

BAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 9, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Moeschke called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, in attendance were Clerk W. Simmons, Treasurer S.L. Ritter, and Trustees G.R. Monk and W. Wehrenberg.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Moeschke opened public comment at 6:31 PM.

Jim Anderton

Representative of the Walloon Lake Association, conveyed the Governmental Affairs Committee's appreciation and support of:

- Swimmer's Itch article that was put in the Township summer newsletter
- Requesting the township to put a high priority on Septic System Inspections
- Odawa Indian case awareness
- Would like to make the township aware of an invasive species called Japanese Knot Weed and requested help to eradicate through the possibility of adding it to the building permits checklist.

Bill Nason

Member of the Bay Township Cemetery Committee announced he is moving out of the township and will be leaving the cemetery committee. Rich Brown will be replacing him as representative for Villa De Charlevoix.

Public comment closed at 6:36PM

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Wehrenberg, seconded by Moeschke, to dispense with the reading of the July 12, 2018 Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes, passed upon unanimous affirmative voice vote of the Board Members present.

MOTION by Monk, seconded by Ritter, to approve the July 12, 2018 Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes, as corrected, passed upon affirmative voice vote of the Board Members present.

TREASURER REPORT

July 31, 2018 Treasurer's report as follows:

<u>Huntington Banks Accounts</u>	
General Fund Savings	\$ 69,353.03
General Fund Checking	\$ 15,391.65
Road Fund	\$ 164,495.37
Tax Collection Fund Checking	\$ 104,289.67
CD (Matures June 2019)	\$ 33,234.62
<u>4Front Federal Credit Union Account</u>	
General Fund Savings	\$ 236,848.71

CLERKS WARRANTS

Simmons presented the July warrants for payment.

MOTION by Wehrenberg, seconded by Ritter, to approve the August warrants, totaling 15,026.18 to be paid from the General Fund, passed upon unanimous affirmative roll-call vote of the Board Members present with the clarification that the Chase payment included the \$2,172.75 from July and this payment was cancelled and adjusted in the July 2018 warrants. The corrected total of the July 2018 warrants is \$26,655.19.

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(Clerk's note: Proper way to adjust was verified with the auditors as requested by the Board.)

**PLANNING COMMISSION
REPORT**

Simmons reported that the Planning Commission continues working with Claire Karner, Planner, on finalizing illustrations for Zoning Standards in Un-platted Agricultural and Residential, Platted, Waterfront Overlay, as well as illustrations for Triangular or Irregular shaped lots, Accessory Building and Waterfront Overlay District Residential Lot Size.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATORS
REPORT**

Note: A copy of this report is on file with the township Clerk which has further detail.

Zoning Administrator Ron Van Zee reviewed his July 13, through August 9, 2018 report highlighting activities regarding Zoning Permits issued, Zoning Ordinance enforcement actions taken, and other related zoning activities.

**ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS**

Ritter suggested the ZBA hold a meeting to include alternates and update everyone on Citizen Planner information.

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Note: A copy of this report is on file with the township Clerk which has further detail.

Monk reported that the Cemetery Committee met on July 25, 2018. Resignation of Bill Nason was accepted.

Monk was contacted by Great Lakes Energy's magazine, *Michigan Country Lines*, regarding our Wreaths Across America (WAA) program at the Bay Township Cemeteries being the feature article in their October 2018 issue. She requested that the information that was currently on the Township website under cemeteries be updated with the 2018 sponsorship form and updated veteran's list.

Ritter and Monk are working together to evaluate the need to adjust the pricing structure for cemetery service.

A request has been received for a private cemetery, green burial on Erickson Rd. and will be followed up by the Sexton. The next scheduled meeting is to be held on August 27th at 8:00AM.

TWP. MAINTENANCE

The decision to bring in more Afton stone versus paving the side driveway at the hall will be put on hold till Spring of 2019.

Replacement of front door and cost of frame work is still on going. Decks and painting/staining still in process. Painting of Handicapped parking area completed where originally designated as there was not enough room to move it over towards the sidewalk.

Moeschke agrees to not turn off the electricity at Dyer Cemetery. He still has it on his list to talk to Pat Harmon of the Charlevoix County Road Commission with regards to why the township is paying for lights at road intersections.

Monk given the OK to purchase signs indicating POISON IVY to be attached to the chain link fence at the road end on Lake Street.

Threshold at Dyer cemetery does not need to be replaced.

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SIGNAGE

Wehrenberg presented an idea for permanent Township trash pick-up signs. It was suggested to go with a white background and dark letters for better visibility. Instead of a specific date use 1st Thursday in June and reference *baytownship.org* for exclusions. Wehrenberg will check into pricing and finalize the design.

Wehrenberg received a request from a resident on Church Rd. (East of Camp Daggett Rd.) volunteering to pay for pedestrian crossing signs on Church Rd.

MOTION by Wehrenberg, seconded by Simmons to approve the request of pedestrian crossing signs upon receipt of a \$300.00 deposit from the resident located on Church Rd. passed upon affirmative voice vote of the Board members present.

CORRESPONDENCE

Received a request from an Evangeline resident wanting to know if Bay Township is interested in improving the Walloon Lake access site at Wildwood with a cement launch and dock. There is no interest per Moeschke.

