

**Watertown Township Board Meeting  
January 8, 2020**

Worvie called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Thatcher, Pyles, Schlosser, Nelson and Worvie were present. Fire Chief Herington, Zoning Admin Sparks, Commissioner Jensen and twenty four (24) guests also attended.

Pyles read the December 11, 2019 meeting minutes. Worvie instructed that the minutes would stand approved as read.

**Poverty Exemption:** Pyles submitted the Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2020. Pyles made a motion to accept the Federal Poverty Guidelines used in the determination of Poverty Exemptions for 2020, and the asset test to be set at 50%. Worvie seconded the motion. Motion carried

**Commissioner Jensen:** Jensen wanted to touch base with us about the new animal control ordinance that the county was looking to pass. Both the clerk and the supervisor have been given their copies to overlook.

**Special Presentation:** The board recognized Noah Isler for his selfless acts over the holiday season.

**Ordinance Adoption:** Pyles read the changes to the existing ordinance book, the removal of 13,15,16,17, 17a,18,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,33,39; these ordinances were all still in the book even though they were repealed in 1970 or prior. #12 section 3 the phrase "or parent or guardian of any minor" was added. #14 & #45 were combined to make the rules the same for all township properties. #19 the fine was changed from \$5 set in 1967 to \$100.00 and the phrase "for ease of snow removal" was added. #20 fixed misspellings, and changed the term 20 rods to 320 feet and 10 rods to 160 feet. #22 was removed because it had been replaced with 22B. 22B was renamed 22, all misspellings were fixed, Michigan Laws updated, Changed all "Watertown Township Health Officer" to "Watertown Township". #32 all Michigan law numbers and public acts were updated. #34 and 34A were combined and under section 1 there was an addition about unmowed lawn and brush. #35 changed the title to Fire Dept. Services, added about contained fire size and burn permits per Chief Herington. #46 was never adopted so it was added to #34. Pyles then read Ordinance 48, Ordinance Enforcement Officer. Schlosser made a motion to accept the ordinance as read and add to the local ordinances. Nelson seconded the motion. Thatcher Aye; Pyles Aye; Worvie Aye; Schlosser Aye; Nelson Aye; Motion carried. Pyles read ordinance 49, Ordinance Enforcement Policy. Thatcher made a motion to accept the ordinance as read and add to the local ordinances. Schlosser seconded the motion. Thatcher Aye; Pyles Aye; Worvie Aye; Schlosser Aye; Nelson Aye; motion carried. Pyles made a motion that all changes and additions made per the ordinance workshop, be accepted and the new ordinance books be printed. Thatcher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Fire Report** Herington reported on 2 runs, 1 structure fire and 1 false alarm gas leak. Herington showed us the new pagers being used. The Department was given 13. They are \$500.00 for any additional. Herington submitted a bill for the new SCBA that had to be purchased for \$48652.00. This money was donated by a private citizen and he will recognize this citizen with a presentation, for the generous donation when the equipment comes in.

**Zoning Report:** Sparks reported on a new house being built on Cedar Lake

**Blight Report** Pyles reported on 1 new case, 2 violation written, 1 ticket issued, and 9 extensions given, and 2 cases come in compliance and closed. 42 cases were closed in 2019. Pyles then went over a house of a habitual offender and the house can no longer be lived in so she is working with attorneys on getting the house condemned.

**Library Report:** Pyles reported on Game Night that will take place on January 31<sup>st</sup> and that the fundraiser Buckwild is hosting is set for February 14th. Library had 88 patrons in the month of December.

**Treasurer's Report:** Schlosser presented the treasurer's report with the following balances on 12/31/2019:

General Fund	\$ 114,783.53
Library Account	769.79
Fire Dept. Reserve Fun	77,972.79
Trust & Agency	171.97
Tax Collections	\$ 222,454.90
<u>Certificates of Deposit</u>	
#60726	24,810.22
#63530	18,269.04
#63529	10,039.74
#63781	5,039.70
#63690	10,010.48
#63770	24,222.87

Pyles motioned to approve Treasurer's report as presented. Motion seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

**Trustee Nelson:** Reported that recycling went well in the month of December.

**Clerk's Report:** Pyles submitted the January vouchers as follows: General Fund \$14,136.84; Library Fund \$843.32 Fire Fund \$1,312.08. Pyles stated because of the early meeting there would still be a Consumers and Charter bill. Nelson motioned to approve the vouchers and have checks drawn on the same, and pay the other bills when they come in. Seconded by Thatcher. Motion carried. Pyles stated that DTE would come in on January 14<sup>th</sup> for a walk through about the new bulbs for the hall. Pyles submitted to the board the salary worksheet. Pyles brought up the Wind and Solar moratoriums. Worvie made a motion to extend the Moratoriums until April 30<sup>th</sup>. Pyles seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Boyd Vollweiler asked for clarification on the fire assessment issue brought up in December

Schlosser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nelson seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Malisa Pyles, Township Clerk

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Frank Worvie, Supervisor

Date

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Malisa Pyles, Clerk

Date