

COLOMA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
August 14, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at the Coloma Charter Township Hall, Coloma, Michigan. Present for the Township: Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin, Clerk Sandy Kraemer, Treasurer Jim Fulton, Trustees Jerry Willmeng, Bob Howell, Bryan Duffield, and Rob Harper.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Bob Howell.

CONSENT AGENDA

Treasurer James Fulton presented the consent agenda. Treasurer Fulton reported the finance committee met and approved the July, 2019 expenses totaling \$665,766.00. Our MERS Non-Union Contribution of \$350,000.00 was part of this. Moved by Treasurer Jim Fulton, seconded by Trustee Bob Howell, to approve the consent agenda and July 10, 2019 meeting minutes. ROLL CALL VOTE: Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes; Howell, yes; Duffield, yes; Willmeng, yes; Fulton, yes; Harper, yes.

7 AYES. APPROVED

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk Kraemer read a letter from the State of Michigan Department of Treasury, Kelli Sobel. The Tax Management and Associates recently conducted an Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements (AMAR) on behalf of the State Tax Commission. The audit indicated that Coloma Township met all of the requirements of the AMAR and they congratulated the Township on receiving a perfect score on the review and thank us for our cooperation throughout this process. We congratulate our assessor, Kevin Kutscher, on this accomplishment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chana Kniebes, from North Berrien Community Development, reported the North Berrien Community Development & Coloma Watervliet Area Chamber of Commerce 16th annual golf outing turned out successful. Weather was beautiful and Coloma Township came in 1st place.

COMMITTEE REPORTS CON'T

Trustee Jerry Willmeng stated the Sewer Board is still working with the County on a Bond to update the Sewer system. He presented a July, 2019 report showing the percentage of total flow and Coloma Township came in second. He stated the total flow is a little over ½ the May billing.

Trustee Bryan Duffield reported the Berrien County Road Commission is still trying to finish up the township roads but Reith-Riley is on strike and things have slowed down due to this.

Chief Wes Smigielski, reported there were 262 complaints were investigated for the month of July, 2019. 6 Obstructing Justice, 6 Larcenies, 29 Suspicious Situations. He stated there were 22 Arrests, 77 Traffic Stops, 18 Citations Issued, 59 Traffic Warnings, and 99 Property checks in the Township. Chief Smigielski answered all questions.

Trustee Rob Harper reported there were 31 Fire calls in July, 2019. He stated annual physicals are being done. The Glad-Peach Festival pancake breakfast went well and they had lots of help from the Firemen and Ladies Auxiliary. The Fire Department is working with "Friends of the River" to help mark the river in cases of emergency. Berrien Commissioner Dave Vollrath said he will get Berrien County involved in helping also. New Ford F-250 utility truck is now in service. The Fire Department assisted in a river rescue which resulted in the death of one person.

Clerk Sandy Kraemer reported the HR department has started working on the updated employee handbook again and hope to have it completed in a couple months. They would like to hire a part-time (possible full-time) person to work in the Administration office. Applications can be picked up at the township.

Treasurer Jim Fulton reported the new owner of the old V-Force used car property, is considering putting in an auto repair on that property along with selling used cars and will present it to the planning commission in the near future.

Pride Care, ambulance service, gave their report for the month of July 2019. There were 14 priority one calls with an average response time of 08:12. There were several questions from the Board and audience which they will bring back the answers at the September 11, 2019 township meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Last month the Board discussed and tabled a request from the township Maintenance Department to purchase a new Bobcat compact track loader with several attachments. They stated they borrow Meyer's Septic and Sewer Systems' bobcat about 12 to 15 times a year. It was suggested, by the Board, they look into purchasing a used one instead of a new one. They informed the Board last night the only company that sells used ones is Kubota. After Board discussion this was tabled until the September meeting.

The joint Water Advisory Committee met and are working together to address any concerns or issues going forward.

NEW BUSINESS

The Parks and Recreation Committee met with La Grow Consultants, to revise their 5-year Parks and Recreation Plan. They have created a survey asking input of township residents and survey to be returned to the township or lagrowdc@sbcglobal.net by September 16, 2019. They are also going to hold a public meeting on September 11, 2019 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm (before the regular township meeting at 7:00pm) seeking information as to what the township residents would like to see for the Parks and Recreation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Berrien County Commissioner, Dave Vollrath, stated there was an article in the Herald-Palladium newspaper about the Berrien County Parks and Recreation that was misunderstood. He said there is a night meeting coming up on September 5, 2019.

Warren Tyler, Rosemary Drive, Coloma, is concerned about a culvert that is going to be placed in the area of Rosemary Drive and Pine Court. He has an underground water line. Supervisor Ken Parrigin assured him the company knows what they are doing and it would be fine.

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Jim Fulton, seconded by Trustee Bryan Duffield, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46pm.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Kraemer, Clerk

Date Approved

Kenneth Parrigin, Supervisor