

**Jamestown Charter Township Board
Monday, June 21, 2021**

**Jamestown Township Hall
2380 Riley Street, Hudsonville, MI 49426**

MINUTES

Supervisor VanHaitsma called the meeting to order at 7:00pm followed by Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer by Trustee Miedema.

Members Present: Supervisor Laurie VanHaitsma, Clerk Candy DeHaan, Treasurer Scott Brouwer, and Trustees Derek McCormick, Ben Miller, Tim Tacoma and Jim Miedema.

Staff Present: Fire Chief Duane Miedema, Sheriff's Deputy Eric Smith and Attorney Mark Nettleton.

Moved by DeHaan, seconded by Tacoma, to approve agenda, noting that the Public Hearing for SoundOff Tax Abatement is postponed until the July 19 Board meeting. Carried by voice vote.

Moved by Miedema, seconded by Miller, to approve amended Township Board minutes of May 17, 2021. Carried by voice vote.

Public Comments for items on the agenda: Dana O'Dell expressed his interest in a pathway being added along 40th Avenue between Riley Street and Byron Road. Dave Besteman had questions about a Bike Park.

Reports were shared by Chief Miedema, Treasurer Brouwer and Deputy Smith.

Moved by Tacoma, seconded by McCormick, to approve estimate from County-Line Excavating for \$22,400 to expand parking lot and fill in the ditch of Fire Station #2. Voice vote: Yeas: McCormick, Brouwer, DeHaan, VanHaitsma, Miedema, Miller and Tacoma. Motion carried.

Items for Discussion and/or Action:

Moved by Tacoma, seconded by McCormick, to approve the presentation of the bills. Carried by voice vote.

Moved by Tacoma, seconded by Miller, to approve the paying of the bills. Voice vote: Yeas: McCormick, Brouwer, DeHaan, VanHaitsma, Miedema, Miller and Tacoma. Motion carried.

Moved by DeHaan, seconded by Miedema, to approve the Water and/or Sewer Development Contract for SoundOff Signal. Carried by voice vote.

Moved by Miedema, seconded by McCormick, to approve the Water and/or Sewer Development Contract for Signature Land Development (aka: Trillium Ridge). Carried by voice vote.

Moved by DeHaan, seconded by Miller, to approve the Resolution R21-014 to Approve Access and Grant Permit for Use of Township Right-of-Way for 123.Net. Carried by voice vote.

Some ideas were shared by Supervisor VanHaitsma on what we could do to move forward with the Jamestown Township Park. One of the funding ideas was to sell off property on Byron Road that has no known future use that is currently owned by the Township. It was determined that we would ask our Township Assessor, Tyler Tacoma, to get an estimate of what the value of

this piece of property may be, with the thought that we could auction the property off and use the proceeds to help get the park started.

Moved by Miedema, seconded by Miller, to approve having a pathway added on Riley Street between Brindle Drive and Rocaway Drive with an estimated cost of \$380,000.00. Voice vote. Yeas: McCormick, Brouwer, DeHaan, VanHaitsma, Miedema, Miller and Tacoma. Motion carried.

Concerns were shared about declining groundwater levels here in Ottawa County. Residents and farms that do not have access to municipal water infrastructure rely on private well systems from either shallow aquifer systems (the "Glacial Aquifer") (replenishable but available only in some parts of Ottawa County) or deep bedrock aquifer (the "Marshall Formation Aquifer") (pretty much not replenishable because of the clay soil in our area). As more and more homes are built in areas where municipal water is not available, wells are dug, using more and more water from the bedrock aquifer. Details to the Ottawa County Groundwater Study can be found at <https://www.miottawa.org/GroundWater/study.htm>. Data indicates that if the current trend of increasing ground water usage does not change, groundwater levels will continue to decline, and the quality of what water remains will continue to degrade because of increasing levels sodium chloride in the aquifers due to a depletion in the volume of water in both the Glacial and Marshall Formation Aquifers. The Township is considering a temporary moratorium on developments to determine what the best course of action would be to protect the water availability of homeowners who rely on groundwater and adjust our zoning and regulatory ordinance(s) accordingly. This will be back before the Township Board and the Planning Commission in July 2021 for further consideration and possible action.

Moved by Tacoma, seconded by McCormick, to add July 5th as one of our 2021 holidays where the Township office is closed for the day. Carried by voice vote.

Moved by DeHaan, seconded by Miedema, for second reading and final approval to amend the Zoning Ordinance Section 3.18 Required Right-of-Way - Ordinance 21-003. Carried by voice vote.

Items of Information:

A new office phone system has been installed and we are contemplating updating the sound system in the Board Room.

Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda: None.

Moved by DeHaan, seconded by VanHaitsma, to adjourn at 8:39pm. Carried by voice vote.



Candy DeHaan, Township Clerk

6/30/2021

Date

Laurie VanHaitsma, Township Supervisor

Date