

London Township
Board Minutes (Draft)
July 13, 2020

Call to order by Supervisor Taepke 7:35 PM

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Supervisor Gary Taepke-Present, Clerk Kimberly Sharp-Present, Treasurer Melissa Beauchamp-Present, Trustee Penny Turner-Present, Trustee Roger Werstein-Present.

Approval of Agenda:

- Date incorrect, should be July 13, 2020

Approval of Minutes:

- Township is to approve the Minutes of June 8, 2020 it was incorrectly dated May 11, 2020.

-Incorrect date of March 28, 2020 for the Closing of the Books the correct date is March 30, 2020. Change the date to March 30, 2020.

-Trustee Turner asked to move the Solar Energy Presentation to #1 under Unfinished Business.

-Item #4 under Unfinished Business Bond Fee removed from agenda.

-Move Pinkowski Bill to Unfinished Business Item #5.

Motion made by Treasurer Beauchamp seconded by Supervisor Teapke to accept the agenda as amended.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

First Citizens Time:

-Resident William Rugenski stated that Supervisor Taepke called the Police because of a post Mr. Rugenski's wife had posted on Social Media.

-Ed Girard Jr. read a letter from an elderly resident stating that Supervisor Teapke has not paid in full of his farm lease obligation for 3 years.

-Mike Pinkowski asked about the farming behind the Township Hall. Supervisor Teapke is in the middle of a 3-year contract with the Township ending in 2022. Mr. Pinkowski has copies of a FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) of all Expenditures in 2018 if anyone would like to see it. He also asked about the PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) for the election. Clerk Sharp answered we will have plexiglass dividers, and the State will provide gloves, hand sanitizer and masks.

-Resident Carole Smith asked if resident should state their names during Citizens Time, Supervisor Teapke stated it was a state law and the Township has a Resolution that stated those

making comment must identify themselves. She is also upset with resident's name calling at the meetings.

-Tom Feder asked why the water district was redone. Supervisor Teapke answered that it has been redone many times, to get a better price. Now the London Township Water Initiative needs to get 51% of those in the water district to approve it.

-Resident asked why the residents can not vote for water. Supervisor Teapke stated we are going through the process mandated by the State Law.

- Ed Giraud Sr. had a question in the Expenditures about cremation. Treasurer Beauchamp explained that was the cost of a non-resident to the Sexton of London Cemetery. The family pays the Township and in turn the Township pays the Sexton.

-Amanda Teapke asked about this being the last day to post about the Election Commission. Clerk Sharp had problems with getting enough Republican workers and was working with the Republican Committee in Monroe County to get more workers.

Approval of the June 8, 2020 Minutes:

-Date incorrect, should be June 8, 2020 not May 11, 2020.

-Approval of agenda Closing of Books was there, but not discussed as it was tabled, but not in the Minutes.

-Mr. Giraud's name is misspelled many times in the Minutes.

-Page 2, under Budget Workshop add dates March 4 and March 28, 2020.

-Closing of the books date is wrong it should be March 30, 2020.

-Page 3 Treasurer's is misspelled.

-Page 4 Apex held the Presentation last month not Azalia Solar.

-Page 6 shows ES Contract it should be CES Contract.

-Second line, same paragraph above should state Code Enforcer not Code Enforce.

-Second paragraph Trustee Turner motion should say to eliminate Code Enforcement Services and Blight from CES Contract, the words "and Blight" and "Contact" need to be added.

-Page 7 The motion made by Trustee Turner should state Extractive Operations Ordinance 5.604, Operations was not included.

-Next paragraph, should state Extractive Operations Ordinance 5.604, right above the roll call. Second paragraph from the bottom failed motion was Filling Operations Ordinance 5.608 strike Extractive Operations Ordinance 5.604

-Page 10 - Board of Trustees Comments from Trustee Turner read a Tribute to late George Lloyd and thanking the Officer in attendance present. Officer was misspelled.

