

**BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 8, 2019**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**APPROVED**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Blair Township Board of Trustees was held at 6:00 P.M. on January 8, 2019 at the Township Hall and was called to order by Supervisor Blonshine.

**OPENING CEREMONIES:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL:** Members Present: Blonshine, Fleis, Campbell, Zeits, Wolfgang, Kucera and Fitzpatrick. Also in attendance were Emergency Services Direct Eric Somsel and three (3) guests.

**LIMITED PUBLIC INPUT:**

There was none.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis** to approve the agenda with the following changes:

1. Change date on the agenda from 2018 to 2019
2. Remove item H. Deputy Clerk 90 Day Pay Increase
3. List items on Consent Calendar

Check Registers  
Minutes – December 11, 2018  
Regular Meeting

Assessing Report  
Emergency Services Report  
Water/Sewer Report

4. Bill Parker MERS 457B Eligibility Date

**Motion carried.**

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

None stated.

**PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORT:**

**Grand Traverse County Commissioner Report:** New County Commissioner Brad Jewett introduced himself and reported on the time change for the Board of Commissioners' meetings and committee assignments.

**Sheriff's Report:** Officer Karczewski reported that there were 489 calls for service in December.

**EMS Report:** Emergency Services Director Somsel reported on the December “Backing the Badge” training, the \$9,600.00 grant awarded by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, classes being scheduled and contract negotiations. He also reported that the department adopted a family for Christmas and thanked everyone for their donations and participation.

**Grand Traverse County Road Commission:** Commissioner Andy Marek reported on the commission’s recent organizational meeting, the East/West Corridor study, the Cass Road drain project, and the bridge named after Jack Robbins. He also stated that they are down to three (3) candidates for the manager position.

**Wade Trim Report:** Engineer Brian Sousa reported that all materials for the Iron Removal Plant have been delivered and should be installed within the next thirty (30) days.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Board member Campbell read her report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE:**

Board member Campbell gave an update on the design of the new website and the MTA Annual Conference.

Supervisor Blonshine stated that she will share public input she has been receiving regarding Recreational Marihuana at the next meeting. She also reported that she ordered the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

<u>FUND</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBERS</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REPORTS</u>
Pooled Operating	#2326-2402	\$ 95,080.32	Emergency Services Report
Trust & Agency Fund	#1015-1021	\$ 16,424.49	Water Dept. Report
Tax Account	#6301-6324	\$ 92,874.06	Assessing Report
Direct Deposits		\$ 88,163.47	Minutes Regular Meeting
Payroll Check/EFT	#1293	VOIDED	November 13, 2018
Payroll Check/EFT	#1294-1308	\$39,615.61	

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis to approve consent calendar. Motion carried**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Green Burials**

No discussion, no action taken.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **a. Public Hearing Blair Township Community Recreation Plan**

Board member Wolfgang stated that the public hearing notice was published in the Traverse City Record Eagle on December 7, 2018.

Supervisor Blonshine opened the public hearing at 6:37 pm.

Barb Benson, 3838 Rustic Manor Court stated that she has reviewed the plan briefly and it looks good. She was happy to see that her church, St. Patrick's was listed for it's baseball fields, as they are under utilized. She also suggested considering a health corridor, similar to plans for Eighth St., to promote healthy activities.

There was no other public comment.

Supervisor Blonshine closed the public hearing at 6:40pm.

### **b. Resolution #2019-02 to Adopt the Blair Township Community Recreation Plan 2019-2023**

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fitzpatrick** to adopt Resolution #2019-02 the Blair Township Community Recreation Plan 2019-2023. **Yes:** Fleis, Campbell, Zeits, Wolfgang, Kucera, Fitzpatrick and Blonshine. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

### **c. Resolution #2019-01 Authorizing Consumers Energy to Make Changes in the Lighting Service Rennie School Rd- US 31**

Supervisor Blonshine explained that this will authorize Consumers Energy to remove the street light at Rennie School Road and US 31 to allow for installation of a traffic light.

**Moved by Fitzpatrick second by Fleis** to adopt Resolution #2019-01 Authorizing Consumers Energy to make changes in the lighting service, Rennie School Road – US 31. **Yes:** Campbell, Zeits, Wolfgang, Kucera, Fitzpatrick, Blonshine and Fleis. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

### **d. Amendment to Policy #2014-02 Post Audit Policy**

Board member Wolfgang explained the proposed changes to the policy.

