

COVERT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 23, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
Covert Township Hall

Purpose: To discuss possible USDA Loan/Grant opportunity to fund Capital Improvement project as identified in the Waste Water Asset Management Plan.

SPECIAL MEETING

The special meeting of the Covert Township Board was brought to order by Supervisor Palgen at 6:00 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: Jeff Wingard, Fleis & Vanderbrink Project Manager

Public Comment

None

History and Status of Wastewater System

D. Palgen led a presentation on the history and status of the waste water system in Covert Township. The recent completion of the Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater Program provided information on the status of current assets, which capital improvements are recommended in the near future and an analysis of sewer rates.

USDA Pre-Application Process

Jeff Wingard of Fleis & Vanderbrink led a presentation on the recommended capital improvement projects on the waste water system and options on how to fund those projects. A rate increase alone would not

be recommended due to the mean annual income of users and funding needed. A commercial loan and a rate increase may not be a viable option due to high interest rate and the pre-qualification process. Covert Township is eligible for a USDA Rural Development loan and possible grant match of up to 45%.

J. Wingard answered questions from the board regarding the length of the payoff of the loan, the costs associated with the application process, the amount of increase in rates required to pay off the loan, the selection process and how to plan for other future capital improvements.

No action was required of the board. Consensus was to set up a meeting with all the “key players” to get a better of idea of the needs of the Township and costs associated with the application process.

Other Business

D. Palgen presented a proposal to provide real estate brokerage services from NAI Wisinski of West Michigan for the two vacant buildings owned by Covert Township. It included a property analysis, valuation, marketing program and proposed fee structure. D. Palgen also presented an estimated value and recommendation from Callander Commercial.

Next steps were discussed by the board and included possible public use of the buildings and research items needed if the board wanted to sell.

Adjournment

Motion by K. Harrington to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.

Next Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Daywi Cook, Covert Township Clerk