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Trustee Turner to accept the June 8, 2020 Minutes as amended.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Closing of the Books:

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Clerk Sharp to table The Closing of the Books of March 30, 2020 until next month.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Supervisors Report:

- Supervisor Taepke read a letter he in response to the letter Mr. Giraud, Jr. read from the resident that has not received full payment for a farmland lease contract he is delinquent on. He apologized and stated his farmland was sabotaged and his combine was damaged he also apologized to the other farmers he owes and intends to pay all of them.
- Email received/Deputy Clerk Anita Straub let the Board know that the Monroe County Road Commission has closed Plank Rd. between Stewart and Day Rd. due to a culvert failure.

Motion made by Treasurer Beauchamp, seconded by Clerk Sharp to accept the Supervisors Report.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Treasurers Report:

- Summer Tax Bills went out June 30, 2020.
- The Treasures Department is open Tuesday and Thursdays 9-3 residents can knock on door and they will meet you to give you a receipt.
- The Treasurer checked with the Monroe County Community Credit Union in Maybee but they only accept tax payments for the City of Monroe. First Merchants will accept London Township Tax Payments.
- No cash payment unless the Treasurers Department is open.

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Trustee Turner to accept the Treasures Report.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Clerks Report:

- In need of Election Workers there is still one class being held.
- All Permanent Absentee Ballots were mailed out and most of the other Absentee Ballot Applications were mailed out on July2, 2020.
- Contact the Clerks office if you would like an Absentee Ballot Application.
- Some residents have received multiple application as the State and other entities have sent them out also.
- The drop box for the Absentee Ballots the Clerk installed at The Township Hall will be reimbursed by the State of Michigan.
- Treasure Beauchamp stated the drop box can be used for assessing information, Building Department permits, and tax payments (NO CASH).

Motion made by Treasure Beauchamp, seconded by Supervisor Taepke to accept the Clerks Report.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Building Department Report:

-The total number of permits issued the month of June 2020 was 21. Totaling \$3,206.00

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasure Beauchamp to accept the Building Department Report.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Zoning Administrator Report:

None

Assessor Report:

-The July Board of Review will be held July 21 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM (or until business is concluded).

Notices in Monroe News, on Township bulletin board, the London Township website and Facebook page. In-person petitioners attending the meeting

must wear appropriate face masks and practice social distancing. Executive Order (2020-87)

-July Board of review must hear protests under Section 30 of the GPTA, MCL 211.30, and any other matters that are properly before a March board of review.

-Boards of review must issue decisions on any protests under MCL 211.30 by September 1, 2020

-Board of Review must accept protests by letter without a personal appearance by the taxpayer or his or her agent.

-Appeals that were acted on in March are NOT eligible for a second appeal.

-As of this date the Assessor's office has received no letter appeals for the JBOR. Several petitions are prepared for PREs and uncapping's for the JBOR to act upon when they convene.

-Field Work / Township reappraisal update:

- Goals for July includes reappraisal visits for one full section and visiting all new construction.

-Notice cards will be mailed out to property owners prior to the visits, as is standard procedure.

-Seasonal Work:

-The tax roll was balanced for summer taxes.

-2020 Quarter 2 (April-May-June) deeds were downloaded, and several transfers entered to update our system. This includes Milan Dragway which sold in October 2019, but the deed was not recorded with the county until May of this year.

-Ongoing Activities:

-Processing Property Transfers and PRE applications

-Checking / responding to voicemail and email:

- Processing land split applications
- Reviewing and fixing qualified errors, i.e.: addresses, name changes, property data etc. adding updated labels, missing information.

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Clerk Sharp to accept the Assessor Report.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Planning Commission Report:

- Apex Solar had a presentation on Solar Energy. The PC would like direction from the Board and would also like to do a presentation to the Board next month.
- Fill Operations Ordinance the PC would like how the Board would proceed with the amount of fill brought in and how and who would record it.
- The PC would like to know the status of Rental of the Hall and pavilion. Trustee Turner believed it was in the Attorneys hands, but there was no answer to the question.

