

Mason Township Board Meeting
Regular Meeting
October 8, 2019

Supervisor Brandt called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and the pledge of allegiance was given.

Roll Call: Treasurer Chew, Trustees Allen and Arnold, Supervisor Brandt, and Clerk Dull. All present.

Public Comments: Sheriff Behnke reviewed the information Trustee Arnold asked him to provide the township board. Trustee Arnold is part of a SEPSA study committee looking into a deputy sheriff in Mason and Porter Twp. 40 hours per week. Sheriff Behnke provided the board with a yearly budget amount and data sheets for citizen calls, dispatched calls by the nature of the calls. This is only the beginning of the ongoing study. Sheriff Behnke said Meth is still the number one problem in Cass County with opioids second. Every officer carries Narcan in their cars. Watch out for deer, the sheriff dept. is getting 10-12 accidents a week. Slowing down will give you and the deer time to react. The Governor has vetoed funding for the 2nd road patrol, training for new deputies has been reduced at the state level.

Approve Agenda: Trustee Allen made the motion to amend the agenda to add to New Business, item 2. Signs for cross streets to US 12. Trustee Arnold made the motion to approve tonight's amended agenda, seconded by Trustee Allen. Motion carried.

Approval of consent agenda: Trustee Allen made the motion, seconded by Trustee Arnold, to approve the consent agenda of last month's minutes, financial obligations for Sept. 10 – Oct. 8 of \$10,607.35 and the Treasurer's report. Roll call vote – Chew-yes, Arnold-yes, Allen-yes, Dull-yes, and Brandt-yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Commissioners Marchetti and Dyes: reported the Administration offices at the county are moving upstairs and the MSU extension is taking in their old offices. There is a workshop at SMC on Sept. 27th. The old courthouse is being cleaned and cleared. The CCRC will be setting up a date to review the county ordinance on ORV.

Zoning Administrator Krempec did not have any report.

Planning Commission Chairperson Cloud reported the commissioners met with Rebecca Harvey, master plan reviewer, the master plan is in progress. There was a public hearing for rezoning which she will present to the board later.

SEPSA report – Mason Twp. had 32 runs for September.

Building Dept. – 9 electrical, 3 mechanical, 4 plumbing and 5 building permits were issued in September.

Ongoing Business:

1. Trustee Allen made the motion to accept the resignation of retiring Building Inspector/building official Randy Schmeling. Seconded by Trustee Arnold. Motion carried.
2. Trustee Allen made the motion to hire Building Inspector Joe Wickey, seconded by Trustee Arnold. Roll call vote – Allen-yes, Arnold-yes, Chew-yes, Dull-yes, and Brandt-yes. Motion carried.
3. Clerk Dull talked to CCRC engineer Joe Bellina about speed limit signs on Christiana Lake Rd., and Channel Pkwy and No. Channel Pkwy. He has not returned the call.

New Business:

1. Deb Cloud, chairperson for the Planning Commission presented the township board with the recommendation to rezone parcel 14-060-017-320-40, 20658 Old US 205, Edwardsburg, 49112. The township board asked for public comments. The residents were concerned with outside lighting, fencing, will the zoning be changed forever, what happens when this business leaves. The board and the new owners answered the concerns and questions.
Clerk Dull made the motion to accept the Planning Commission recommendation to rezoning from Agricultural to Commercial. Roll call vote – Arnold-yes, Allen-yes, Chew-yes, Dull-yes, and Brandt-yes. Motion carried.
2. Trustee Allen led the discuss on needing rumble strips or solar stop signs for roads crossing US 12. There have been too many accidents where cars did not stop at the stop signs, whether they do not see them or are disregarding them. MDOT will need to be contacted because they are in charge of the cross roads to US12.
3. Trick or Treat hours are 5:30pm to 7pm on October 31.

No correspondence.

Dates: Planning Commission: Oct. 15, 6:30pm,
Special election for Constantine and White Pigeon School, Nov. 5, 7am-8pm.
Township Board Meeting – Nov. 12, 7pm

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Arnold, seconded by Trustee Allen at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Dull
Township Clerk