

**FIFE LAKE TOWNSHIP
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**FIFE LAKE TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2020**

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Linda Forwerck,-X Treasurer Cathy Sorrow-X, Clerk Terry Street-X, Trustee Elizabeth Pearson-X, Dawn Zimmerman-Absent. Quorum Established.

Also Present Attorney Todd Millar.

Approval of Agenda

Sorrow made **Motion** to approve the agenda, Street Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried.**

Conflict of Interest – None

Consent Calendar

Street made **Motion** to approve the Consent Calendar with additional bills, Sorrow Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried.**

Correspondence-

CITIZEN COMMENT-

Several people residing in the area near Camp Pugsley property commented negatively on the Pugsley Brownfield Development including expanding the Gun Range to include a Regional Tactical Training Center. The consensus of the Citizens: was this would not only lower their property value, but constant gun fire would affect the quiet ambiance of the area; also no tax base; the plan to elaborate the gun range was not fully discussed as it should have been.

People who filled out Citizen Comment Forms as follows; Gerianne Street, Ken Fritz, Bill Moyer, Kristen Burgess, DaveMcGough Tony King, Mary Ellen Dilley, Mary Borbella, Ann Porter, Jim Boonstra See more forms.

David Glen, Medical Marijuana Attorney for Sean McInnis, stated concerns with non-conforming properties being included in the Lottery.
More discussion on this later on Agenda.

Ricky Newton, dealing with Medical Marijuana Facilities for a year disputes Saco owning property for shorter amount of time than suggested. Board member also selling property during time of the Medical Marijuana Facility Ordinance, Newton feels Board Member manipulated the restrictions and that his property is conforming.

REPORTS

County Commissioner – Rob Henschel – Reported on Goal Setting at the County level. Meeting to be held regarding the gun range at the County tomorrow.

Fife Lake Village -Dave McGough-Village President, reported the Village Council approved the budget for 2020. Also discussed a snowmobile ordinance that includes sidewalk safety. Pearson asked about signs and barricades. Law Enforcement cannot enforce the signs, while the barricades are useful, they get in the way of snow blowing.

Sheriff Department- Deputy Eric Meijer absent.

Ambulance/Fire/Emergency Planning – Scott Tinker reported they have been very busy throughout January with accidents, fire and alarms with a total of 153 calls. These calls will eventually be on the website including the Minutes per Fire meetings.

FLAUA- Gifford reported Election of Officers remain the same with Tom Gray as President, Ron Broering-Vice President, Jodi Valez-Treasurer, Gifford-Secretary, Dave McGough, Dave Gill, Marilyn Hayes, Jim Gifford and new Member who needs to be appointed, being Thomas Hempsted.

Planning Commission – No Report

Zoning Administrator Rodriguez reported minimal permits and busy with Medical Marijuana Facility Applicants/Lottery to be held March 18, 2020.

Civic Center South- Street reported \$20,000 each year for two years was donated by the County for with a total of \$40,000, for Civic Center South upgrades. to the Trail System, Baseball Field, Pickle Ball and Horse Shoes.

Cemetery Committee -Debbie Rodriguez asked if the trees have been removed and who plowed the Cemetery.
Possible meeting March 5, 2020.

New Business

Appointments ZBA, FLAUA, Board of Review.

Jamie Werner and Jim Gifford applied for ZBA, Thomas Hempsted applied for Board of Review and FLAUA. Sorrow made **Motion** to appoint Jamie Werner and Jim Gifford to ZBA and Thomas Hempsted for FLAUA and Board of Review. Pearson Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried**.

Board of Review is scheduled to meet on March 5th, 9th and 16th, 2020 at the Fife Lake Township Hall.

ZBA Workshop from 1-4 p.m. at the Government Center, March 17, 2020. ZBA will

also have an annual meeting TBD.

2020 Census Workers-Marty Alvarez/Dave Springsteen- Census Bureau.

Marty reported she has been all over Northern Michigan recruiting Census workers. Nate Alger represents Grand Traverse County, Deb Rodriguez represents Fife Lake Township on the Consensus Committee. Federal funding relies on the numbers there fore it is crucial to get all we can. People can fill out information or mail in.

FOIA Policy Memo-Attorney Graham's Memo to discuss the State Statute update FOIA Policy. The cost is \$250.00 to have Attorney Graham complete this for the Township. Street made **Motion** to have Attorney update the State Statute FOIA Policy for Fife Lake Township, Sorrow Seconded. Roll Call Vote Finds; Forwerck-Yes, Sorrow-Yes, Street-Yes, Pearson-Yes, Zimmerman-Absent. 4-Yes, 1-Absent, **Motion Carried.**

Elavon- A tool to pay Taxes on line, Sorrow explained the process for the tax payer and for the Township to accomplish this, and that there will be check and credit card fees applicable. Sorrow made **Motion** to update Fife Lake Township Website to include tax paying with Express Pay, Pearson Seconded. Roll Call Vote Finds; Sorrow-Yes, Street-Yes, Pearson-Yes, Forwerck-Yes, Zimmerman-Absent. 4-Yes, 1-Absent, **Motion Carried.**

Chamber of Commerce 4th of July Police Protection request. Discussion stating this would come out of 2020-2021 Budget, and the need for /donation request to state it is for police protection.

Sean McInnis- Conforming/Non-Conforming Properties. Mr. McInnis started out by applauding the Kingsley people for coming together and fighting for something they believe in. He went on to discuss the odors caused by Medical Marijuana, gases and other fumes being harmful to residential areas. Mr. McInnis had to be reminded of the Agenda items he requested to discuss.