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasure Beauchamp to accept the Planning Commission Report.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Reading of Monthly Disbursements:

General Fund:

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasure Beauchamp to approve the disbursements from the General Fund **Totaling \$39,399.15**

Roll Call: Trustee Werstein **YES**, Trustee Turner **YES**, Supervisor Taepke **YES**, Treasurer Beauchamp **YES**, Clerk Sharp **YES**.

Motion Carried

Sewer Fund:

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasure Beauchamp to approve the disbursements form the Sewer Fund **Totaling \$3,448.56**

Roll Call: Trustee Werstein **YES**, Trustee Turner **YES**, Supervisor Taepke **YES**, Treasurer Beauchamp **YES**, Clerk Sharp **YES**.

Motion Carried

TOTAL MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS: \$47,847.71

Unfinished Business:

1. Solar Energy:

Sarah Mills from the University of Michigan spoke and discussed the pros and cons with renewable energy sources in Rural areas. She assists in writing Ordinances for Townships. Trustee Turner is having Apex Clean Energy speak at the August Board of Trustees Meeting.

2. Bids for Roofing:

Supervisor Taepke will contact roofing companies for bids.

3. Life Contract:

Trustee Turner questioned why the LIFE (Living Independently For Everyone) contract was signed without board approval as a paragraph 2 was missing in the new contract vs. the proposal. Supervisor Taepke stated it was signed late and needed done. He signed it earlier in the day of January 13, 2020 that evening there was a Board Meeting.

Motion made Trustee Turner, seconded by Supervisor Taepke to get a corrected copy of the agreement between London Township and Living Independence for Everyone (LIFE) and be brought to the Board for decision.

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

4. Maintenance Letter

Letter to the Board from Greg Hughes, dated July 8,2020. Mr Hughes is asking for a cost of living raise as he has not had a raise in his 4 years of service.

Motion made Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to raise Greg Hughes's pay to \$16.50 per hour. If he were to leave, the pay would revert back to \$15.00 per hour for a new employee.

Roll Call: Trustee Werstein **YES**, Trustee Turner **YES**, Supervisor Taepke **YES**, Treasurer Beauchamp **YES**, Clerk Sharp **YES**.

Motion Carried

5. Pinkowski Bill:

-Township Attorney and the Township Insurance Company Attorneys advised against paying the bill.

Motion made Clerk Sharp, seconded Treasurer Beauchamp to not pay the \$2,000 Pinkowski Bill

Roll Call: Trustee Werstein **ABSTAIN**, Trustee Turner **NO**, Supervisor Taepke **YES**, Treasurer Beauchamp **YES**, Clerk Sharp **YES**.

Motion Carried

New Business:

1. Fill Ordinance:

-Planning Commission wants direction on how much fill can be brought in and how it can be tracked and who will track it. The ZA to track it in BS&A. It should be on a graded scale as long it does not interfere with your neighbor's property. Board suggestions discussed will be given to the Planning Commission

2. Farm Contract:

-Supervisor Taepke is in the middle of a 3-year contract on leasing the farmland at the Township Hall. Contract ends December 31, 2022.

2nd Citizens time:

-Joanne Darling asked who attends the LMR (London, Maybee Raisinville Township Fire Dept.) meetings. Supervisor Taepke stated he attends LMR and the Milan Fire Dept. meetings.

-Mike Pinkowski asked when Supervisor Taepke was running for Supervisor if municipal water was on his agenda, Supervisor Taepke stated it was mentioned.

Board of Trustee Comments:

-Trustee Turner wanted to check the status of The Returned Check and Cemetery Resolution. Treasurer Beauchamp will check.

- Trustee Turner also asked about the Furnace Bids. Clerk Sharp will check on previous quotes received.

- Trustee Tuner asked status of the camera installation. Clerk Sharp will check on this.

- Trustee Turner wondered if Township Attorney Kerry Bondy is doing work on the Owen's legal case when it should be the Insurance Company Attorneys that will be representing the Township. Clerk Sharp will be checking this.

-Supervisor Taepke wanted to wish Trustee Turner Good Luck in the Primaries she wished him the same.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to adjourn at: 10:26 PM

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted by,
Anita R. McCranie
Deputy Clerk