

Approved October 18, 2021

**BINGHAM TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021, 7pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Midge Werner called the Bingham Township Board Meeting to order on Monday, September 20, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., at the township hall; available via zoom.

2. ROLL CALL- QUORUM PRESENT

Present: Midge Werner, Kathy Morio, Sandra Grant, Todd Stone,

Absent and excused: Jeff Layman

Staff Present: Recording Secretary, Marge Johnson; Steve Patmore, Zon. Admin

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. AGENDA APPROVAL.

Addition under old business - A. Modified Three Trees Vineyard Resolution Sandra Grant/moved, Kathy Morio/supported, to approve the agenda as amended, PASSED.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. August 16, 2021

Sandra Grant/moved, Todd Stone/supported to approve the Minutes of August 16, 2021 as submitted, PASSED.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Walton, member of Parks & Rec Comm, said he urges Bingham Township to protect road end access for public use. A possible first step would gain control of the road end at the east end of Bingham Road. This space used by the public and adjacent to Boughey Park has caused confusion on the part of the public, discomfort for the neighbors and on some weekends congestion that gets in the way of our fire trucks. The township should have a look at its road ends and develop a forward looking solution.

Todd Stone said there has been a lot of discussion about the road end at Boughey Park. Parks & Rec is requesting that the Road Commission close that off for launching. This needs further discussion either at the board level or the Road Commission to better define what we are calling launching, what the road end

should be. Do we want people to have the ability to access the water for swimming, to launch a paddleboard and close it for motorized boats, leaving it open for snow-mobilers to allow them to get out on the ice?

Midge Werner said as it stands right now, that is a county road property. We can swim in the water, you cannot use the beach, it has to be left open, it is mainly maintained just for launching by the Road Commission, and it is not even really maintained. The sandy beach is used for emergency services if they did need to launch a boat because someone was in distress out in the bay, also, the Fire Department uses that to get water from the bay to fight fires. It is not supposed to be used as a public beach. It is basically supposed to be used for launching boats and access to the water.

Todd Stone said we should take a look at the broader picture of what we have in the township for road ends.

Bob Walton - would like his issue taken up separately from the Parks & Rec Comm. request to have the launching prohibited, wanted them to be separate issues and taken up at different times

Dan Rose, Bingham Township, said Midge Werner made the most succinct statement, accurate on the law regarding road ends. Dan Rose said other townships are dealing with road ends. People don't have the right to use the end of the road with their blanket. The issue to block road ends from launching boats is unlawful. This summer signs were installed to try to redirect traffic because the facility at Bingham Road is inadequate to accommodate increased traffic to use as a boat launch. The township did not prohibit people from using Bingham Road as an access to the lake.

Midge Werner said she received a communication from MDOT last week that the sign will be taken care of.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Resolution - 20210920.2 - Three Trees Vineyard (modify the resolution)

Steve Patmore said in April 2021 the Board recommended a Resolution to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for Three Trees Vineyard, a Resolution for a Small Winemaker License for that property. Three Trees Vineyard is requesting approval of another Resolution for a new, on premises, tasting room permit which is in the process of working with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission; it recommended this as part of their application. The Resolution was approved in April with the understanding a special use permit has to be approved by the Township Planning Commission. This request says, we acknowledge that Three Trees Vineyard

must have a special use permit from the Bingham Township Planning Commission to operate a tasting room for the property at a date and time to be determined. We also acknowledge and understand that the Township Board recommendation for a on premise tasting room permit is not a guarantee that a special use permit will be issued. The Township Board is being asked to make a recommendation to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission with the understanding to do that on this site, Planning Commission approval is needed. This is just for the license.

Sandra Grant/moved, Midge Werner/supported, to adopt Resolution 20210920.2 - Three Trees Vineyard, recommending that a tasting room be permitted at 5200 Elm Valley, Suttons Bay, Michigan 49682. Roll call vote: Yes: Midge Werner, Sandra Grant, Kathy Morio, Todd Stone. Absent: Jeff Layman. PASSED

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Bingham Township Hall - Plans for possible township hall renovation

Revised plans from Andy Rink, Architect, are the result of a meeting with the Township Board and Mr. Rink. Review of the plans - Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer in same location as they are now. Additional room would be added onto the back for files, storage and work room area.

Kathy Morio explained space is needed for holding an election at the township. An absentee counting board room is needed where all the absentee ballots can be counted in a secure location, where at least 3 election workers would be processing the ballots. Also need room for election challengers and poll watchers to witness the process. The space would be used to store ballots and election equipment. A basement and air conditioning may be added to to the addition.

Regarding funding for the project, the township received word from the State, under the American Rescue Plan Act which the township applied for, was awarded \$222,974.00. The first half of that amount will be deposited in the township bank account in the next 30 days. Some of these monies could be used to construct the addition to the township hall.

Consensus of the Board, that Midge Werner will contact Andy Rink to get his opinion about removal of some of the trees and then move forward with the project.

b. Resolution #20210920.1 Requesting Road Commission To Conduct a Speed

Study on 633 Bingham Road Area (on the portion of South Center Highway (CR633) from Shady Lane Road to Lakeview Hills Road located in Bingham Township to determine if conditions warrant a reduction in the speed limit from 55 mph to 40 mph

Statistics were obtained from Lt. Duane Wright, Leelanau County Sheriff's Office - state reporting system - 11 crashes have occurred on or near S. Center Hwy. and Bingham Rd. intersection. (7 property damage and 4 injuries, including property damage to the home on the corner in last 9 years).

Midge Werner/moved, Sandra Grant/supported, to adopt Resolution #20210920.1 requesting the Road Commission conduct a speed study on 633 Bingham Road area and schedule for July 2022. Roll call vote: Yes: Midge Werner, Kathy Morio, Sandra Grant, Todd Stone. No: None. Absent: Jeff Layman. PASSED.

10. COMMITTEE, STAFF AND OFFICER REPORTS

a. Parks and Recreation Committee

Todd Stone said the Committee is working on the signage and rules for the parks. Committee requests approval to purchase 4 signs at a cost not exceeding \$1,000.00. Committee is working on buoyies for Boughey Park, continues to research kiosks.

Todd Stone/moved, Kathy Morio/supported, to approve 4 signs for the parks at a cost not exceeding \$1,000.00, to come out of 755-945 Parks Improvement, PASSED.

b. Buildings & Grounds - Kathy Morio reported on the possible addition to the township hall.

c. Cemetery - Maple Grove - Kal Excavating repaired south entrance driveway and removed the old storage shed.

d. Zoning Administrator - Steve Patmore's Report - ZBA met in August to review two variances. 68 short term rental permits issued so far. Host Compliance monitoring program is active. Assisting with master plan update.

e. Planning Commission - Approved special use permit amendment for former PDM site.

f. Fire Authority - Minutes emailed board members.

g. Assessor's Quarterly Report - None.

h. Trustees - None.

i Treasurer- September 14 was due date for taxes.

j. Clerk - Vendor Balance - \$23,403.37 (added to Vendor Balance - Wells Fargo - \$7,708, Wms & Bay - \$587.50). Payroll - \$10,965.82

Sandra Grant/moved, Midge Werner/supported to approve the Vendor Balance of \$23,403.37 and Payroll of \$10,965.82, PASSED.

k. Supervisor - No report.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT - Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Marge Johnson, Recording Secretary

Kathy Morio, Clerk

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