

**BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Regular Meeting**

**October 12, 2021**

**6:00PM**

**APPROVED**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Blair Township Board of Trustees was held in person at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Blonshine at 6:00 PM.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Members present were Fitzpatrick, Kucera, Blonshine, Zeits and Wolfgang. Member absent is Fleis. Emergency Services Director Somsel, DPW Coordinator Patrick Gallagher, Lisa Guerrieri and seven (7) guests.

**BRIEF PUBLIC INPUT:** There was none.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Wolfgang requests the addition to the agenda making it item #9 quote for replacement swings/playground items and moving Emergency Services Presentation to item #10.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Zeits** to approve the agenda with the addition of item #9 purchase of replacement swings/playground items and moving Emergency Services Presentation to item #10 **Yea:** All **Nay:** None **Absent:** Fleis. **Motion carried.**

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** None stated.

**PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORT:**

**Board member Marilyn Fleis joined the meeting at 6:04 PM**

**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:** Ron Clous states Cherry Capital Airport has been designated as an authority by the Federal Government. Cherry Capital is the third busiest airport in the state of Michigan. The county health administrator decided not to renew Dr. Collins's contract with the Health Department after 28 years of service. A new contract has been offered to a physician to fill the vacancy; no name has been released yet. The new redistricting map has been completed.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Officer Karczewski submitted his report.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Board member Campbell gave her report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor Blonshine would like to thank everyone who participated in the fall township cleanup day. Turnout was lower than typical and we need to revisit publishing a Spring Township Newsletter to inform residents for next year. Cindy Wicksall has placed in board packets a letter regarding the excellent job Ryan Beaudry is performing as township sexton. OEO Jerome and Supervisor Blonshine have completed the Citizen Planner Course. OEO Jerome would like to

continue with his education and attend a program to become a Certified Zoning Administrator thru the MSU extension and this is reimbursable to the township thru Par Plan.

Member Kucera would like to remind board members that the BS&A Webinar for Utility Billing is Friday October 15 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Member Campbell relayed that the minutes for the Water Loss Committee will be put together soon, their last meeting was productive with Mike from Metron attending.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Includes the correction to August 10, 2021, Board of Trustees minutes regarding PR check numbers numbered #1778-1796 in the amount \$22,872.62.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBERS</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REPORTS</u>
Pooled Operating	#5325-5429	\$ 263,228.10	EMS Report
Trust & Agency Fund	#1094-1097	\$ 17,766.08	Water Dept. Report
Tax Account	#6779-6824	\$ 3,657,041.32	Minutes Regular Meeting
Payroll Check	#1805-1813	\$ 23,535.79	September 14, 2021.
Direct Deposit/EFT		\$ 81,305.70	Minutes correction to August 10, 2021

**Moved by Fitzpatrick second by Wolfgang** to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. **Yes:** Zeits, Campbell, Wolfgang, Fitzpatrick, Fleis, Blonshine and Kucera **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis** to approve correction to Payroll Check's #1788-1796 in the amount of \$22,872.62 from August 10, 2021 minutes. **Yes:** Kucera, Blonshine, Fleis, Fitzpatrick, Wolfgang, Campbell and Zeits. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. PUBLIC HEARING/S:**

- A. Special Use Case #SU/SPR 21-09-01:** The applicant, Alliance Beverage to establish a 70,000 sq ft beverage warehouse & distribution facility on vacant property located at 525 W Commerce Drive, Traverse City, MI 49685 Parcel #28-02-005-020-20. Notice of the public hearing was published in the Record Eagle on September 26, 2021.

**Public Hearing Opened at 6:18 PM**

Doug Mansfield of Mansfield Land Use Consultants summarized the proposed warehouse, gave a brief overview of plans and what Alliance Beverage would like to accomplish. They expect about twenty-five employees. No other public comment.

**Public Hearing Closed at 6:24 PM**

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Kucera** to approve SU/SPR 21-09-01 Alliance Beverage as it meets standards for approval in section 22.04 A-G of the Blair Township Zoning Ordinance and was recommended for approval by the Blair Township Planning Commission. **Yes:** Wolfgang, Zeits, Campbell, Kucera, Fleis and Blonshine. **Abstain:** Fitzpatrick **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- B. Meadow Woods 1 & 2 Street Light Special Assessment:** This is public hearing number two of two. The notice for the public hearing was published in the Record Eagle September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1st, 2021. Letters were sent to all residents that are effected. Current assessments have been for 15 streetlights in Meadow Woods 1 & 2. After Cherryland Electric’s audit of the area, they found that there were 21 streetlights, so Meadow Woods 1 & 2 are now being billed for 21 streetlights total, which in turn will increase the street light assessment for that area.

**Public Hearing Opened at 6:26 PM**

No public comment

**Public Hearing Closed at 6:27 PM**

Board discussion would like to add to the resolution that funds be collected yearly on the winter tax bill.

