

APPROVED

REGULAR MAY MEETING OF THE WEARE TOWNSHIP BOARD HELD MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Larry Doran, Supervisor.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Doran, Supervisor; Linda Dykema, Treasurer;
Debra Gustafson, Clerk; Andy Patterson & Gary Hilbert, Trustees.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom McGuire, Judy Lauber, Lori Green, Bob Green, Jill VanDerZanden, Mark Seeback, Ivan Ewing, Todd Greiner, Kevin Stevenson, Robert Powers, Sharon Powers, Ron Christians, Terry Dykema, Mike Villadsen, Bonnie Villadsen, Jay Conklin, Jeff Gwillim, Jeremy Arndt & Andrew Clark.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Roll call showed everyone was present.

Moved by Mr. Hilbert and supported by Ms. Dykema to approve the April 12, 2021 minutes. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mr Doran would like to move the agenda around. Under new business he would like to switch William & Works to the top of the agenda because he had the furthest amount of travel.

Moved by Ms. Gustafson and supported by Mr Hilbert to approve the changed agenda. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Treasurer reported \$202,775.55 in the general fund checking.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom McGuire would like to have public comment at the beginning and the end of the meeting. He has witnessed many other committees doing this.

Ron Christians says we are continuing to watch the American Rescue Plan to see what is going to be available in the future. He also stated that at his last meeting the Brownfield Authority was established and he was happy to announce that Dave Spitler is now on board at the County Road Commission.

Jill VanderZanden stated that the survey taken for the master plan was not a vote and feels it should be voted on by the township members.

Jay Conklin Stated that he is a believer and a true testimony for medical marijuana. He was unaware of the benefits until after his research and his personal experience with it. He believes the township has lost money and he also feels that the benefits would be great for the community. He would like the board to research the benefits. He also hopes that everyone can benefit from its availability.

Lori Green supports Tom McGuire and states that he knows the laws and has every intent to follow the laws, he knows he will be scrutinized. She also stated that she supports legal businesses being legal.

Bonnie Villadsen would like the board to think of all the people they will help if they allow these facilities in the township. She said Tom has put lots of time into getting info to the board. She also believes that if a facility is allowed that it would be locked and guarded where kids can't get into it. She would like the board to have an open mind and look into this further.

Ann Sayles agrees with Jill VanderZanden and says it can be a wonderful thing for those who need it, but just because we have it in the state doesn't mean we want it in our backyard.

Kevin Stevenson agrees he doesn't know much about a microgrow other than we can tax it. He states he does

support the revenue. He did some research and offered some statistics on marijuana use and accidents/incidents.

OLD BUSINESS -

1. INTERNET/WEBHOST

Ms Dykema thinks we are fine with what we are using now, but would like the option to revisit this in the future if need be, Ms Gustafson agreed.

Moved by Mr Hilbert and Supported by Ms Dykema.

All in favor.

Motion Carried.

2. ROAD MILLAGE

Mr Doran stated that there is no time to submit it for the August ballot, but Pentwater School is having an election in November and we can split costs and go on that ballot. Ms Dykema thinks that the numbers should be run in order to decide between keeping the mileage the same or raising it.

Tabled till next month for more information and the township attorney to return from vacation

3. AUDIT REPORT ISSUES

Most items on the list fall under the maintenance position, so board is putting a hold on these matters until the maintenance/lawn care position is filled.

4. MAINTENANCE/LAWNCARE

Mr Doran states the mower hasn't been used in 3 years and needs maintenance. Discussion was held as to what the going rate is a motion to put the position out for bids

Motion was made by Mr Hilbert and supported by Ms Dykema.

All in Favor.

Motion Carried.

Township member Jeremy Arndt offered to volunteer his time and do the mowing until we could hire someone. A motion was made to compensate him \$150.00/mow for his time.

Motion was made by Mr Hilbert and supported by Mr Patterson.

Yays::Dykema, Patterson, Hilbert, Gustafson & Doran

Nays::

All in Favor.

Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. WILLIAMS & WORKS-MASTERPLAN

Brad Kortrba presented the master plan to the board and the township members present. The master plan will be used as leverage to apply for grants and is the communities goals for the future. The township should revisit this every 5 years. With 7.5% of the township participating in the survey, the goals and the objections of the community are to preserve the natural environment, natural beauty and the ground water. Once accepted by the board the community has a minimum of 63 days to review and make suggestions for changes. The master plan is not the law it is a guide as to where the township would like to be in 20 years.

Jeremy Arnts wanted verification that this will be available online.

Ms Green asked if the highways service and commercial were lumped together, Mr Kotrba confirmed.

Mr Green wanted verification that the general commercial depth was 500 feet and Mr Kotrba confirmed.

2. MICROGROW/DISPENSERY

Tom McGuire states that quality medical marijuana is a lot of work and it is easily accessible to children growing in back yards, and feels that it should be locked in a facility. Mr McGuire stated that so far this year each facility has brought in \$28,000. In his research it is mainly 40-80 years olds looking for alternative pain medications. Mr McGuire is looking to the board to take another look at this.

Mr Hilbert thinks it should be added to a ballot so that the public can decide.

Mr Doran thinks he needs more info and to speak to our attorney.

Ms Dykema would like Mr McGuire to come up with what he would like to be seen on the ballot.

Mr Doran would like a small committee to look into what other townships and communities are doing.

Mr Patterson, Jill VanDerZanden, Jeremy Arndt, and Tom McGuire are to collaborate on this over the next month.

Tabled till further investigation.

3. PAY BILLS

Checks totaling \$11,647.38 Ck#12061/12063-12091

Moved by Mr. Hilbert supported by Mr. Patterson.

Yay: Hilbert, Dykema, Patterson, Gustafson, Doran

Nay:

Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Clark worked on 2 land splits in Section 1 in section 15 & 1 in section 20. He also issued to permits 1 in section 30 for a pole barn refurbish & 1 in Section 17 fro a pole barn with living quarters.

REPORTS/COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Dykema stated that next month she will be getting ready for tax season again.

REPORTS/COMMENTS FROM SUPERVISOR

Mr Doran is unsure as to when the road commission will start on Jackson Rd, he was unable to get in contact with Mr Timmer before he went out of town.

Moved by Mr. Patterson supported by Mr Hilbert to adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Debra Gustafson, Clerk