**Moved by Blonshine second by Fitzpatrick** to approve the amendment to Policy #2014-02, Post Audit Policy. **Yes:** Zeits, Wolfgang, Kucera, Fitzpatrick, Blonshine, Fleis, and Campbell. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

### **e. Certificate for Payment #5 to RCI for Iron Removal Plant**

**Moved by Fitzpatrick second by Zeits** to approve Certificate for Payment #5 to RCI for the Iron Removal Plant. **Yes:** Wolfgang, Kucera, Fitzpatrick, Blonshine, Fleis, Campbell and Zeits. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

**f. Hire Full-Time Paramedic/Firefighter**

Emergency Services Director Somsel stated that Tim Guenhardt had been offered a full-time position recently, but turned it down for personal reasons. There have been some changes in scheduling that now make sense for this candidate to accept the position.

**Moved by Fitzpatrick second by Fleis** to approve hiring Tim Guenhardt as a Full-Time Paramedic/Firefighter. **Motion carried**

**g. Ordinance Enforcement Officer/Deputy Administrator of Zoning and Public Works Pay Rate**

**Moved by Blonshine second by Fitzpatrick** to approve the pay range of \$34,000.00 to \$39,000.00 per year for the position of Ordinance Enforcement Officer/Deputy Administrator of Zoning and Public Works. **Yes:** Kucera, Fitzpatrick, Blonshine, Fleis, Campbell, Zeits and Wolfgang.

**No:** None. **Motion carried**

**h. Deputy Clerk 90 Day Pay Increase** Removed from the Agenda.

**i. Appointment of Administrator of Zoning and Public Works/Pay Rate**

Supervisor Blonshine stated that she and board member Wolfgang spoke with Lisa Guerrieri, Water/Sewer Coordinator and Interim Zoning Administrator, regarding the pay rate for the Ordinance Enforcement Officer/Deputy Administrator of Zoning and Public Works and the pay rate for her new position as Administrator of Zoning and Public Works. Lisa was in agreement with the proposed wages.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Blonshine** to appoint Lisa Guerrieri as the Administrator of Zoning and Public Works. **Yes:** Blonshine, Fleis, Campbell, Zeits, Wolfgang, Kucera, and Fitzpatrick. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

**Moved by Blonshine second by Campbell** to set the wage for the Administrator of Zoning and Public Works at \$52,000.00 per year. **Yes:** Fleis, Campbell, Zeits, Wolfgang, Kucera, Fitzpatrick and Blonshine. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

**j. Fire Chief MERS 457B Pension**

Emergency Services Director Somsel reported that a misunderstanding occurred at the time Chief Parker was hired regarding the Township's contribution to his MERS 457B. Parker was under the impression, after reading the union contract, that the Township's contribution to his 457B would begin upon hire. Township policy for non-union full-time employees is the Township's contribution begins upon completion of two (2) years of employment.

Board member Wolfgang stated that because he was not told, but assumed, possibly a compromise would be in order.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Campbell** to approve the Township's contribution to Chief Parker's MERS457B begin retroactive to his one year anniversary date of December 1, 2018. **Yes:** Campbell, Wolfgang and Kucera. **No:** Zeits, Fitzpatrick, Blonshine and Fleis. **Motion failed.**

**Moved by Blonshine second by Zeits** to approve the Township's contribution to Chief Parker's 457B begin retroactive to his hire date of December 1, 2017. **Yes:** Zeits, Fitzpatrick, Blonshine, and Fleis. **No:** Wolfgang, Kucera, and Campbell. **Motion carried.**

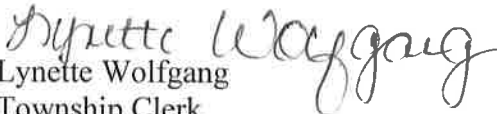
**Extended Public Input**

Supervisor Blonshine stated that the travel softball league that held a tournament in the park last summer has contacted her again and would like to have two tournaments here this year.

Barb Benson had already left the meeting, but asked Lisa Guerrieri to mention the article in the Northern Express featuring Supervisor Blonshine. All agreed that it was a great article and good press for the Township.

Board member Fitzpatrick stated that it has now been two years with this board and it has been a pleasure working with everyone.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:25 pm.

  
Lynette Wolfgang  
Township Clerk