**2. Adopt Resolution #2021-26 Meadow Woods 1 & 2 Street Light Special Assessment**

**Moved by Blonshine second by Fitzpatrick** to adopt Resolution #2021-26 Meadow Woods 1 & 2 Street Light Special Assessment to be collected yearly on the Winter Tax Bill. **Yes:** Zeits, Wolfgang, Campbell, Fitzpatrick, Fleis, Blonshine and Kucera. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**3. Budget Amendments**

- a. Water Budget Amendment:** Amend the Supplies line budget which was approved at \$1,000.00 (one thousand dollars) instead of the intended \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars). It is recommended to take \$9,000.00 (nine thousand dollars) from Contracted Services and place it in the Supply line item for Water/Sewer.

**Moved by Blonshine second by Campbell** to take \$9,000.00 from Contracted Services and place it in Supply line item for Water/Sewer Budget. **Yes:** Kucera, Blonshine, Fitzpatrick, Zeits, Wolfgang, Fleis and Campbell. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- b. Town Hall and Grounds Budget Amendment: Moved by Wolfgang second by Fitzpatrick** to amend the Townhall and Grounds budget by making Salary/Wages \$26,000.00 (Twenty-six thousand), Holiday Pay \$1,000.00 (one thousand) FICA \$2,070.00 (two thousand seventy) and Insurance \$5,700.00 (five thousand seven hundred), then taking the difference and putting it in the Park Capital Outlay line item. **Yes:** Kucera, Fleis, Wolfgang, Blonshine, Campbell, Zeits and Fitzpatrick. **No:** None. **Motion carried.**

- c. Sewer Fund Amendment:** Amend the Water/Sewer Operator Wages line by \$27,000.00 (twenty-seven thousand dollars) taking it from Contracted Services.

**Moved by Campbell second by Fitzpatrick** to take \$27,000.00 from Sewer Fund Contracted Services budget and placing it in the Water/Sewer Operator Wages. **Yes:** Fleis, Zeits, Campbell, Kucera, Blonshine, Fitzpatrick and Wolfgang. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- d. **Contracted Services/Other Budget Amendment: Moved by Wolfgang second by Kucera** to take \$75,000.00 (seventy-five thousand) from Water Fund Contracted Services and spread it among Water/Sewer Operator Wages, Holiday pay, FICA, Insurance and Phone. **Yes:** Zeits, Fleis, Campbell, Wolfgang, Blonshine, Fitzpatrick and Kucera. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- 4. **Purchase of Township vehicle – Zoning and Ordinance Enforcement use.** Currently the Township Truck is shared by Zoning/Ordinance and Water/Sewer, a car would be better suited for zoning use.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Kucera** to approve purchase a 2022 Chevrolet Malibu from Berger Chevrolet not to exceed \$18,439.00 (eighteen thousand four hundred thirty-nine dollars) **Yes:** Kucera, Fitzpatrick, Fleis, Wolfgang, Blonshine and Campbell. **No:** Zeits. **Motion Carried.**

- 5. **Delinquent Water/Sewer roll over.** Post cards have been mailed to all residents with delinquent water/sewer bills.

**Moved by Blonshine second by Fleis** to place the delinquent water/sewer bills and delinquent water/sewer assessment bills onto the 2021 winter tax bill. **Yes:** Zeits, Campbell, Fleis, Blonshine, Kucera and Fitzpatrick. **No:** Wolfgang. **Motion Carried.**

- 6. **Traverse Connect Employee Assistance Program Renewal.**

**Moved by Blonshine second by Fleis** to renew for one year with Traverse Connect Employee Assistance Program. **Yes:** Fleis, Kucera, Blonshine, Fitzpatrick, Wolfgang, Campbell and Zeits. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- 7. **Re-appointment to Planning Commission.** Adam Wagner’s current term expires 11/30/2021.

**Motion by Fitzpatrick second by Zeits** to re-appointment Adam Wagner to the Planning Commission with term expiring 11/30/2024. **Yea:** All **Nay:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- 8. **Re-appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals.** David McGee and Karin Cascadden’s current term expires 11/30/2021.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fitzpatrick** to re-appointment of David McGee and Karin Cascadden to Zoning Board of Appeals with term expiring 11/30/2024. **Yea:** All. **Nay:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- 9. **Purchase of replacement Baby Swings, Therapeutic Swing and Ball Panel.** These items in the park are no longer useable and should be replaced, quote from Miracle Playsystems.

**Moved by Fitzpatrick second by Kucera** to replace baby swings, therapeutic swing, and ball panel not to exceed \$3,736.00 (three thousand seven hundred thirty-six dollars). **Yes:** Kucera, Fitzpatrick, Fleis, Zeits, Campbell, Blonshine and Wolfgang. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**10. Emergency Services Presentation-Station Study & New Station initial Presentation by Emergency Services Director Eric Somsel.**

**Extended Public Input:** Linda Pepper states she has three items to cover: The Board of Commissioners will have a study session on October 27, 2021, regarding the spending of ARPA funds. Redistricting maps are in the final stages and will be ready for viewing 10 days from now. Finally, she commends Blair Township, Eric Somsel, and Nicole Blonshine for the exemplary exhibit of local governance in action.

**Adjournment:** 8:08 PM

Cindy Wicksall  
Deputy Clerk