GREAT LAKES ENERGY

Moeschke received back from Township Attorney Murray, a Franchise request from Great Lakes Energy Cooperative to conduct business in Bay Township. This letter was dated March 27, 2018 and given to the Attorney to review.

MOTION by Moeschke, seconded by Wehrenberg, to approve Bay Township Resolution 2018-8-02, A FRANCHISE, granting to GREAT LAKES ENERGY COOPERATIVE, its successors and assigns, the right, power and authority to lay, maintain and operate electric and fiber lines, poles and services on, along, across and under the highways, streets, alleys, bridges and other public places, and to conduct a local electric, broadband, and communication business in the Township of Bay, Charlevoix County, Michigan for a period of thirty years, passed upon unanimous affirmative roll-call vote of the Board Members present.

ASSESSING ROLES DEPT. OF TREASURY HOUSE BILL 6049/SENATE BILL 1025

Received from Michigan Township Association a sample resolution against the Michigan Department of Treasury's proposal to amend state laws related to the roles and responsibilities of Michigan Townships to administer property tax assessments in their jurisdiction, removing local control.

Item tabled in order to receive more information.

MILLAGE LEVY FORM L-4029

Simmons presented to L-4029 Millage levy information to the Board that requires a signature and resolution. It was noted that the allocated operation millage expires on December 31, 2021 and the voted road millage expires on December 31, 2018.

MOTION by Simmons, seconded by Ritter, to approve Bay Township Resolution 2018-8-1, Whereas, the Township of Bay has met all requirements of Section 16 of the Uniformed Budgeting and Accounting Act, thereby allowing the levy of the maximum allowable millage greater than the Base Tax Rate to support the 2018-2019 General Fund Budget and Road Fund Budget, each for the year ended March 31, 2019, passed in a unanimous affirmative roll-call vote of the Board.

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OTHER

Ritter ~~Wehrenberg~~ **WEHRENBURG** suggests the Board start looking at multi-year packages in using road funds in order to complete larger projects.

TOWNSHIP WEBSITE/ WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Moeschke requested to bring up the issue of having the Wreaths Across America information on the township website under Service / Cemeteries / Wreaths Across America Sponsorship for Bay Township Area Cemeteries link.

- Moeschke is opposed to having this information on the township website as it is not a township endorsed program and by having it on the website, it gives the appearance of being a township supported program. It is his opinion that anything that does not specifically relate to township business should not be on the website and he referred back to his inquiry and response from MTA presented in earlier meetings. "Smart Steps to Lawful Expenditures" Townships were not created to "Do Good." Townships exist to assess property, levy taxes, administer elections, and provide other public services.
- Moeschke admitted he had not read any of the information on WAA as it was not something that is of interest to him **HE'S AMBIVALENT TOO.**
- Moeschke went on to state that the cemetery committee is an advisory committee that was only created to look at pricing and as of yet has not given this information to the board. Moeschke also indicated he was unaware that WAA information was on the township website or that the Board approved this.
- Wehrenberg stated that the Board agreed that anything on the website needs to be approved by the Board prior to being placed on the website.
- Ritter does not want to clutter the new website.
- Ritter also stated the Board has not set a firm policy regarding Wreaths Across America on the website.
- Wehrenberg stated this information should not be in every Township Newsletter which again, never seems to get final approval of content prior to being published.
- Monk stated the WAA information was initially brought before the Board in September of 2014. There was no indication to the contrary that the Cemetery Committee could not participate in the WAA program to honor Bay Township veterans and families.
- Monk went onto state WAA information has always been on the website since it was originally presented to the Board in 2014.
- Monk presented documentation and referred back to documentation presented at earlier meetings, of township websites across the State of Michigan that not only have WAA links but also have all other local community events that are happening in and around their community. Multiple examples were given. Monk also sighted Michigan Law for community-based newsletters.
- Monk presented letters from other townships encouraging Bay Township to keep information about WAA on the website. She also reiterated that at no time has any township funds been used to support WAA. It is only information about the WAA program and how to go about participating in the program.
- Simmons, agreeing with Monk, felt the residents of Bay Township would like to see more community information available in both the township newsletter as well as the website, indicating it is not what each of us as an individual wants, but what the residents we represent want.

MOTION by Simmons, supported ~~SECONDED~~ by Monk to have Wreaths Across America be considered a Bay Township program and keep it on the website, failed in a two (2) ayes (Monk and Simmons) to three (3) nays' (Moeschke, Wehrenberg and Ritter) vote.

NOTE TO REMOVE WAA

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FROM WEBSITE

The link to the Wreaths Across America will be removed from the website.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment opened at 8:52PM

Ben Priebe – As the township grows he would like to see more publicized goals of the township.

Jim Anderton – Is there a way to put together a list to ask township residents, who want to participate, to help pay for some of the township needs to add quality to the township? Jim has volunteered to assist in paying for trash pickup signage on behalf of the township if needed and be a sponsor of WAA.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Wehrenberg, seconded by Moeschke, to adjourn the meeting at 8:56PM, passed upon affirmative voice vote of the Board Members present.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Simmons,
Bay Township Clerk