

Synopsis
Milton Township
Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2021

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

Also present: Attorneys B. Derman, J. Ball, B. Hefferan, and 8 audience members

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

Agenda Approval by consent

Approval of regular meeting minutes of October 11, 2021
Motion to approve by L. Atkinson/S. Ball. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Karen Bargy, County Commissioner, gave a report about how the CARES act money was spent. She also reported on the American Rescue Act funds. She gave an update on the health department meeting where there were motions to replace the health department officer, which failed. COVID testing and booster shots are available.

Pat Skarnulis of Torch Lake Drive requested Zoom meetings for the RV Park. Many residents go south for the winter and don't have access to the meetings. Hefferan said it will be available. As a resident, he's watched the RV Park. It's unfortunate how many different agencies this has gone through and he's wondering about fines and penalties for the developer?

Ted Shaw of Carin Hwy asked about grooming the Maplehurst trails for cross country skiing. He would like to volunteer to get a group together for this. Shaw talked to the land conservancy and he said they have no problems having a motorized vehicles to groom. Atkinson said they are having a parks and rec meeting soon and this is on the agenda.

Mary Skarnulis of Torch Lake Drive pointed to the master plan survey where it says residents don't want more development in the Torch River Bridge area. She believes revisions were made without approval. Atkinson said the plan cannot change without approval. Derman said the plan is revised every five years. There will be public hearing and public comments as the new master plan is revised.

A citizen asked about the seasonal campground ordinance. Torch River Marine was allowed to have camper trailers there. She also asked about the zoning permit process. The community doesn't want this special use permit.

Brenda Hasso of Torch River Road. Here we go again on the RV Park. Where it's being proposed is the wrong place. There is no infrastructure there to support this. We aren't trying to keep people away from enjoying our area. The amount of money I pay in taxes.

Allowing an RV park down the road doesn't do a lot for my property value. Nothing has changed and there are still problems. Put yourselves in the shoes of the people who live there. Do the right thing.

Sheriff's Report

As presented

114 calls for October. Car/Deer accidents were high last month.

Fire Department Report: Chief J. Ball

5 responses for October. We are at 86 for the year. Update on Halloween Open House. 73 kids and parents for the evening. Update on training and those in jeopardy for not making minimum training requirements.

EMS Report

Provided in packet, 15 calls for October

Planning Report: B. Hefferan

Tomorrow night will be a small agenda. There will be a brief subcommittee report on Steep Slopes. We do have a special meeting next Monday at 6 pm in regards to the new special land use permit for the RV Park. Kopriva will be facilitating remote access. People will be able make public comment. This is not something we will offer every meeting, but for the RV park topic and anything else that becomes a big interest for township residents.

Bargy recommended the appointment of Noel Peters to serve on the planning commissioners.

Motion by S. Ball/B. Pharo to replace Bob Kingon with Noel Peters on the planning commission. Motion carried.

Attorney's Report: B. Derman

Derman discussed Michigan legislation regarding short term rentals. Derman discussed how the RV Park has impacted the county level ordinances which are being reviewed. The Antrim County Board of Commissioners will go from 9 to 5 members. Elk Rapids and Milton will now have one commissioner. Update on Birch Lake Road violation, which has come into compliance.

Supervisor's Report: L. Bargy

A. Master Plan Proposals

We have two estimates; one from Beckett and Raeder and one from Williams and Works for review and update of the master plan.

Motion by T. Cole/L. Atkinson to approve the estimate from Beckett and Raeder for \$25,860 to review and update the master plan. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Ball/B. Pharo to approve Bill Hefferan to serve out the term of Bob Kingon on the Zoning Board of Appeals by. Motion carried.

Library Report: L. Atkinson

Atkinson was appointed as the treasurer of the library board. There was a motion passed to look at other options for the library location. We are open to public input and looking to make the best decision possible.

Ball discussed the request to have archery at the township park. The insurance company had stipulations regarding liability insurance. There is also a matter of having a commercial activity. Pharo said this park isn't the right spot for it. Cole said it's a great activity, but this isn't the place for it. Bargy suggested the sportsman's club. Derman said there hasn't been any announcement on what's going on with that property.

Motion by T. Cole/S. Ball to deny approval of archery in the park. Motion carried.

Approval of bid from Matt's Underground for irrigation holes which will need to be bored under the driveway to get to the plantings. We will be using donation money, to cover the cost.

Motion by B. Pharo/T. Cole to approve the hiring of Matt's Underground for a cost of \$3,575. Motion carried.

Public Comment

No one wished to speak.

Approval of Bills

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

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 7:51 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Ball, Clerk