

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 16TH, 2019 7:00PM**

A meeting of the Columbia Township Board was called to order by L. Norton. Present were: S. Corke, K. Gruss, J. Huizenga, L. Norton, B. Sherrer. Absent: None. Roll call was taken. 8 Citizens were present.

TREASURERS REPORT:

General	\$295,306.09	Road Fund	\$829,344.11
Fire Fund	\$515,000.45	Ambulance Fund	\$1,794.31
Trust and Agency	\$2,839.20	Tax Fund	\$69,145.82
North Lake	\$11,804.92	House Fund	\$48,222.78
Police Fund	\$283,337.44	Saddle Lake Fund	\$44,796.17
General 2	\$19,766.33	Road 2	\$91,692.05

CONSENT AGENDA: Regular meeting minutes: 3-26-19. Special meeting minutes: 3-18-19; 4-6-19. Invoices thru 4-16-19 and treasurer's report and payroll thru 4-16-19. Motion by Huizenga and seconded by Corke to the approve consent agenda. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: settled out with county property tax collection.

CLERKS REPORT: Completed required election training; completed payroll, invoices, notices, synopsis, minutes, resolutions, filing, monthly and quarterly reports and filings. Attended many special township board meetings, worked on budget, worked on North Lake Special Assessment District.

GUEST SPEAKER: Pride care; and road commission.

SUPERVISOR: Addressing the blight complaints and road side trash issue with the township. Township will have a free dump day and jail crew will be in the area to help clean up road side trash. Road committee is working on a plan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Clean-up week April 22-29 2019, Free Dump Day April 27th, 2019 Saturday.

FIRE CHIEF: Call fire department if you will be burning large debris piles leave message of address of burn 269-434-6266. Clear area around where you are going to burn. Month of March there was 26 calls. Average response time was 0.00 minutes for the month within township. Remember to check the batteries on smoke detectors. Please have your address for your home in a clear and visible location in case the ambulance/fire department needs to find your home.

POLICE: 2 larceny; 1 B&E's; 14 general assists; 2 Health & Safety and 1 obstruction of justice; 3 assault; 4 medical assist.

COUNTY COMM: Hired Chad Catalino as Chief Public Defender for Van Buren/Allegan Counties; Upgrading equipment in patrol vehicles (4) \$12,000.00 each. Matthew Newton was appointed as Citizen Rep. for SWMPC Board for 1 year.

SENIOR SERVICES: Senior City in South Haven also offers a meal once a month. Lunch is offered monthly at the Church in Grand Junction contact the church for more information. Activities available at Senior City are: Tai Chi, Hand Chimes, Computer lessons, Pickle ball, Card games, Line Dancing, call 269-637-3607 for more information. Please spread the word about the help the Senior Services offers. Help a senior today for many are in need. Remember to check out the senior sentinel in your local paper.

PLANNING COMMISSION REP: PC had a public hearing with 2 items on agenda, Old Dune Farms for special land use and proposed text amendments ZBA Ordinance. Still reviewing sections of the Master Plan.

CEMETERY: Suggest a flag and pole with plaque for the cemetery.

BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Corke seconded by Sherrer to approve Special Land use permit for Old Dune Farms. Motion Carried.
2. Motion by Huizenga seconded by Sherrer to approve budget adjustment fire department phone expense line to purchase tablets. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Norton seconded by Corke to dissolve the fire department liaison position. Motion carried.
4. Motion by Corke seconded by Huizenga to approve maintenance for the compactor at the transfer station Sebright contract 1 year \$300.00. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Norton seconded by Sherrer to approve purchase of a document scanner \$575.00. Motion carried.
6. Motion by Norton seconded by Sherrer to approve purchase of new router for the township hall. \$842.00. Motion Carried.
7. Motion by Norton seconded by Huizenga to approve purchase of electronic tablets for the fire station \$500.00. Motion Carried.
8. Motion by Norton seconded by Corke to approve road seal coat estimates for 2019 \$97,200. Motion carried.
9. Motion by Norton seconded by Corke to approve de-berm & ditching estimates for 2019 \$ 12,000.00. Motion carried.
10. Motion by Gruss seconded by Huizenga that any FOIA appeal, OMA challenge, written objection, allegation or any other matter that even hints a possible law suit must be shared with township attorney immediately and with full board within 48 hours. Motion carried.
11. Motion by Norton seconded by Sherrer Foia appeals and e-mail foias to board in 48 hours. 4 yes 1 no Corke. motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: G. Gruss commented that Blight enforcement is not rocket science he performed the job for 3 townships and only had to write 2 citations. Communication with the offender is key; most are willing to clean up and cooperate. Beckwith commented that maybe the township could use the jail crew to help with road side clean up.

BOARD COMMENTS: Thank you Deputy Mahoney

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Huizenga seconded by Sherrer. Time: 8:00 p.m.

Linda Norton, Supervisor
Stacey Corke, Clerk