

**London Township**  
Board Minutes  
June 8, 2020

Call to order by Supervisor Taepke: 7:44 pm.  
Recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**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:**

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to accept the agenda as amended with the addition of:

New Business:

#5 Little Sandy Creek

*Closing of the books*

All in favor: **AYE.**

**Motion Carried**

**First Citizens Time:**

-Resident Mike Pinkowski thanked John Zola for stoning Allison Rd. Mr. Pinkowski inquired if the clerk and Treasurer have reconciled. He also inquired if there is a state statute governing whether Deputies of the Township can assist each other with tasks outside their normal job description. Supervisor Taepke stated that it is up to the Supervisor, Treasurer, and Clerk to decide what tasks their Deputies are authorized to complete. Mr. Pinkowski, asked Supervisor Taepke, if corrected draft minutes were given to a resident to post to on Facebook prior to the board meeting. Supervisor Taepke stated Draft Minutes are public record.

-Resident Ed ~~Girard~~ Giraud Jr, questioned why the fee is \$500 for each 10th of an acre for ponds. Mr. ~~Girard~~ stated the state guideline is \$200 for each 10th of an acre. He would like the Board to reconsider the current \$500 per 10th of an acre. He feels it is harassment. Mr. ~~Girard~~-Giraud would like the Board to put the field in the back of the Township Hall out for rental bids so it can be farmed by others.

-Emily Habicht wanted to thank the Zoning Administrator Ronald Youngblood for what a great job he is doing and helping so many residents.

-Jessica Nichols and her neighbors have been having issues dating back to 2017. Her neighbor runs an Adult Residential Group Home and there is loud noise at all hours of the day. They have well documented the events. There have been 5 documented incidents since the 1st of the June. She would like to know when the Noise Ordinance will be reviewed by the Township Attorney Kerry Bondy who has had it since January and February. ZA Ronald Youngblood will call the Attorney.

-Question regarding the Dragway being sold, the Board is not aware if it had. Additional inquiry Dragway hours. They are operating later hours than they ever have before. Saturday it was active after 2AM.

-A question was raised if CES (Code Enforcement Service) will reimburse the Township when the Building Department was closed during the Covid-19 outbreak. Supervisor Taepke received a letter from CES, but forgot to put it in the packets, he will send it to the Board for review.

**Approval of *May 11, 2020 Minutes:***

Additions to be made to the May 11, 2020 Minutes.

-Budget Workshop Minutes *March 4, 2020 and March 28, 2020*

-Closing of the Books. *March 30, 2020*

New Business:

-#2 Building Department

-#1 Mowing of Township Hall, it should state surfaces not services

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Clerk Sharp to accept the May 11, 2020 Minutes amended.

All in favor: **AYE.**

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisors Report:**

None

**Treasurers Report:**

-Summer Tax Bills will be sent out July 1, 2020

- Assessor will roll over the tax roll the Treasurer

- There are 3 residents that Monroe County has asked the Treasurer to collect delinquent personal property taxes.
- Address changes need to be sent to the Assessor; the form is on the website londontwp.org

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

All in favor: AYE.

**Motion Carried**

**Clerks Report:**

- Permanent Absentee Ballot Applications have been sent out. The AV Applications sent from the Clerks Department will have highlighted areas to be filled out.
- Contact the Clerk if you would like to work the elections. Clerks Department hours are Monday's and Thursday's 9-3

Motion made by Treasurer Beauchamp, seconded by Trustee Turner to accept the Clerks Report.

All in favor: AYE.

**Motion Carried**

**Building Department Report:**

- There was a total of 13 permits issued in the month of May. Permits issued totaled \$1,744.
- Included in the report from the building department was the ISO Building Code Effectiveness and Grading schedule. Supervisor Taepke stated if anyone would like to see it, it is available for residents to look at. There have been major improvements since 2015 as stated in the review.

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

All in favor: AYE.

**Motion Carried**

**Zoning Administrator Report:**

- All Ponds, excavations, and reclamation have been Inspected. No violations found

- SLU Darling Rd.in compliance.
- Illegal land use buffer Darling Rd is under review with the Township Engineer
- Road Complaints on Allison Rd. and Oelke Rd. reported to the Monroe County Road Commission (MCRC), they were sending crews out
- Noise Complaint Allison Rd. Noise Ordinance is being reviewed by Township Attorney Bondy.
- Illegal Occupants Tuttlehill Rd. were served an eviction notice. Due to Covid-19 the State of Michigan has ordered a halt to evictions till June 11, 2020.
- 20 more Blight letters sent out.
- Letter read from Dave Kubiske, at David Arthur Consultants Inc., currently they charge \$400 for inspections. Many have had to have more than one inspection due to site plan changes. They would like to charge \$500 per inspection, charged to the Landowner/Developer, that would go into an escrow account

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to accept Zoning Administrators Report.

