

DRAFT
COVERT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Covert Township Hall

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Covert Township Board was brought to order by D. Palgen at 7:00 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: Harold Schuitmaker, Covert Township Attorney

Public Comment

- Rev. W. C. Askew, Sr., Van Buren County Road Commissioner, shared information on the County's millage proposal, the progress of Covert's road issues and quarterly meetings to be held for Township Board members. Additional information on snow plowing policy and the opposition of the Senate Bill 0396 was shared.

Informational Update

Supervisor Palgen shared the following information:

- Department of Public Works Manager, George Piggee, has returned after a leave of absence due to his son being in a serious car accident.
- Helicopters will be in the area to perform tree trimming along transmission lines.
- 34th Ave west is open, but east is still closed due to needing to move a water main.
- The Christmas Lighting Ceremony will be held December 15th at the Covert Community Park.
- Officer Massura will be retiring from the Police Department after 21 years of service.
- Parrett Company donated a copier to the Fire Department.

Chief Updates

Police Chief Allen presented the progress of tackling the opioid abuse in our community, as well as the success of decreasing stray animal complaints. Chief Allen thanked the community for their cooperation in identifying two suspects in recent breaking and entering incidents and shared information on an upcoming Domestic Violence Victims panel to be held Saturday at the Van Buren United Civic Organization. Chief Allen then answered questions regarding an increase in ticketing and how to prepare for the legalization of recreational marijuana.

Consent Agenda

- *Draft* Minutes of the October 9, 2018 Regular Board Meeting
- “Draft” Minutes of the October 16, 2018 Special Board Meeting
- 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 L. Taylor, **to approve** the Consent Agenda as presented.

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

Meeting Minutes and Board Liaison Reports

- South Haven Airport Authority October 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes presented
- Health Insurance Committee October 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes were presented by D. Palgen
- Planning Commission September 19, 2018 “Approved” Meeting Minutes and October 17, 2018 “Draft” Meeting Minutes were presented by L. Taylor
- Senior Advisory August 8, 2018 and September 26, 2018 “Draft” Meeting Minutes were presented by M. Rendell
- Park Advisory Committee September 20, 2018 “Approved” Meeting Minutes were presented by D. Cook
- Zoning Board of Appeals August 8, 2018 “Draft” Meeting Minutes presented by L. Taylor

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by M. Rendell, **to approve** using the services of Wightman and Associates on an as needed basis for existing and future building projects, without obtaining additional bids.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 1 CARRIED

Motion by K. Harrington, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** Police Chief Allen's request to attend the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police 2019 Conference in the amount of \$841.50 plus meal expenses.

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

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by D. Palgen, **to adopt** Resolution Opposing SB 0396.

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

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by D. Palgen, **to table** the quote from Quality Paving in the amount of \$2800 to lower the grade of the slope on the Public Housing walkway, pending further investigation and consultation.

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

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by K. Harrington, **to approve** the estimate from Louis Gelder & Sons to repair the large Department of Public Works' Snow Thrower in the amount of \$814.

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

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by D. Cook, **to approve** the recommendation of the Senior Advisory Committee for an additional budget item of \$10,000.00 to subsidize the use of a Phillips Life Alert System for interested Covert Seniors.

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

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by M. Rendell, **to authorize** Supervisor Palgen to sign the Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of and Payment for Ambulance Services with no changes in the distribution formula, as presented by Van Buren County.

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

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** the replacement of the 8" mechanical joint sewer line valve by Compton's Inc. in the amount of \$1,962.00.

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

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by M. Rendell, **to approve** amending the 2018/2019 Budget transferring \$2,000.00 from the Parks Fund to the Cemetery Fund.

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

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by K. Harrington, **to authorize** Supervisor Palgen to sign the Best Way Service Agreement.

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

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by D. Cook, **to approve** the addendum for servicing of the Covert Township Transfer Station, as presented.

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

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by D. Cook, **to approve** the quote from Premier Safety to repair a gas monitor utilized by the Fire Department, in the amount of \$628.80.

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

Motion by D. Cook, seconded by M. Rendell, **to approve** the quote from I.T. Right to remove the I.T. Solutions firewall and to replace with an I.T. Right Firewall in the amount of \$994.00.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 4, No: 1 CARRIED

Motion by K. Harrington, seconded by M. Rendell, **to approve** the renewal of our Blue Care Health Insurance Plan and the renewal rate change of 7.13% as presented.

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

Motion by L. Taylor **to adjourn** at 8:51 PM.

Daywi Cook, *Covert Township Clerk*