



THOMAS TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
8215 Shields Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609
March 6, 2017
7:00 o'clock p.m.

1. The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Weise.

2. PRESENT: Weise, Weber, Sommers, Thayer, Brosowski and Radewahn.

ABSENT: Ryder-Petre

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief, Mike Cousins; Director of Community Development, Dan Sika; Township; Parks and Recreation Director, John Corriveau; Assessor, Will Gast; Deputy Clerk, Betsy Wietfeldt; DPW Director, Rick Hopper; Police Chief, Steve Kocsis; Township Attorney, Mark Mahlberg and 6 interested parties.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Motion was made by Brosowski, seconded by Thayer to approve the agenda as presented.

AGENDA
THOMAS TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
8215 Shields Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609
March 6, 2017
7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of the Board Minutes February 6, 2017 and February 13, 2017
 - B. Approval of the Expenditures.
 - C. Approve the Police Policy Changes.
 - D. Approve the Fire Department Policy Changes.
6. Communications-Petitions-Citizen Comments

It is requested that you state your name and address for the record.
7. Public Hearing
 - A. Receive comments pertaining to the proposed 2017/2018 fiscal year budget.
8. Unfinished Business
 - A. None.
9. New Business
 - A. Approve Resolution 17-03, the annual Appropriations Resolution for the 2017/18 Fiscal Year.
 - B. Approve the budget amendments for the 2016/2017 fiscal year.
 - C. Approve Resolution 17-04 in support of a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant for the acquisition of 6660 Gratiot Road, to develop a Nature Center and to appropriate the matching fund of \$124,025.00.
 - D. Approve Resolution 17-05 in support of a grant submission to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant for walking trails beginning at Shields Drive and

running north along the Consumers Energy right of way to a point on North Miller Road, just south of Geddes and to appropriate the matching fund of \$216,302.00.

- E. Approve the creation of a Fire Code Board of Appeals.
- F. Approve the Supervisors appointment of Richard Keith, Allan Vroman and Robert Puddy to the Fire Code Board of Appeals.
- G. Approve the tentative four year Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM) contract 04/01/2017-03/31/2021.
- H. Approve Resolution 17-06 in support of a Safe Routes to School project.

10. Reports

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. Supervisor | D. Manager | H. Fire Dept. |
| B. Clerk | E. Community Development | I. Police Dept. |
| C. Treasurer | F. DPW | J. Parks & Recreation |
| | G. Finance | K. Board Members |

11. Executive Session

- A. None

12. Adjournment

5. It was moved by Sommers, seconded by Radewahn to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approval of Township Board Minutes from the regular meeting February 6, 2017 and Special Meeting, Budget Workshop, February 13, 2017.

B. Expenditures consisting of;

Clearing Fund	2,865.00
General Fund	\$ 30,827.72
Public Safety-Fire Department	11,649.02
Fire Apparatus	433.78
Public Safety-Police Department	17,095.33
Public Safety-Drug Law Enforcement	0.00
Downtown Development Authority	378.41
Parks	8,512.28
Parks Capital Improvement Fund	0.00
Road Revolving Fund	0.00
HSC Grant Administration	0.00
Sewer Fund	161,893.90
Water Fund	232,046.24
Municipal Refuse	41,375.98
Tax	4,402,949.16

6. Communications-Petitions-Citizen Comments:

- A. None.

7. Public Hearing

- A. Receive and acknowledge comments pertaining to the amendment to the readiness to serve charge for Hemlock Semiconductor Group for the next five years. The public hearing was opened at 7:02 p.m. and closed at 7:03 p.m. with no public comment.

8. Unfinished Business:

- A. None

9. New Business:

- A. It was moved by Thayer, seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 17-03, the annual appropriations Resolution for the 2017/18 fiscal year.

