

DECATUR TOWNSHIP

The regular meeting of the Decatur Township Board was held on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at the Decatur Township Hall. All trustees were present and there were three guests.

The minutes from the June 11, 2020 Truth in Taxation and Budget Public Hearings as well as the regular meeting were reviewed and motion to approve them was made by Katelin Makay and supported by James Abshagen. Vote, all yes.

Correspondence included notification from Michigan AgriBusiness Solutions, LLC that Biosolids would be applied to property in Decatur Township owned by Dan Rajzer. There were no public comments at this time.

The Treasurer's report was submitted by Treasurer James Abshagen and motion to accept it was made by Janet Abshagen and supported by Katelin Makay. Vote, all yes.

Supervisor Kusmack gave a short report regarding Fire Board business. QR response rate is low. New Fire Department Chief will be appointed at next month's meeting. Chief Conklin will remain fire chief until new chief is appointed. Several members have submitted applications and time was necessary to review them. Fire Board is looking at ORV vehicle availability for the department.

Zoning Administrator/Code Enforcement Officer report included the property on CR 669 and clean up has begun, wrecking permit is being processed. Follow-up on property on M-51 has begun.

Count Commissioner Don Hanson gave his report which included county salary increases as well as Van Buren County Health Department report of tracking down virus contact with positive tested Covid-19 individuals. Reminded those present of the proposal on the August ballot for 911 and encouraged support for it.

Van Buren County Sheriff Department report was presented.

Senior Services representative James Abshagen gave a short update which included modified Hard Times lunches (pick-up instead of eating in). Approximately 35 seniors have taken advantage of it twice in June. Senior Services qualified for \$119,000 in CARES funding due to Covid-19.

Burgess Road estimate is in - \$273,760 (estimate was \$275,000). Completion date is May of 2021 and the bid was \$117,000+ under the next bidder. Error on ½ mile road and Supervisor Kusmack will correct with sealcoat and report back to the Board.

Supervisor Kusmack was contacted by a resident regarding ORV travel on select roads in Decatur Township. County Sheriff Abbott was present and explained the procedure and sample ordinances used by Lawrence Township, Bangor Township, and Paw Paw Township. Supervisor Kusmack will research further.

(continued)

Continued (Minutes 7/9/20)

Clerk Abshagen distributed the FY 2019-20 Fiscal Report as well as the budget amendments. Amendments are as follows:

		INCREASE	DECREASE
BOARD:	Road Work 965.1		\$20,000.00
	Misc. Exp. 956	\$16,000.00	
	Legal Fees 826		1,000.00
CLERK:	Office Supplies 727	800.00	
ZONING:	Office Supplies 727	200.00	
	Blight-Clean-up 825	4,000.00	
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		\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00

The Election Commission accepted the workers for the August 4, 2020 Primary Election. There will be 5 workers as well as the Clerk filling in when needed. Training will be on-line because of Covid-19, with a quiz to follow before workers can be certified. Clerk Abshagen is doing as much as possible to keep election workers safe because there will still be voters who do not vote absentee ballot and vote in person. Voting stations will be separated and social distancing will be enforced. A sign will be posted stating that masks are very highly recommended. If there is a large turnout at any time during the day, the election workers are authorized to only let specified number of voters into the hall at a time. Voters are being informed that there will be a longer wait to vote and are encouraged to vote absentee. Clerk reported that as of today she has sent out 395 ballots. Voters that vote in the August election by absentee ballot will also vote this way in November.

The Public Test for the election tabulator will be held on Saturday, 7/11/20 at 8 a.m. in the Township Hall. Notice has been published and posted.

The FY 2019-20 audit will begin next week and the Clerk and Treasurer have records ready.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Janet Abshagen, Township Clerk