Attorney Hubble, representative for McInnis, discussed the Ordinance specifically page 3 Section 4b what steps have been taken by the Medical Marijuana Administrator to determine that applicable steps have been met. Is the 500 foot residential rule from building to building? Advocate the current Ordinance prohibits non-conforming property special variance would take place after applicants complete the process.

Zoning Administrator confirmed all applications are in Commercial areas. Attorney Graham confirmed: A proposed medical marihuana facility shall not be located within 500 feet from any of the buildings or land uses listed below that were in existence at the time the class A grower, processor, and provisioning center facility was established. This distance shall be measured between the facility building and the other buildings or land uses. Graham confirmed the 500 feet is from building to a residential use of a

building.

Mr. McInnis clarified he purchased 3 parcels, submitted 3 applications with 3 different names, as he argued that more than one application can be submitted using different names. The purchase of 3 parcels would show up if the Township wasn't slowing the process down referring the Board to a revolving circus. Clerk called for order as McInnis was spiraling out of control.

Forwerck asked Attorney Millar how the law reads. Attorney Millar concurred more than one application may be submitted per parcel, if they are different names.

Newton and McInnis said the residential use issue on said property will go back to commercial upon sale of property.

Zoning Administrator Rodriguez confirmed the application reflects residential use because that is what it's use is classified during time of application.

McInnis argued this should have been reiterated when application was submitted in January, 21-day screening process.

Zoning Administrator Rodriguez just received confirmation from Attorney Graham that day. Suggested Property Owner needs to send a letter releasing the purchase agreement for zoning changes that take place after sale of property.

Forwerck explained that at a Special meeting in February Attorney Graham gave the options to clarify the Ordinance in the residential areas. The Board did not act on these options keeping the original wording the same. Since then the Township had to ask additional questions for clarity. Pearson supplied Attorney Hubble with copy of Attorney Grahams opinions.

Zoning Administrator Rodriguez updated application status; received 2 Processing, 6 Growing and 6 Provisioning for the Lottery.

Sorrow suggested using the raffle cage from the American Legion to draw and record in chronicle order. Conduct a second drawing if the applicable areas are not filled.

Zoning Administrator has been called for possible Jury Duty on this day, Township will need a backup plan if this happens. Pam Lawrence and Joseph Jones are lined up as witnesses.

Tony King volunteered his services if needed. McInnis asked if additional applications will be allowed.

Pearson does not want to see Lottery date held up. Suggests we cover it if the issue occurs. Ask for Attorney Graham's advice on changes if needed.

Pearson made **Motion** to keep scheduled Lottery, March 18, 2020, with no additional applications at this time, Sorrow Seconded. 3 in Favor, 1 opposed. **Motion Carried.**

Forwerck called a short break before moving on agenda to Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS

Pugsley Area Resident's Conservancy

The Pugsley Area Residents Conservancy reported: since the original green barrier of pine trees, planted in 1956, has out grown it's purpose, can there be new trees planted. They would like to see the property cleaned up bringing it back to a value friendly property for the residents. The conservancy will volunteer to help persons who may purchase this property to create a green barrier. The 2018 plan/proposal suggests utilizing a range for the Grand Traverse County Sheriff Department, along with local law enforcement agencies.

Several people mostly from the Camp Pugsley area further shared concerns. One of the concerns was of lower land value from noise and pollution that would be caused if a Regional Technical Training Center were approved for this area. While this type of SWAT training is necessary this is not the area for it. There are other possibilities.

Henschal reported the County Commissioners will act accordingly utilizing the outcome of this meeting.

Pugsley Brownfield Development Plan- Todd Millar spoke on behalf of the Fife Lake Township; Determine 3 options: In Favor of, Against, or More Time for additional research.

Forsythe spoke on the plan from January 2020 for the Gun Range at Camp Pugsley, with advancing to higher volume of training.

Forwerck understands the need for this type of training.

Some questions were asked, would a sniper tower be necessary? Will other agencies be able to use the property?

A citizen commented on the forty- foot tower with a 25 foot berm.

Further dialogue spoke about the Local Brownfield Fund would be in the form of a grant, Michigan Land Bank would capture some tax dollars.

Common ground for the County and the Conservancy group – There is already an active gun range in place. A sound study would be helpful along with a mediator for future studies.

Henschel mentioned a Satellite Community Central is considering the other property available at Camp Pugsley; this would be The Grand Traverse Band of Chippewa and Ottawa Indians economic development group.

Tony King referred to a 10-15 foot Antenna Tower. Suggested planting trees as a buffer.

Sorrow made **Motion** not to grant the Brownfield Proposal. Pearson Seconded. Pearson stated she seconded this motion based on the negative input of the community, with no disrespect toward law enforcement. Roll Call Vote: Street-yes, Pearson-yes, Sorrow-yes, Forwerck- no. **Motion Carried**

Forwerck feels a better process including a meeting between Conservancy and Grand Traverse County would have helped address concerns.

Other Business

Reminder to Vote, March 10, 2020. Polls open 7am to 8pm at the Fife Lake Township Hall, 134 Morgan Street, Fife Lake, MI 49633.

Second Citizen Comment-N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Sorrow made **Motion** Adjourn, Street Seconded. All in Favor, **Motion Carried**. Fife Lake Township Meeting Adjourned 8:55 pm.

February 27, 2020 Draft Minutes Prepared by Leigh Gifford, Recording Secretary.
Approved at the May 28, 2020, Fife Lake Township Board Meeting as presented.
March, April 2020 Meetings canceled due to Covid-19.