Ayes: Weise, Brosowski, Weber, Radewahn, Thayer, Sommers

Nays: None

Absent: Ryder-Petre

- B. It was moved by Weber seconded by Radewahn to approve the budget amendments for the 2016/2017 fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. It was moved by Radewahn, seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 17-04 in support of a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant for the acquisition of 6660 Gratiot Road, to develop a Nature Center and to appropriate the matching fund of \$124,025.00.
Ayes: Weise, Brosowski, Weber, Radewahn, Thayer, Sommers
Nays: None
Absent: Ryder-Petre
- D. It was moved by Brosowski seconded by Thayer to approve Resolution 17-05 in support of a grand submission to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant for walking trails beginning at Shields Drive and running north along the Consumers Energy right of way to a point on North Miller Road, just south of Geddes and to appropriate the matching fund of \$217,300.00
Ayes: Weise, Brosowski, Weber, Radewahn, Thayer, Sommers
Nays: None
Absent: Ryder-Petre
- E. It was moved by Thayer seconded by Weber to approve the creation of a Fire Code Board of Appeals. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. It was moved by Sommers seconded by Brosowski to approve the Supervisors recommendation for the appointment of Rick Keith, Allan Vroman and Robert Puddy to the Fire Code Board of Appeals for a term that expires 12/31/2020. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. It was moved by Thayer seconded by Ryder-Petre to approve Resolution 17-06 in support of a Safe Routes to School project. Motion carried unanimously.
- 10. Report of Officers and Staff:
 - A. Supervisor's Report – none.
 - B. Clerk's Report – none.
 - C. Treasurer's Report –none.
 - D. Manager's Report – none.
 - E. Receive and file Community Development Reports.
 - F. Receive and file the DPW Reports.
 - G. Receive and file Finance Departments Reports.
 - H. Receive and file Fire Departments Report.
 - I. Receive and file Police Departments Reports.
 - J. Receive and file Parks and Recreations Reports.
 - K. Board Member Reports – None
- 11. Executive Session:
 - A. None
- 12. It was moved by Brosowski, seconded by Thayer adjourn the meeting at 7:16p.m. Carried unanimously.

Edward Brosowski, Clerk

Dated

Additionally, after the meeting was adjourned, Consumers Energy showed up to speak about the installation of their smart meters. There were also five additional people in the audience who asked Consumers Energy questions.

Consumers Energy Staff Present; Kelley Peatross, Community Affairs Area Manager; Kathryn Burkholder, Community Affairs Area Manager.

Ms. Burkholder presented some information concerning the smart meters;

1. The meter sends a signal 1x a day in the middle of the night to consumers.
2. The meter will let Consumers know how much energy you use on a daily basis, however it will not tell HOW you used that energy.
3. The meters will help Consumers with outage management, the water and/or gas meter will notify Consumers when the power is out at your house and/or in your neighborhood. This information will help get repair orders started faster.
4. Opt out fees will be charged to have the smart meters replaced with the old analog meters. A one-time \$69.39 fee to replace the smart meter, and an additional monthly fee of \$9.72 for analog metering services, cost to have someone physically read your meter and the cost to maintain old software.

Sommers asked about the usage component, and if Consumers knows how you use your electricity. Kathryn explained that Consumers will know how much electricity you use, but not HOW you use your energy.

Radewahn questioned the reports of these meters causing fires, and Kathryn disputed that report, stating after the investigations were over, it was found that the meters were not to blame.

Audience member asked if the gas and electric meter are both on the same meter, and they are on separate meters, however, only one transmission of information is made for both meters.

Bill Petzgold stated he was informed that since the wiring is not shielded it almost creates a field of radiation, and causes health problems. Kathryn says this is not true.

Audience member stated that he has an electro-stimulator inserted in his back due to numerous back surgeries, and he states that when he is in his kitchen (which is close to his new smart meter) his whole body vibrates, but when he walks out of his kitchen, he is fine. Kathryn stated that the meter is not causing his issue, that the low level radio frequency that is used to send the information to Consumers only works between the hours of midnight and 3am.

Dave on Summerfeldt stated that he is a 26 year Thomas Township resident who claims he knew from reports that Consumers was going to be switching out the meters, however, he was not personally notified when they came to his house. After the meter was changed out, his TV kept cutting out and turning on and off. He also claims that the meters have burned into people's eaves; people are getting hives from them; that the radiation from them is the same as getting an xray with no protection; another person on Facebook claims that he's always spent \$30 feeding wild birds, but since the smart meters have been put in, no birds are coming anymore.

Radewahn asked if the meters can be turned on and off remotely, and Consumers stated that yes they can be.