

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MONITOR
REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 25, 2021

The Supervisor called the *virtual* meeting to order per the MDHHS COVID 19 Emergency order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch, Walsh

Members absent: None

Each board member stated they were attending from Bay City, Michigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Public Input opened at 7:03 p.m. B. Deneut, 4759 Spitler Dr., commented on having a skating rink at the township park. G. Brandt replied that years ago the township did create a skating rink and it was not used. V Begick, County Commissioner, commented on the shots being a hot topic, with 6,000 of the age 65 and over group signed up for them. Road commission received the 10th person to the list of appointees and will vote to narrow it down. J. Luenberger, 3368 Fraser Rd., questioned having a township police department. Public input was closed at 7:21.

Motion by Arnold supported by Walsh to adopt the agenda with the addition of:

- Acknowledgement of receiving the Smith & Brooker Dec. bill by email 1/25/2021
- Addition to bills list - emailed to board members dated 1/25/2021
- ISD agreement for holding elections
- R-2021-01 Poverty Exemption

Roll call vote:

Yes Pike, Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Brandt supported by McCulloch to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2020 regular meeting with correction.

Roll call vote:

Yes Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Walsh supported by Arnold to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 163,995.50 from General Fund.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Brandt, McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Ferguson supported by Pike to receive the Monthly Account Balance Report and Rev & Exp. Report for December 2020.

Roll call vote:

Yes: McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold, Brandt
No: None
Motion carried.

Unfinished business on the DWS Annual REU Recommendation
Motion by Brandt supported by Walsh to table this until next meeting.
Roll call vote:
Yes: Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch
No: None
Motion carried.

Motion by Arnold supported by Brandt to have the Supervisor get the information on the Resolution for water before raising rates.
Roll call vote:
Yes: Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch
No: None
Motion carried.

Motion by Walsh supported by McCulloch to allow Versiti use of the hall on Feb. 16th, April 22nd and 24th for hosting blood drives.
Roll call vote:
Yes: Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, McCulloch, Walsh
No: Arnold, Brandt
Motion carried.

Motion by Ferguson supported by Walsh to appoint Beth Fletcher-Patterson as Deputy Supervisor.
Roll call vote:
Yes: Ferguson, Pike, McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer
No: Arnold, Brandt
Motion carried.

Motion by Walsh supported by Pike to make the General Fund budget adjustments for 2020 as prepared in the board packet.
Roll call vote:
Yes: Pike, Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson
No: None
Motion carried.

Motion by Ferguson supported by McCulloch to accept the R-2021-001 Poverty Exemption Resolution.

MONITOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION 2021-001

WHEREAS, this Resolution that was introduced at the Township Board meeting of Charter Township of Monitor on 25th day of January, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of Michigan has determined that poverty or hardship exemptions of property owners occupying their principal resident who have fixed income may continue through 2021 and upon appropriate Resolution into 2022 and 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Governor for the State of Michigan has approved this statute being Act 253 of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the approval of the Governor having been filed with the Secretary of State and the Act became effective December 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, it is necessary for the Township Board of the Charter Township of Monitor to approve by Resolution if it desires to allow the continuation of these hardship or poverty exemptions which were granted in 2019 and/or 2020; and

WHEREAS, Act 253 of 2020 allows the Board of Review to, upon determination that the property owner occupying their principal residence, be relieved from contributing towards the public charges in whole or in part; and

