

**BLAIR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Regular Meeting**

**September 14, 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 Fleis, Zeits, Blonshine, Campbell, Fitzpatrick, Kucera and Wolfgang. Emergency Services Director Somsel, DPW Coordinator Patrick Gallagher and six (6) guests.

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Supervisor Blonshine would like to add to the agenda item # 10 Dynamic Effects & Fireworks at Turtle Creek/Pit Spitters Stadium on October 2, 2021.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fitzpatrick** to approve the agenda with the addition of item #10 in New Business, Dynamic Effects & Fireworks at Turtle Creek/Pit Spitters Stadium on October 2, 2021, for permit approval. **Yea: All Nay: None Motion carried.**

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Supervisor Blonshine states that she has a conflict of interest with item #5, the Purchase of Backhoe from Pioneer Diesel and will abstain from voting.

**PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL REPORT:**

**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:** Ron Clous states that Grand Traverse County and the Sheriff's department will be going to a new upgraded computer system. Total cost estimated at 4 million, 2 million to start and one half million over the next 4 years.

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

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor Blonshine states that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new fitness court was well attended on September 10, 2021. The fitness court is already in use by people exercising, however we have had to ask small children not to climb on the equipment as it is not a jungle gym. Fundraising continues, seeking donations also for fencing that could match up with the playground decorative fence and signage for the fitness court.

Blair Township cleanup day for township residents is this Saturday, September 18 from 8 AM to Noon. Any and all are welcome to volunteer their time.

The dangerous building at 4646 East Mobile Trail has been removed and the site cleaned up, several residents have thanked Nicole and Blair Township for completing this project.

Treasurer Campbell states that the Water Loss Committee have met, and by next months meeting they will have minutes to share with everyone.

Trustee Kucera would like a round of applause as thanks for Supervisor Blonshine for all the work, time involved and effort, also for getting others involved in making the new Fitness Court available to residents and anyone who uses Blair Township Park.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

<u>FUND</u>	<u>CHECK NUMBERS</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>REPORTS</u>
Pooled Operating	#5234-5324	\$ 161,823.56	EMS Report
Trust & Agency Fund	#1092-1093	\$ 12,048.75	Water Dept. Report
Tax Account	#6766-6778	\$ 545,502.32	Minutes Regular Meeting
Payroll Check	#1797-1804	\$ 29,614.91	August 10, 2021.
Direct Deposit/EFT		\$ 72,160.79	Minutes Special Meeting August 25, 2021

**Moved by Fitzpatrick second by Zeits** to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. **Yea:** All **Nay:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1. Approval of July Reports:** The reports removed for the August Consent Calendar for review are July 13, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes, July Water/Sewer report and July Operation Services report need approval.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis** to approve July 13, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes with corrections, the Water/Sewer report from July and the Operation Services report from July. **Yes:** Campbell, Kucera, Zeits, Wolfgang, Fleis, Blonshine and Fitzpatrick. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- 2. Employee Handbook Acknowledgement form for Union Employees: Moved by Fitzpatrick second by Kucera** to approve the Employee Handbook Acknowledgement form for Union Employees. **Yes:** Blonshine, Fleis, Zeits, Wolfgang, Fitzpatrick, Kucera and Campbell. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. PUBLIC HEARING/S:**

- A. Special Use Case #SU/SPR 21-08-01:** The applicant, Muffler Man, Jim Christensen. Special Use/Site Plan Review to establish an auto repair facility to repair mufflers, brakes and other minor repairs in existing building located at 290 US 31 S Traverse City, MI 49685. Parcel #28-02-005-005-00. Section 5 T26N R11W.

### **Public Hearing Opened at 6:20 PM**

No Public Comment

### **Public Hearing Closed at 6:23 PM**

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Kucera** to approve SU/SPR 21-08-01 Muffler Man as it meets standards for approval in section 21.03 of the Blair Township Zoning Ordinance and was recommended for approval by the Blair Township Planning Commission. **Yes:** Zeits, Fleis, Campbell, Kucera, Blonshine and Wolfgang. **Abstain:** Fitzpatrick **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

- B. Meadow Woods 1 & 2 Street Light Special Assessment:** This is public hearing number one of two. The notice for the public hearing was published in the Record Eagle September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Letters were sent to all residents this effects. 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 actually 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 6:24 PM**

Sheryl Graves of 2966 W. Ironwood asks for clarification that this is based on parcel number and not street frontage, which Treasurer Campbell states that is the case, cost is based on parcel number.