All in favor: **AYE.**

**Motion Carried**

**Planning Commission Report:**

- Allison Operation, 90% has been reclaimed; second driveway and culvert will be removed; and property owner will go back to original site plan. Deadline is August 31st or he will be red tagged.
- ~~Azalia Solar~~ Apex Solar presented to the Planning Commission information on installing Solar Panels between London and Milan Townships.
- AG Industries permit was approved. Open to an Advisory Board and would like to have field trips there.
- ~~Girard~~ Giraud Trucking will install a monitoring well near his extraction. Mr. Giraud Giraud has stated, in a letter (copy given to the board) if Cleola Hinton's point well goes dry in the next 20 years he will install a new point at his expense.
- It was stated by Trustee Turner that the Supervisor does get correspondence from the Engineers.

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Clerk Sharp 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 Trustee Turner to approve the disbursements from the, General Fund **Totaling \$45,633.45**

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

**Motion Carried**

**TOTAL MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS: \$45,633.45**

**Unfinished Business:**

**1. DTE light Poles:**

-Deputy Clerk Straub will make sure they will keep the back pole due to phone lines

-Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Trustee Turner to table till July to get a revised proposal and make sure the back-pole stays.

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

**Motion Carried**

**2. MCRC Ditch Mowing Contract:**

-All ditches to be mowed, throughout the Township, for a cost of \$19,000 per year

Motion made by Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to approve the contract from DK Outdoor Services to mow the ditches of approximately 46 miles of secondary roads in the Township; 8'(foot) pass on both sides of the road in the spring; a 20'(foot) pass on both sides of the road in the fall. At \$19,000 per year for 2 years contract through the Monroe County Road Commission.

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

**Motion Carried**

**3. ~~ES~~ CES Contract:**

- Trustee Turner had questions about the CES Contract. The original proposal and the contract different. Code ~~Enforcee~~-Enforcer in proposal would be hired at \$55.00 and it is not in the Final Contract. Trustee Turner was wondering why the contract was signed before board approval due to the discrepancies between the proposal and the contract. Additionally, she is wondering if CES was going to charge for the time of the shutdown. She asked why they are charging for a Code Enforcer when the Township ZA, Ron Youngblood, is able to perform as Code Enforcer.
- She also was wondering about the LIFE contract being signed without it being seen before the Board.

Motion made by Trustee Turner, seconded by Clerk Sharp to eliminate Code Enforcement Services *and Blight* from CES ~~Contract~~ to have ZA Ron Youngblood perform Code Enforcement and Blight.

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

**Motion Carried**

**4. Bogard Invoices.**

- Trustee Turner stated that former Township Attorney David Bogard charged the Township in July 2019 for filling out paperwork for a Restraining Order. All Township Board stated they knew nothing about this Restraining Order. Trustee Turner believes if Mr. Bogard took it upon himself to file the order, the Township should not have to pay for this charge. As there is an outstanding balance to Mr. Bogard, she would like to deduct the 195.00 charged in July 2019.

Motion made by Trustee Turner, seconded by Clerk Sharp to deduct \$195.00 from his last invoice # 200120 of \$216.00 and to pay the balance of \$21.00.

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

**Motion Carried**

-Trustee Turner stated that she received an email from attorney Township Kerry Bondy. Email stated Supervisor Taepke was given a resolution in March, for discussion with the board, on how to move forward with legal actions/matters. Email to Trustee Turner was dated 10 March 2020.

### **5. Fill Ordinance:**

-Trustee Turner stated that the Planning Commission has worked hard on the Fill and Extraction ordinances and it was presented to the Board in March. The Planning Commission did have a public hearing and the Ordinance is complete. Supervisor Taepke wanted to table, but Trustee Turner and Planning Commissioner Dan Cable agreed that the Planning Commission worked extremely hard and long on the Ordinance. Clerk Sharp is concerned about the amount of fill in one's property. The ordinance states residents can bring in 300 cubic yards which is equivalent to 6 gravel trains. She is concerned about small parcels. Planning Commissioner Doug Darling texted that it would be equivalent to 6 inches on a ¼ acre parcel. How will it be enforced due to how many times can they do this? How can it be tracked if no permit is needed?

