

Synopsis
Milton Township
Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2020

Members present: L. Bargy, S. Ball, L. Atkinson, T. Cole and B. Pharo

Also present: Attorneys B. Derman, J. Ball, and 5 audience members

Bargy called the meeting to order at 7 pm and the Pledge was recited

Agenda Approval

Add the following to the agenda:

- Dick Gray Letter RE Maplehurst
- Library Update
- Resolution 2020-12 to pass declaration of notice for closing out the MNRTF Construction Grant: Milton Township Waterfront Park
- Funds Transfer from the General Fund to the Construction Grand Fund for the 30% match \$126,500.

Motion to approve agenda as amended by Cole/Pharo. Motion carried.

Approval of regular meeting minutes of September 14, 2020

Add (Adam Bagley talked about the ZBA and long-term use tax regarding rental properties.)

Correct spelling of **Spevacek**

Motion to approve minutes as corrected by L. Atkinson/S. Ball. Motion carried.

Approval of special meeting minutes of September 30, 2020

Motion to approve by S. Ball/L. Atkinson. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Kelley and Dan Wells are adjacent property owners to the proposed RV Park. There is remediation work going on since July. This should have been completed by Sept. 15 and it wasn't. There is a lot of activity and dirt movement going on. Is this remediation or are they moving forward on the park?

Bargy said soil conservation is being done by the county. Derman said the state is also working with the county. We can have Chris, the Zoning Administer follow up on this.

Dan Wells said he's bothered by the fact that Mr. Derman said he will have Weinzapfel check on it. The land-clearing ordinance clearly states that none of that is to be done until a permit is issued and that should have come into play a year and a half ago. How has he gotten this far in developing that site?

Tim Smith of Chippewa Trail, president of Torch Elk Skegemog Alliance said he like to prevent situations from happening like this (re, the RV Park). Today it's not a requirement for developers to conduct studies. It can be requested but it's not a requirement. In the case of the RV Park, the Planning Commission should have requested those studies. Our organization has financed our own studies and you are receiving the results of those studies. That site will impact hundreds of people in our township. It's only logical that those studies be required with the application.

Smith also asked to change the approval process of a special use permit. Today the planning commission has the final say. The only appeal is to go to court and that doesn't seem right. You as trustees of our township have the best interest of the township first and foremost. That final approval of a special use permit should rest with the township board.

Julie Smith of Chippewa Trail said obviously something is going on and we don't come lightly to complain. Once this gets approved, no one will change it. It won't go well. You as elected officials need to have the final say. As elected officials, the yes or no should rest with you.

Sheriff's Report

Provided in the packet
155 calls for service for September.

Fire Department Report: by Chief J. Ball

12 calls for service for September. We are at 125 for the year. I have a signed mutual agreement with Kalkaska and MMR and how it applies to calls to the south end of the township. At Maplehurst, we are working with the conservancy to better locate people in case of an emergency. I have provided bids for a water softener at Station 1. The equipment committee feels the bid from Parallel Plumbing is the best option.

Motion to approve a bid of \$11,047.50 to install a water softener system from Parallel Plumbing by B. Pharo/T. Cole. Motion carried. 5-0

Regarding the MERS program, our cycle ends Nov. 30th. Due to Covid, we were shut down for training for 12 weeks. With that, I would like to propose we waive the minimum training requirement and run response to 25% for this year only. We would go back to the original requirements December 1st.

Motion to approve the waiving of the training requirement to obtain the MERS for firefighters by B. Pharo/T. Cole. Motion carried. 5-0

Zoning Report: by C. Weinzapfel

No report

Planning Report: by B. Hefferan

Hefferan reported via teleconference. The planning commission meeting for tomorrow was canceled due to the Michigan Supreme Court Decision to cancel the ability to meet remotely. The only item on our agenda was the public hearing for the RV Park. We are waiting for clarity from Lansing. We will schedule it for a special meeting in the future.

Ambulance Report

There is a report in the packet.

Attorney's Report: by B. Derman

Signatures are required on the sewer project for the records. Update on American Tower.

Supervisor's Report

As presented by L. Bary

Dick Gray Letter: regarding Maplehurst. Cole said a good point is being made about the rules and how they are followed. Bary will discuss the issue with the adjacent landowner.

Resolution 2020-12:

To pass Declaration of Notice for closing out the MNRTF grant.

Motion to approve this resolution by T. Cole/L. Atkinson:

Roll Call: B. Pharo: Yes; S. Ball: Yes; L. Bary: Yes; L. Atkinson: Yes and T. Cole: Yes

Motion carried. 5-0

Funds Transfer from General Fund to the Construction Grant Fund for the 30% match of \$126,500.

Motion to approve this transfer by T. Cole /B. Pharo. Motion carried. 5-0

ERDL Library Update

Atkinson reported a formal complaint against the Capital Campaign was filed by a private citizen with the Attorney General's office. At last week's meeting a motion was made to create a Foundation to replace the Capital Campaign Committee. It was strongly advised to balance the existing Capital Campaign funds before considering any change. The Capital Campaign Committee agreed to provide documentation showing the contributions and outstanding pledge agreements. Atkinson stated that there are many questions to be answered before a Foundation should be considered. Cole asked, what would be the advantage of making the change to a Foundation? Atkinson said one benefit is Foundations can invest the funds that would be a better rate of return on the investment.

Public Comment:

Kelley Wells said the public outcry regarding the RV Park came because they thought the permits were approved. But, they weren't. Now we are in remediation. We need oversight. I appreciate everything you do.

Approval of Bills

Motion to approve the bills by Ball/Pharo. Motion carried. 5-0

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 8:10 pm.

These minutes are subject to approval at the November meeting. A copy of these minutes are available at miltontownship.org

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Ball, Clerk