

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP**  
53053 CR 388, GRAND JUNCTION, MI 49056  
(269) 434-6227

**Columbia Township Board**  
*Special Meeting Minutes*  
Location: Columbia Township Hall  
Date: February 3, 2020 Time: 5:00 pm

*Call to order:*

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Norton at 10:00 am.

*Pledge of Allegiance*

*Roll call:*

Present: J. Huizenga, B. Sherrer, R. Collins (left at 12:30 pm returned at 12:31 pm), C. Case L. Norton  
Absent: None

**Unfinished Business**

1. *Litigation Kenneth J. Speicher vs Columbia Township Case No. 2019-0695548-CZ*

Supervisor Norton moved and Trustee Sherrer supported to enter closed session at 10:03 am for attorney discussion regarding litigation Kenneth J. Speicher vs Columbia Township Case No. 2019-0695548-CZ and 2019-069689-CZ. A closed meeting is necessary pursuant to MCL 15.268(e), which permits closed meetings of a board to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body.

Roll call vote: J. Huizenga - yes, B. Sherrer - yes, R. Collins - yes, C. Case - yes, L. Norton - yes. Motion carried.

Clerk Case moved and Trustee Sherrer supported to leave closed session and return to open session at 10:34 a.m.

Roll call vote: J. Huizenga - yes, B. Sherrer - yes, R. Collins - yes, C. Case - yes, L. Norton - yes. Motion carried.

Clerk Case moved and Trustee Sherrer supported to accept the attorney's recommendation in the litigation Kenneth J. Speicher vs Columbia Township Case No. 2019-0695548-CZ and 2019-069689-CZ.

Roll call vote: J. Huizenga - yes, B. Sherrer - yes, R. Collins - yes, C. Case - yes, L. Norton - yes. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

Supervisor Norton and Clerk Case moved to take a recess at 10:36 a.m. Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Norton moved and Trustee Huizenga supported to return from recess at 10:45 a.m. Roll call vote: J. Huizenga - yes, B. Sherrer - yes, R. Collins - yes, C. Case - yes, L. Norton - yes. Motion carried.

### *2. November 19, 2019 Minutes*

It was moved by Supervisor Norton and seconded by Trustee Huizenga to approve the November 19, 2019 Minutes as presented. Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

### *3. Budget Review (Fire Dept.)*

The board discussed the 2020/2021 fire department budget with the assistance of Chief Johnson. Recommendations were recorded to bring to the full budget review at a later date.

### *4. Accounting Software Change*

Moved by Clerk Case and Treasurer Collins seconded to move funds of \$4,000 from the Professional Services Attorney budget item to the Professional Services Accounting budget item.

Roll call vote: B. Sherrer - yes, R. Collins - yes, J. Huizenga - yes, L. Norton - yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Trustee Huizenga and seconded by Clerk Case to move forward with the transition of accounting software to BS & A at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.

Roll call vote: B. Sherrer - yes, R. Collins - yes, J. Huizenga - yes, C. Case - yes, L. Norton - yes. Motion carried.

### *5. Email Service Change*

Moved by Supervisor Norton and supported by Trustee Huizenga the cost not to exceed the cost not to exceed \$1,600 for email on the Google Suite platform for the township and fire department users.

Roll call vote: B. Sherrer - yes, R. Collins - yes, J. Huizenga - yes, C. Case - yes, L. Norton - yes. Motion carried.

## **Public Comments**

K. Gruss mentioned there is a retention policy that should be reviewed.

## **Adjourn**

Moved by Trustee Huizenga seconded by Clerk Case to adjourn at 1:00 pm.

Vote: All Ayes. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Christy Case, Clerk on February 3, 2020.

Board approved at February 18, 2020 Regular Meeting.