Motion made by Trustee Turner, to approve the Filling *Ordinance* Operations 5.608 and the Extractive Ordinance 5.604

**No Support**

**Motion Fails**

Motion made by Trustee Turner, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to approve the Extractive *Operations* Ordinance 5.604

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

**Motion Carried**

Motion made by Trustee Turner, seconded by Supervisor Taepke to approve the ~~Operations~~ Filling Ordinance 5.608

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

**Motion Failed**

## **New Business:**

### **1. Camera Resolution:**

-Clerk Sharp had applied for a grant to the Michigan Participation Plan to pay up to half of the price of security cameras. However, they need a Resolution on record.

Motion made Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to adopt Resolution **#2020-1 Resolution to Approve Submitting a Grant Application to the Michigan Township Participating Plan Risk Reduction Grant Program.**

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

**Motion Carried**

### **2. Assessors Report:**

- Waiting for Governor orders on how to address the July Board of Review, due to Covid-19
- Has been working remotely has made me more productive
- Email/Voicemail: I can access emails remotely, however I cannot check voicemail, so I have been coming in weekly. To respond to those
- Field Inspections: At owner's request and upon inspection correctly inaccurate square footage. Update on construction progress on several homes.
- Searching for an Assistant to help with reappraisal of parcels. As Assistant Assessor in 2019I visited and updated about 1/2 of the parcels and I have a plan to finish the rest of the parcels this summer
- Turning tax roll to the Treasurer for summer taxes.
- Downloading and processing 2020 Q1 deeds from the county and entering.
- Ongoing Activities:
  - Processing Property Transfers and PRE applications
  - Checking / responding to voicemail and email:
  - Processing land split applications
  - Reviewing and fixing problems related to customer requests, i.e.: addresses, name changes,
  - property data etc. adding updated labels, missing information



**3. Bids for Farming behind Township Hall:**

Trustee Turner is wondering why Supervisor Taepke's contract to farm the land at the Township Hall is not at the Township Hall and why it seems to be a self-renewing contract. Supervisor Taepke will send the Board copies of his contract. He states it renews every 3 years unless the Board changes that,

**4. Mileage Rate 2020:**

- Federal Rate is now 57.5 cents per mile.
- Supervisor Taepke stated we will go with the Federal Guidelines

**5. Little Sandy Creek:**

-MCRC would like a Resolution to clean the London Township portion of Little Sandy Creek, if it were to exceed \$5,000 per mile as of right now the Township cost is \$5,725.85. Total cost of the project is \$497,900.

Motion made by Treasurer Beauchamp, seconded by Supervisor Taepke to adopt **Resolution #2020-2** for the London Township portion of cleaning of Little Sandy Creek Drain.

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

**Motion Carried**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Citizens time:**

-Ed Girard Giraud Jr. requested again to open up rental bids on the field to farm behind the Township Hall. He would also like the bond fee for the ponds be put on the agenda next board meeting.

-Mr. Pinkowski thanked those running again and wanted a motion on a bill he has turned in to the Township. Trustee Turner will investigate it for the July meeting.

-Ed Girard Giraud Sr. would like to see when the rental payment, for farming the field in back of the hall from Supervisor Taepke, was deposited.

-Stumps still on Tuttlehill Rd. Deputy Clerk Straub has been in contact with the MCRC since September 2019. She will call again.

-Resident questioned again why we are paying the Building Inspectors when the office was closed due to COVID-19. Suggested hiring an individual and not a company.

-Planning Commissioner Dan Cable asked the Board to re-read the Filling Ordinance and their questions would be answered.

**Board of Trustee Comments:**

-Trustee Beauchamp did not report the account balances and was not able to get those numbers, she reconciled on April 30, 2020 with a balance in the General Fund of approximately \$39,000. She did move the following from the following fund from Tax \$89,201.19, Fire \$212,956.78, Roads \$105,333.44.

-Trustee Turner read a tribute to the late George Floyd and those present thanked the office officer in attendance.

-Trustee Turner wondered on an update on the furnace bids. It was talked about in February also getting quotes for a new roof.

-Maintenance Man Greg Hughes mention there is asbestos in the room.

**Adjournment:**

Motion made by; Supervisor Taepke, seconded by Treasurer Beauchamp to adjourn at: **10:15pm**.

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

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Anita R. Straub  
Deputy Clerk