

July 14, 2020

**Empire Township Board
Regular Meeting**

Supervisor Noonan called the meeting to order, by teleconference, at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Office. Also present were members Casey Noonan, Neiswonger, Deegan, and Price. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2020 regular meeting as written. All ayes.

Julie Tarr telephoned in to request support for the County's Senior Services millage request on the August ballot. Julie informed the Board of a few of the multiple services the County provides to seniors with the millage. Julie was thanked for attending.

Assessor Report: Board of Review will hold a meeting on July 21, 2020 to correct any errors in the tax roll.

Campground Report: The campground is busy after finally being able to open, due to Covid-19 restrictions, in late June.

Airport Report: Board reviewed written report from Claude Fields on maintenance of the airport grounds.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Price presented a written report on CDs and bank accounts as of 05-31-2020 and 06-30-2020. Reports received as read.

Planning & Zoning Report: 1.) Zoning Administrator, Tim Cypher, issued the following land use permits in June: 1) Accessory building-Benzonia Trail, 2) Accessory building-W. Dodge Springs, 3) Deck addition-S. Southpointe Lane. 2.) Trustee Deegan stated that in addition to the proposed Special Temporary Event Ordinance, it might be a good time for the Board to also review the POS Septic and Well Ordinance for possible needed changes. Micah also reported that Planning was reviewing the following items: 1) amendments to their by-laws, 2) allowing smaller "tiny" homes in zoning, and 3) discussing that with the expertise of the zoning administrator and commission members it might be more economical if they performed the update on the Master Plan rather than hiring a professional. Micah also noted that Dana Boomer would do the Master Plan typing and would require additional wages to accomplish this, which the Board agreed with.

Supervisor Report: 1.) The Board reviewed Resolution 02-2020 that requests that the voters approve a fire protection and EMS millage request, of up to 7 mills for five years, on the November 2020 ballot. The millage would replace the current millage that allowed up to 5 mills for 10 years and is due to expire at the end of 2020. Due to the rising costs of the Glen Arbor Township contract it has been determined that 5 mills will no longer support the contract cost which is \$1,212,048 this current year. Motion made by Casey Noonan; support-Neiswonger to adopt Resolution 02-2002 as presented. Roll call vote taken: All ayes. 2.) The Board reviewed the Empire Chamber of Commerce (ECC) Special Event application for the 2020 Empire Hill Climb submitted by Paul Skinner. Paul informed the Board that he had spoken with Matt Ansorge, the County's Emergency Director, and it was decided that the ECC would not promote the event for spectators this year. After further review of the application, motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan that the Empire Township Board approves the 2020 Empire Hill Climb Special Event application, contingent on receipt of acceptable insurance coverage, clarification on which month the event will be held in, a favorable review and report from the Leelanau County's Emergency Management Director that is received in time for the Township Board to review the approved event and conditions, if any, and that due to covid concerns the township hall may not be used for any part of

the event. All ayes. Supervisor Noonan will contact Matt Ansorge and request his review at least a week or two in advance of the event.

The Board agreed that the bill sheet presented to the Board for payment approval may now be attached to the monthly minutes rather than documented in the minutes. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to pay the June and July 2020 monthly bills as presented and attached. All ayes.

Final Business: 1.) Roy Pentilla reported that ESAC will be reviewing their membership policies at the next ESAC meeting. Roy will ask the Glen Arbor Supervisor for the attorney's opinion letter regarding possible conflicts of interest on the committee.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 8:30 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk