

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 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, and B. Sherrer. Absent: None. Roll call was taken. 24 Citizens were present.

TREASURERS REPORT:

General	\$266,089.47	Road Fund	\$797,082.94
Fire Fund	\$489,810.63	Ambulance Fund	\$1,808.17
Trust and Agency	\$2,846.28	Tax Fund	\$43,661.21
North Lake	\$6,465.12	House Fund	\$48,343.11
Police Fund	\$254,846.62	Saddle Lake Fund	\$16,351.38
General 2	\$19,815.65	Road 2	\$91,920.84

CONSENT AGENDA: Regular meeting minutes: 6-18-19. Special meeting minutes: 6-10-19. Invoices thru 7-16-19 and treasurer's report and payroll thru 7-16-19. Motion by Corke and seconded by Huizenga to the approve consent agenda. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Check register and balances are available on back table. Bodtke still intends on pavilion. Attended special meeting.

CLERKS REPORT: Business as usual.

GUEST SPEAKER: Pride care; Judge McKay. Mike Homier Foster Swift.

SUPERVISOR: The Township is looking for a new attorney. Rules for adult use of recreational marihuana.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

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 May there was 0 calls for fire structures in Columbia Township. There was 5 structures fires 2 were false alarms in Columbia. 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: 15 general assists; 1 Health & Safety and 3 obstruction of justice; 1 assault; 2 larceny; 1 stolen vehicle.

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: Discussion continued on farm markets. Members compromised not to allow ancillary activities for present time until master plan is updated. Reached an agreement on the GAAMP wording.

CEMETERY: There is now a flag and pole for the cemetery. It also now has solar light on it.

BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Corke seconded by Sherrer to approve consent agenda Motion carried.
2. Motion by Norton seconded by Sherrer to re-approve the ZBA text amendment 2019-01. Motion Carried.
3. Motion by Norton seconded by Sherrer to approve a special meeting 8-8-19 6:00 pm. Motion carried.
4. Motion by Norton seconded by Sherrer to not accept attorney Kaufman resignation letter and ask that Kaufman stay with the Township until July 31, 2019. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Norton seconded by Huizenga to put a sign on the township hall dumpster. Motion carried.
6. Motion by Corke seconded by Huizenga to approve new AED for the township deputy car if the county does not approve the purchase; not to exceed \$1161.00. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Corke commented that Supervisor Norton Violated the open meetings act by denying him public comment at a special meeting held on 6-10-19; he stated that Mr. Beckwith was allowed to comment but not him. Elrod commented that the planning commission is very concerned about the loss of the attorney and that they have important business coming up and will need the assistance of the attorney as they were told they would have the an attorney. Mr. Armstrong commented that he pays taxes in Breedsville and Columbia and want to why the roads are so horrible in Breedsville. Abernathy commented that Norton has been cooperative with working on the roads. Shrank commented that is must have been a very serious issue for the township lawyer to quit, maybe the board did not want to take advise , I don ; t know. Lukens commented she is also concerned about the loss of the township attorney. Marcelletti commented is there anything that can be done to convince the attorney to stay that planning commission will need assistance. Pride care commented that they would purchase 50% of the AED if the township incurs the cost.

BOARD COMMENTS: Sherrer commented that she thought the job might be fun, trying to figure out a common denominator in this township, boards have such issues and it is important to get things done and move forward beyond internal struggles. Some don't want to give an inch; some don't want mediation.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Huizenga seconded by Sherrer. Time: 9:15 p.m.

Linda Norton, Supervisor

Stacey Corke, Clerk