

Blendon Township
Board Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2020
(conducted via go-to-meeting)

1. **The meeting was called to order** at 7:00 pm by Treasurer, Greg Golembiewski
2. **Invocation** was given by Trustee, Paul Blauwkamp
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by attendees.
4. **Roll Call:** PRESENT: Greg Golembiewski
Paul Blauwkamp
Stan Taylor
ABSENT: Robin Overway, Clerk (with notice)
Kevin Peters, Supervisor (with notice)

ATTENDING: Kurt Gernaat, Fire Chief
5. ***Motion to approve the agenda*** was made by Paul Blauwkamp, support by Stan Taylor with the following amendments:
 - o Under new business delete:
 - b) South Blendon Vista Lighting Resolution

Motion Carried 3-0
6. ***Motion to approve the July 20, 2020 meeting minutes*** was made by Paul Blauwkamp, support by Stan Taylor.

Motion Carried 3-0
7. ***Motion to approve the invoices dated July 21, 2020 through August 17, 2020***, was made by Stan Taylor, support by Paul Blauwkamp.

Motion Carried 3-0
8. **Public Comment for items not on the agenda:**
 - o None
9. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - o As Submitted
10. **Clerk's Report:**
 - o As Submitted
11. **Supervisor's Report:**
 - o None Submitted
12. **Monthly Reports:**
 - a. Fire Department Activity Report
 - o As Submitted
 - b. Police Activity Report
 - o As Submitted

- c. Assessor Report
 - None Submitted
- d. Cemetery Sexton Report
 - None Submitted
- e. Building Permit Report
 - As Submitted
- f. Building and Grounds Report
 - None Submitted
- g. Preliminary Planning Commission Minutes
 - As Submitted
- h. ZBA Minutes
 - None Submitted
- i. Emergency Service Minutes
 - None Submitted

13. New Business:

a. Assessing Contract

- Blendon Township Assessor, Josh Morgan, explained the changes and reason behind the cost increase in the contract.
- ***Motion to approve the 3-year Assessing Contract with Ottawa County was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Stan Taylor***

Motion Carried 3-0

~~b. South Blendon Vista Lighting Resolution~~

- Removed from agenda

c. Landscape Contractor Establishment Ordinance Amendment

- Ordinance 2020-08.01
- Highlighted by Kurt Gernaat
- ***Motion to approve Ordinance 2020-08.01 was made by Paul Blauwkamp, support by Stan Taylor.***

Roll Call: Aye: Golembiewski, Taylor, Blauwkamp
 Nay:

Motion Carried 3-0

d. Junk and Waste Ordinance:

- Ordinance 2020-08.02
- Highlighted by Kurt Gernaat
- ***Motion to approve Ordinance 2020-08.02 was made by Stan Taylor, support by Paul Blauwkamp.***

Motion Carried 3-0

e. Township Capital Fund Assignment:

- Treasurer, Greg Golembiewski, presented
- Board to consider opening another account to set aside money for future capital fund projects.
- Due to current revenue accumulation in the general fund, Treasurer Golembiewski recommended transferring \$200k to open the new account
- Board decided to make a decision at the next meeting when the full Board is represented.

f. **Asphalt Estimates:**

- Project manager, Kurt Gernaat, updated the Board on the new estimates.
- Estimates were received for both 3" and 4" asphalt
- Gernaat recommended going with 4" asphalt from either Stallard & Sons or Tulip City.
- ***Motion to approve the estimate received from Tulip City, to install 4" asphalt at the Borculo Community Center, was made by Greg Golembiewski, support by Paul Blauwkamp.***

Motion Carried 3-0

g. **Cost of Living Increase:**

- Treasurer, Greg Golembiewski, presented
- Stated that Kurt Gernaat was not included in the staff cost of living increase that was approved at the July meeting and feels that Kurt should also receive the increase.
- Trustee, Stan Taylor, stated that he feels that it is a disservice to Kurt that he does not receive a performance review.
- ***Motion to approve a 2.9% cost of living wage increase for Kurt Gernaat was made by Paul Blauwkamp, support by Stan Taylor.***

Motion Carried 3-0

14. **Old Business:**

a. **Forestry Plan:**

- Brett Kuiper from Michigan Forestry was present to answer the Board's questions concerning the selective cutting of the forest at the cemetery.
 - Remove the Red Pine
 - White Pine are healthy and will just need some minimal, light thinning
 - A lot of hardwood currently present in the undergrowth
 - The cutting and thinning process will allow the hardwoods to grow quickly
 - Multiple chipping options available for clean-up
- Mr. Kuiper will send past job site addresses and pictures for the Board to visit the projects and see examples of different clean-up options to aide in the decision of what they would to see at the cemetery.
- ***Motion to table the discussion concerning the tree harvesting until the project site examples can be visited was made by Paul Blauwkamp, support by Stan Taylor.***

Motion Carried 3-0

15. **Public Comments for items that were on the agenda:**

○ **Kurt Gernaat:**

- Purchase of 5 iPads for use in virtual meetings
 - Picture clarity
 - Allows the public to see who is talking
 - Aide the ease and flow of the meeting
- Check to make sure the current wi-fi can handle the capacity of 8 iPad's video streaming at the same time

○ **Online Resident Comment:**

- Would like to continue with the availability of online meeting attendance going forward.

16. Correspondence for Informational Purposes

- None

17. Upcoming Events:

- a. Planning Commission Meeting – **September 1, 2020**
- b. Township Board Meeting – **September 21, 2020**

18. Adjournment:

- a. With no other business to be brought before the Board, a motion to adjourn at 8:24 pm was made by Stan Taylor, support by Paul Blauwkamp

Motion Carried 3-0

Recorded by Tina Vander Schuur
Submitted by Robin Overway, Township Clerk