

**Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 Minutes**

NOTICE:

To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, protect the public health, and provide essential protections to Sumpter Township residents; this Board of Trustees' meeting was conducted virtually in compliance with State of Michigan Governor's Executive Order(s) and MDHHS directive(s) regarding remote public meetings.

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Bowman at 6:27 pm. Roll call: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark, Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Also showing present: Deputy Clerk Burdick, Deputy Treasurer Clark, Finance Director Cole, Public Safety Director/ Chief of Police Luke, Fire Chief Januszyk and 20 attendees.

3. Agenda: Motion by LaPorte supported by Oddy to approve the agenda as amended;

TABLE: 13. Unfinished Business, A. Tabled until February 23, 2021.

ADD: 14. New Business, Item F.

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only: No comments were received.

5. Minutes:

Motion by Oddy, supported by Hurst to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2021 as amended;

ADD: To 11. Board Response, 2nd Motion;

"and Mr. Bednark agrees to accept in full satisfaction of all claims through December 15th, 2020."

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve the Special Board Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2021. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants:

Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve warrants totaling: \$1,109,402.25.

Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7. Supervisor's Report - Bowman:

- The Township Hall will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observation of Presidents' Day.
- I am appointing myself, Timothy P. Bowman as liaison to the Building Department / Ordinance.
- I am appointing Trustee Rush as liaison to Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation.
- I recognize Clerk Hurst as liaison to Sumpter Senior Center
- I recognize Trustee LaPorte as liaison to Sumpter Township Fire Department.
- I recognize Trustee Oddy as Liaison, member and ex-officio of Sumpter Township Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Please remember that the last day to pay taxes at the Township is Monday, March 1st, 2021. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the Supervisor's report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

8. Attorney's Report - Young:

Twp Lawsuits & Adversarial Proceeding 3%, Insurance matters 2%, Township Board meetings 9%, Meeting with Twp Officials 11%, Water & Sewer 8%, Police, Fire & Prosecutions 25%, Ordinance & Blight 5%, Labor Contract/LOU 6%, Republic 2%, Planning 6%, Library 1%, Parks & Recreation 2%, Storm Water Management & MDEQ 2%, Board Direction 6%, Audit/Finance 7% and Misc. 4%.

- Attorney Young recognizes Judge Lisa Martin 34th District Court as an attendee on the virtual Board Meeting. Her Honor can attest to the challenges of conducting business within the court systems due to COVID restrictions.
- Attorney Young is working with the Water Department on a Grant application for infrastructure repair and upgrades. Hennessey Engineering is involved in this project, as well.
- Attorney Young is working with HR Bellingham and FD O'Connell on the Collective Bargaining Agreement to get discussions and activities restarted that were paused by the virus impacts. Closed Sessions can be expected with these activities.
- Attorney Young provided an update on the service & separation agreement currently in process with DS Bednark and his attorney.

Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve the Attorney's report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

9. Police Report - Chief Luke:

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to approve the Police report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

10. Building/Ordinance Report - Bowman:

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to approve the Building/Ordinance report as reported by Trustee Rush. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

*Note: Trustee Oddy requested the Finance Director to review the data, specifically outflow cost, to ensure accuracy in reporting.

11. Fire Report - Chief Januszyk:

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Morgan to approve the Fire report. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response:

- Trustee LaPorte recognized that all things are running well and smooth and he looks forward to the continuation of the recent level of communication by the Board Members.
- Trustee Morgan requested Board consideration for a new Category of Board and public interaction and exchange of ideas - Topics For Discussion. Board discussion determined the best placement for this would be during the Workshop prior to each Board Meeting. The Clerk's Office is tasked with developing an Agenda-like format to support this during the Workshop.

13. Unfinished Business:

- A. **TABLED until February 23, 2021** to consider approval of appointing Eric Partridge to the Planning Commission.

14. New Business:

- A. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to accept the resignation of probationary Police Officer Nickolas Toth, with an effective date of January 25, 2021. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
- B. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve of the Treasurer's Office requesting Cari Ford of Post, Smythe, Lutz & Ziel of Wayne, LLP to meet and assess the Treasurer's Office operations and recommend training. ~~A cost proposal for this service will be presented prior to the activities for Board of Trustees' approval. Cost not to exceed \$3,500.00.~~ Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
- C. Motion by Morgan, supported by Rush to approve of Resolution # 2021-01 regarding Township of Sumpter Poverty Exemptions. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
- D. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to approve of the annual contribution to the Belleville Area Museum of \$10,000.00. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
- E. Motion by Morgan, supported by LaPorte to approve to continue the discussion with Belleville District Library regarding the Media Center/Sumpter Twp Coffee Shop. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.
- ** F. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve Attorney Young's development of a Resolution to recognize an increase of (7) to (9) Members of the Sumpter Township Planning Commission and presenting to the Board of Trustees for approval. Roll call vote: Yes: Supervisor T. Bowman, Clerk E. Hurst, Treasurer J. Clark; Trustees: Oddy, Rush, LaPorte and Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. Announcements: None.

16. Open Floor: No one spoke.

17. Adjournment: Motion by Morgan, supported by Rush to adjourn at 7:14 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by,
Anthony Burdick, Deputy Clerk Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk Date

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor Date

*Amended during Regular Board Meeting

**Added during Regular Board Meeting