### **Public Hearing Closed at 6:32 PM**

## **2. Amendments to Blair Township Cemetery Ordinance #110**

Board discussion and clarifications to ordinance discussed with some corrections.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Kucera** to approve the amendments to the Blair Township Cemetery Ordinance #110 as proposed. **Yes:** Fleis, Fitzpatrick, Zeits, Blonshine, Wolfgang and Kucera. **No:** Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

## **3. Adopt Resolution #2021-25 to set cemetery fees**

Board discussion to proposed resolution with corrections.

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis** to adopt Resolution #2021-25 to set Township Cemetery Prices and Fees with the sentence “Winter burial pricing dependent upon weather” struck from resolution. **Yes:** Zeits, Kucera, Wolfgang, Fleis, Blonshine, Fitzpatrick and Campbell. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

## **4. Consent form for Cemetery Disinterment.**

**Moved by Blonshine second by Fitzpatrick** to approve the Cemetery consent form for Disinterment. **Yes:** Campbell, Fitzpatrick, Kucera, Wolfgang, Fleis, Zeits and Blonshine. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**5. Purchase of Backhoe for tractor/cemetery.**

**Moved by Wolfgang second by Fleis** to approve purchase of backhoe for the Mahindra Tractor from Pioneer Diesel, not to exceed \$8,370.00 (eight thousand three hundred seventy dollars) **Yes:** Zeits, Wolfgang, Fitzpatrick, Campbell, Kucera and Fleis. **Abstain:** Blonshine. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**6. Credit Card approval for Water/Sewer Operator and Maintenance Coordinator.**

**A. Motion by Blonshine second by Fitzpatrick** to authorize a 4 Front Mastercard to be issued to both Patrick Gallagher and Ryan Beaudry. **Yes:** Blonshine, Zeits, Campbell, Kucera, Wolfgang, Fleis and Fitzpatrick. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**B. Motion by Blonshine second by Zeits** to have Clerk Wolfgang seek to increase the Menards credit card limit from \$1,500.00 (One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to \$5000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) and the 4 Front Mastercard from \$7,500.00 (Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars). **Yes:** Zeits, Fitzpatrick, Kucera, Fleis, Campbell, Wolfgang and Blonshine. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**7. Cell Phone Reimbursement for Water/Sewer Operator and Maintenance Coordinator.**

**Motion by Blonshine second by Fleis** to authorize a \$50.00 (Fifty Dollar) a month stipend to Patrick Gallagher and Ryan Beaudry for use of their cell phones. **Yes:** Kucera, Wolfgang, Zeits, Fitzpatrick, Campbell, Fleis and Blonshine. **No:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**8. Request to hire Kelly Stiner as a Paid on-call employee.**

**Motion by Blonshine second by Fitzpatrick** to hire Kelly Stiner as a paid on-call Medical First Responder and Firefighter as recommended by Emergency Services. **Yea:** All **Nay:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**9. Need to purchase vehicle for Ordinance Enforcement, Zoning, Inspections, and other Township Business.**

Will seek bids for an economical vehicle for Township use.

**10. Nitro Circus Flame Display at Turtle Creek/Pit Spitters Stadium.**

**Moved by Blonshine second by Fitzpatrick** to approve the special pyrotechnic firework display in conjunction with the Nitro Circus at Turtle Creek Stadium on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. **Yea:** All **Nay:** None. **Motion Carried.**

**Extended Public Input:** Linda Pepper had a daughter from Vancouver visiting and she very much like the new Fitness Court at Blair Township Park. Linda states that Green Lake Township has been spending ARPA monies and wonders what plans Blair Township has for use of their ARPA money. Linda also states that the redistricting will be completed by October 7<sup>th</sup> of this year, meeting the October 11, 2021, deadline.

Patrick Gallagher, Water/Sewer Operator thanks Blair Township board members, Eric and especially Nicole Blonshine for having trust in me and Ryan to bring us on board as Township employees, I'm super excited and appreciate all you guys for what you've done for me and Ryan, super excited for the future of Blair Township, it's growing. Thank You.

**Adjournment:** 7:32 PM

Cindy Wicksall

Deputy Clerk