WHEREAS, subsection 6 of the above referenced statute indicates that pursuant to appropriate resolution the Township Board may continue exemption from property taxes which were granted in 2019 or 2020 through the tax years of 2021, 2022 and 2023 without the need of review by the Board of Review; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Charter Township of Monitor shall continue all hardship and/or poverty tax exemptions in 2021, 2022 and 2023 which were established in 2019 and/or 2020 if the appropriate affidavit as approved by the State Tax Commission is filed. Further, for any future hardship and/or poverty tax exemptions granted by the Board of Review, it may be granted for the full three (3) year period of time, including the year granted and two (2) successive years if the appropriate affidavit is filed by the property owner.
2. The Township Assessor may make the recommendation that the conditions have remained unchanged that originally permitted the exemption to occur and the exemption may continue for the additional two (2) years. In the event that there are changes and the Assessor determines those changes have made the property ineligible for exemption as granted by the Board of Review, the Assessor may notify the property owner and the Board of Review and the property owner may reapply to the Board of Review for the statutory exemptions of 100%, 50% or 25%. The Board of Review is permitted to grant those exemptions only and any different exemption would require the approval of the State Tax Commissioner.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Pike supported by Brandt to approve the Lease Agreement with the Bay Area Arenac ISD for purposes of Elections.

LEASE FOR PURPOSES OF ELECTION

NOW COME, the parties hereto, the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MONITOR, 2483 E. Midland Rd., Bay City, Michigan 48706 and the BAY ARENAC INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT, (hereinafter "Bay Arenac ISD") 4228 Two Mile Rd., Bay City, Michigan 48706, and hereby agree as follows:

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the citizens of the Charter Township of Monitor to have polling places within their community where they can exercise their right to vote; and

WHEREAS, their current polling locations have become unavailable for reasons not associated with the Charter Township of Monitor; and
WHEREAS, the Bay Arenac Intermediate School District (ISD) has indicated a willingness to perform this public service, in a public building known as the Conference Center located at 2939 Bay Arenac Drive, Bay City, Michigan 48706.
THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed by and between the parties hereinabove, that for the rental consideration of \$1.00 per year, paid by the Charter Township of Monitor to the Bay Arenac ISD, the ISD will make sufficient room available within the Conference Center located at 2939 Bay Arenac Drive, Bay City, Michigan 48706, for purposes of conducting elections for the May, August, and November elections. The actual dates will be supplied on an annual basis to the Bay Arenac ISD by the Charter Township of Monitor and/or the Bay County Clerk. Further, the Bay Arenac ISD agrees to grant access to and make available to the polling location the day before election and the day after election for set up and removal as appropriate.
IT IS FURTHER HEREBY AGREED, that the Charter Township of Monitor shall be responsible for all set up, clean up and removal of equipment necessary to conduct said election.

This Agreement shall continue year-to-year unless terminated by either party. The termination shall be effective on delivery of written notification to the other party, at the addresses listed above, prior to October 1, in the year preceding the effective date of termination.

Otherwise, if the termination notice is not received until after October 1, the agreement is renewed for a succeeding year at which point the termination take effect.

Yes: Brandt, McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold

No: None

Motion by Pike supported by Brandt to accept the resignation of K. Killey – on-call firefighter.

Roll call vote:

Yes: McCulloch, Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold, Brandt,

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Pike supported by McCulloch to accept the promotion of S. Erikson from probationary to on-call firefighter.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Walsh, Spencer, Ferguson, Pike, Arnold, Brandt, McCulloch

No: None

Motion carried

REPORTS

Deputy Reports were received for December 2020.

Building Department reports were received for December 2020.

The Planning Commission report was given by B. Walsh.

The Supervisor reported the Township office reopened on January 19th, 2021 with protocol in place and required training attended. He reported on the current Bay County Road patrol contract and the desire to explore other options since one of the officers will be retiring this year. The Fire Chief responded to questions about his report to the board.

D. Scherzer – from Spicer, reported that they will reapply for the Steih Park grant which is due by April 1st. A Public hearing will be set for the next board meeting and a resolution - like last years will need to be approved. The current donations are still available for this project. The

Monitor Sanitary Sewer is taking bids on April 9th at Spicer's office. The Industrial Park project meets with the Planning Commission next meeting and the Township Board on the 22nd. He reported as the owners' representative that Fire Department building project is on schedule and on budget too.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Linda K. Ferguson, Clerk

Terry Spencer, Supervisor