

UNAPPROVED

MINUTES
COURTLAND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 7, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor McConnon.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members present: Andersen, Bartels, Brown, Hartman, McConnon, McIntyre, and Mojzuk. Members absent: None. Also present was Fire Chief Mojzuk, Auditor Douglas Wohlberg and 22 spectators.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Approval of agenda- A motion by McIntyre, with support from Mojzuk. All yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Consent Agenda- A motion was made by Mojzuk, Brown supported to approve consent agenda. Roll call vote; all yes, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: September 2, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

Treasurer's Report: Andersen questioned why the bills for Main-Tech were higher than usual.

McConnon explained that it was due to the maintenance on all grinder pumps. Andersen also questioned the attorney bill. McConnon said it was due to the recent lawsuit and review of policy.

Approval of August bills for payment- General, Sewer, and Fire Funds. McIntyre had questioned two identical sewer bills. Hartman confirmed the bills were for separate invoices.

STANDING REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report/Building Permits: – McConnon reported: 2 building permits for new homes and 2 modular homes

NKSA- Bartels reported that they are working on the budget. McConnon reported that NKSA will not be submitting a bid to take care of our sewer system. They are stating that the condition of the equipment and the need of additional staff is the primary reason. They are also concerned that there are not generators at the lift stations.

GVMC- No meeting

GGTC- All meetings are canceled until further notice.

Rockford Community Endowment: Mojzuk reported the committee will place an ad in the paper looking for people that want to apply for a grant. They are also looking for a replacement for her as her term will be ending in November.

North Kent Community Enrichment: April Cunningham is now the representative for the township and will be attending the meetings.

Courtland Township Park & Trails: McIntyre reported no meeting was held but they are looking for help getting the barbed wire fence on the new trail brought up to the staging area for the fall clean up.

Fire Chief's Report: Number of calls for the month of September is 25 for a total of 302 calls for the year.

Zoning Board of Appeals: No meeting

Planning Commission Report: Andersen reported the next meeting will be October 20th and they will be discussing the Braeside development.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Grinder Pump Fees – A presentation was made by the representative from the sewer advisory committee regarding the question of whether grinder pump customers should be assessed an additional fee to cover the expenses of maintenance, operations and replacement. The committee met several times to discuss this and the recommendation is to continue covering these costs with money from the sewer fund with no additional costs passed on to the residents. The board discussed the recommendation and options.

A motion was made by Brown, Anderson supported to continue as is to include the grinder pump costs to be covered in the quarterly sewer fees to all parcels of the sewer system per the recommendation of the Sewer Advisory Committee. To start a new line item in the sewer budget tracking the cost of grinder pump maintenance and replacement for future consideration. To revisit the question when the new budget is being prepared in the Spring, 2022 when further information will be available for consideration. Roll call vote: Anderson- yes, McIntyre- no, Bartels- yes, Mojzuk- no, Brown- yes, Hartman- no, McConnon- no, motion failed.

A motion was made by Brown, Anderson supported to continue as is to include the grinder pump costs to be covered in the quarterly sewer fees to all parcels of the sewer system per the recommendation of the Sewer Advisory Committee. To start a new line item in the sewer budget tracking the cost of grinder pump maintenance and replacement for future consideration. To have the Sewer Advisory Committee report quarterly to the Township Board and attend such meeting. To send a letter to all parcel owners on the sewer system to educate them about the subject and to open dialogue. To revisit the question when the new budget is being prepared in the Spring, 2022 when further information will be available for consideration. Roll call vote: Anderson- yes, McIntyre- yes, Bartels- yes, Mojzuk- yes, Brown- yes, Hartman- no, McConnon- no, motion carried

- B. A-1 Asphalt Final Payment – the final payment of \$5,000 was made to A-1 Asphalt after it was determined that the project was complete.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Eagle Scout Project – Darrelle Behm made a presentation to the township board to build benches and blue bird boxes for the new walking trail as his eagle scout project and asked the board to help with the cost. – A motion was made by Hartman, Mojzuk supported to authorize \$280.00 to pay for 4 benches and 8 blue bird boxes. Roll call vote: all yes, motion carried
- B. North Kent Community Enrichment By-Law Changes – A motion was made by McIntyre, Bartels supported to accept the changes to the NKCE By-Laws. Roll call vote: all yes, motion carried

- C. Audit – Douglas Wohlberg presented the audit and financial statements for fiscal year 2020 along with some recommendations for the township to improve processes. It was pointed out that our Treasurer’s office is not using the same software as is used for the rest of the township financial record keeping. Recommendations will be reviewed by the board for discussion at the next meeting.
- D. Fire Equipment – A motion was made by McIntyre, Hartman supported to approve \$31,009.40 to purchase the Genesis tools recommended by Chief Mojzuk for the fire department. Roll call vote: all yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Several grinder pump customers made comments on the grinder pump fee discussion and believe that this is part of the whole system and should not be passed on to just the customers with grinder pumps.

A resident brought his concerns to the board regarding his neighbor shooting his guns and requested an ordinance be adopted to restrict times when shooting can be done.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mojzuk – stated that target practice is normal in the rural area

McIntyre – agreed with Mojzuk that it is a common practice for those living in rural areas to shoot their guns and as long as it within state law then it should be allowed.

Andersen – also stated that the state laws on guns should be sufficient for the township

Hartman – stated that the amount of the absent voter ballots is very high as expected and the drive-up ballot drop off box is installed

Brown – None

McConnon – also agreed that state law is sufficient for gun control for our township. McConnon also stated that the RFP’s for the sewer maintenance would be sent out soon and bids will be considered at the next meeting.

Bartels – None

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business the board meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _____

Susan K. Hartman, Clerk

Dated: _____

Matt McConnon, Supervisor