

BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
January 14, 2020
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 14, 2020 at the Township Hall and was called to order by Supervisor Blonshine.

OPENING CEREMONIES: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Fleis, Zeits, Kucera, Fitzpatrick, Wolfgang, Blonshine and Campbell. Also in attendance were Township Attorney Shawn Worden, Zoning Administrator Lisa Guerrieri, Emergency Services Director Eric Somsel and six (6) guests.

BRIEF PUBLIC INPUT: There was none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Board Member Wolfgang asked to have Deputy Clerk Wages added as item G under New Business.

Supervisor Blonshine asked to remove item B under New Business and add Pit Spitters/Easter Egg Hunt as item H under New Business.

Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis to approve the agenda with changes. Motion carried.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None stated.

PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORT:

Grand Traverse County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Brad Jewett reported on some of the highlights from 2019 such as the updating of the Hall of Justice, updating the Policies and Procedures and paying down the debt on the pension plan. He stated that the Commission has established an Asset Management Plan and also passed a resolution in favor of resettling refugees.

Sheriff's Report: Officer Karczewski gave his report.

Grand Traverse County Road Commission: Andy Marek reported the weather is the main concern right now and that Deb Hunt has announced her retirement.

Wade Trim/ Operation Services Report: No representative present.

Treasurer Report: Board member Campbell gave her report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Board member Campbell stated that it is truly an honor to work with everyone here at the Township, she and Jake appreciate it.

Board member Wolfgang thanked board members Blonshine and Kucera for their help with getting the AV Ballot Applications ready to be mailed out.

CONSENT CALENDAR

<u>FUND</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBERS</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REPORTS</u>
Pooled Operating	#3467-3561	\$ 97,450.18	Emergency Services Report
Trust & Agency Fund	#1052-1054	\$ 12,640.00	Water Dept. Report
Tax Account	#6455-6490	\$255,220.72	Supervisor/Zoning Report
Payroll Check/EFT	#1425-1435	\$ 72,531.05	Minutes Regular Meeting
Direct Deposits		\$112,648.57	December 10, 2019

Board member Campbell requested a correction to the minutes of the December 10, 2019. Under New Business item C add the word *second* in after *Moved by Blonshine*.

Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis to approve the Consent Calendar with the change to the December 10, 2019 meeting minutes. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Public Hearing – Special Use Case #SU/SPR 19-01-02 Hughey Investments LLC

Mark Clark, attorney for the applicant, spoke regarding the Hugheys absence at the Planning Commission meeting last month and the Reapplication provision in Section 22.07 of the Zoning Ordinance. He stated that per counsel’s advisement, rather than arguing about whether this was a valid process, the Hugheys will withdraw their application with the understanding that they may file a new application on or after March 1, 2020 per Section 22.07. No action was taken.

b. Ordinance #120-05-17-03 Amendment – Removed from agenda

c. Intergovernmental Agreement between Paradise Township and Blair Township

Emergency Services Director Somsel stated that this agreement is not ready for approval. He will add the Fire Chief’s use of Paradise’s vehicle to the agreement and bring it back to the next meeting. No action was taken.

d. **Designee/s to Assist Treasurer's Department in Receiving Tax Payments**

Board member Campbell explained that PA 124 became effective November 21, 2019 and allows for the board to approve a designee/s for the collection of property taxes.

Moved by Kucera second by Fitzpatrick to approve the Zoning Department and the Township Supervisor as designees to assist in the collection of property taxes. **Yes:** Blonshine, Fleis, Kucera, Campbell, Zeits, Fitzpatrick and Wolfgang. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

e. **Agreement for the Remittance of Property Taxes**

Board member Campbell explained that this agreement spells out the process for remittance which is currently in use, the County would just like an updated agreement on file.

Moved by Wolfgang second by Kucera to approve the agreement for remittance of property tax between Blair Township and Grand Traverse County. **Yes:** Wolfgang, Zeits, Fleis, Fitzpatrick, Blonshine, Campbell and Kucera. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

f. **Authorization for Supervisor to Sign "Letter of Understanding" between the Township and MDOT/ Resolution #2020-01**

Moved by Fleis second by Fitzpatrick to adopt Resolution #2020-01 authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Letter of Understanding between the Township and MDOT for the 2021 Roundabout project at M-37 and Blair Townhall Rd. **Yes:** Campbell, Blonshine, Kucera, Fleis, Wolfgang, Fitzpatrick and Zeits. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

g. **Deputy Clerk Wage**

Board member Wolfgang stated that the former deputy clerk started at \$15.50 per hour and received a .50 hour raise after ninety days.

Moved by Kucera second by Fitzpatrick to approve a starting wage of \$16.00 per hour for the position of full-time deputy clerk. **Yes:** Wolfgang, Fleis, Campbell, Kucera, Blonshine, Fitzpatrick and Zeits. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

The Clerk also expressed concern about when a new deputy would be able to start and the preparations for the March election. She stated that she would, if needed, like to have one of her election workers come in to help. The Township Attorney stated that as long as there was money in the election budget and there is already a set pay rate for election workers, the Clerk does not need board approval.

h. Pit Spitters/Easter Egg Hunt

Supervisor Blonshine announced that she received a call from Mickey Graham, General Manager for the Pit Spitters and they would like to team up with the Township and hold the Easter Egg Hunt at the Ball Park. All board members thought this was a great idea. No action was taken.

EXTENDED PUBLIC INPUT:

Adam Pogoda, with National Storage Centers, who recently purchased Silver Lake Storage spoke regarding vacancy rates stating they are only 85% full and will not build the other 25,000 feet of storage that they are approved for any time soon because the need is just not there.

Matt Hughey, applicant stated that the competitor's opinion should not enforce the board's decision, it's not right.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:04 pm.

Lynette Wolfgang
Clerk