to approve request to pay Officer Tanir McJilton the Associates Degree Education Bonus in the amount of \$250.00 per the POAM Union Contract.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Rendell, seconded by Taylor to table hiring Daywi Cook as temporary office staff in the Township Clerk's office for six (6) weeks at a rate of \$15.92 and hours not to exceed 25 per week, pending information pro.

Roll Call Vote: 3 No 1 Abstain 1

Motion by, Cook seconded by Harrington to approve the request of Trustee Cook to make an application to the Covert Community Foundation for matching funds in the amount of 21,800.00 to cover the sidewalk expenses at the Downton Covert Community Park, and to accept the full design.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Harrington, seconded by Barnes to add Clean Earth proposal to the agenda, and accept the bid for cleaning and maintenance of the Transfer Station.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Cook, seconded by Harrington to add the Fire Chief interview process to the agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 5 No 0

Motion by Rendell, seconded by Cook, to establish a interview panel for the Fire Chief position which will include two Board Members, an outstanding member of the Covert Community, and two fire professionals.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 4 No 1

AJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Harrington

Submitted by N. Barnes Covert Township Clerk

Special Meeting – Fire Chief Interview – Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Next Regular Board Meeting- Tuesday, January 11, 2021