

Erie Township Board
Regular Meeting
Erie, Michigan

April 14, 2020

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Erie Township Board was held Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at the Erie Township Hall, 2065 Erie Rd. Erie, Michigan. Clerk Cousino called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm. The roll was called, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited. Danny Taylor offered an opening prayer.

Bill Frey, Supervisor – Absent - Excused
Cindy Wisbon, Treasurer - Present
Kim Cousino, Clerk – Present
Gary Wilmoth, Trustee - Present
Mike Grodi, Trustee – Present

K. Cousino motioned to appoint M. Grodi as chair for the meeting. C. Wisbon supported. Motion carried.

Wisbon moved supported by Cousino to amend agenda adding items #4: Police Department Personnel Committee; #5: TMACOG Membership; #6: Township Fee Schedule. Motion carried.

B. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1) Minutes approval from March 17, 2020 Regular Meeting

Wisbon moved, supported by Cousino, to approve and place on file consent agenda item 1, waiving the reading. Motion carried.

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

E. BUSINESS:

1) Bills Approval:

Wisbon moved, supported by Cousino, to approve checks #33584-#33637 from the general funding including payroll, ACH & EFT in the amount of \$73,015.98. Checks #1569-#1570 from Trust and Agency in the amount of \$633.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote, all in favor.

2) Emergency Resolution:

Cousino read the emergency resolution;

RESOLUTION FOR TEMPORARY EMERGENCY MEASURES

WHEREAS, Michigan's Governor has issued Executive Orders and Directives pursuant to the Emergency Management Act, Public Act 390 of 1976, which impact Township operations, including limitations on the number of persons who may attend meetings; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of the Township, its officers and employees to take all steps necessary to inhibit the transmission of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to delegate certain basic administrative powers on a temporary emergency basis, so that decisions and responses to changing conditions can be made without the need for a Township Board meeting.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. All meetings of the Township Board, Park Commission, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals or other Township body to be held during the month of April and May, 2020 are postponed. Notice of all special or rescheduled meetings and public hearings shall be given in compliance with, and all meetings conducted in accordance with, the Open Meetings Act, Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, and other applicable law.

2. The Township Board hereby approves the issuance of checks in payment of invoices by the Township Treasurer in conjunction with the Clerk as provided by law for budgeted expenditures, such as utility bills, payroll, contractual agreements, professional services, and other budgeted non-capital expenditures, subject to audit at the next meeting of the Township Board.

3. Township staff shall publicize by posting on the Township website and at the Township office alternative means to have access to Township services.

4. Consistent with public safety and emergency directives and orders, the Township shall continue to conduct business and accept and process applications for zoning, building or other permits in a manner which eliminates or limits the need for face to face contact with citizens or applicants.

5. Except for the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer, who are subject to the authority of those offices, the Township Supervisor, in consultation with the Clerk and Treasurer, if practicable, may make decisions whether employees work from home or not work.

6. All citizens will be informed of and encouraged to register to vote by means not requiring an in-person visit to the Clerk's office. In the event the Clerk suspends regular office hours, the Board hereby delegates to the Clerk the authority to designate the hours that the clerk will be at the clerk's office for the purpose of receiving registrations, and to give notice, as provided by Section 498 of the Michigan Election Law.

7. This Resolution shall not infringe on the statutory duties and authorities of the Township Treasurer and Clerk, nor the ability of the majority of Township Board members to call a special meeting by written request as provided by statute. Further, the Township Clerk and Treasurer, by written consent of both, are hereby delegated the authority to call a special meeting of the Township Board.

8. The authority delegated by the Resolution shall expire automatically May 31, 2020, subject to earlier rescission or modification by the Township Board, or extension by action of the Township Board.

Wilmoth moved, supported by Wisbon to adopt the Emergency Resolution as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote, all in favor.

3) South Erie Park Flooding:

Grodi stated he had a discussion with Monroe County Drain Commissioner Dave Thompson, his suggestion is to block off Rabideau Drain at the east side of the park near I-75 and install a new, robust pumping station. The residents of Adeline Subdivision can petition either the Drain Commissioner to complete the project which won't be completed for two years or petition the Township which will probably be the fastest route.

Discussion was held regarding the flooding issues, resident Charlotte Beutler shared photos of flooding to the board. Wilmoth stated he contacted MCOP and requested their assistance in obtaining grants.

The board directed the residents and property owners that were present from Adeline Subdivision to circulate a petition to the other property owners to establish a special assessment district, 51% of the property owners will need to sign the petition in order for the district to be established and a public hearing scheduled, the cost of the project will be shared by the township and property owners who receive benefit from the project.

Cousino moved, supported by Wilmoth, to engage engineers to provide a quote for services in regards to flooding at South Erie Park. Motion carried.

4) Police Department Personnel Committee:

Wilmoth moved, supported by Wisbon that the police department personnel committee will consist of Gary Wilmoth and Kim Cousino. Motion carried.

5) TMACOG Membership:

Wilmoth moved, supported by Cousino, to reject the TMACOG membership renewal in the amount of \$814. Motion carried.

6) Township Fee Schedule:

Wilmoth moved, supported by Cousino, to accept the revised building and zoning department fee schedule as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Wilmoth moved, supported by Wisbon, to adjourn at 7:55 pm. C. Motion Carried.

Kimberly Cousino
Clerk