

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 20, 2020**

**FENTON TOWNSHIP CIVIC COMMUNITY CENTER
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE, FENTON, MICHIGAN**

Supervisor Mathis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Mathis, Krug, Tucker, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Reid, Attorney Belzer and
Operations Manager Broecker.

Absent: None

OPENING PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer. Supervisor Mathis led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the 1/20/20 Fenton Township Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Lorraine

Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Tucker, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Reid

Nays: None

Motion carried. The agenda is approved.

MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes for the 1/6/20 regular meeting stand approved as presented.

EXPENDITURES:

Motion to approve invoices and expenditures for all funds totaling \$392,820.14 for payment as presented.

Motion by: Lorraine

Seconded: Tucker

Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Tucker, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Reid

Nays: None

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2020 Local Road Improvement Projects

Supervisor Mathis opened a public hearing to gather citizen input regarding potential local road improvement projects in 2020.

Public comment:

Tom Lazar, 13390 Wenwood Drive

Mr. Lazar stated that, when Wenwood Drive paved years ago, a low spot developed in front of his home where the water does not drain properly. It also freezes in the winter, creating a safety hazard. Supervisor Mathis stated that the Township would have GCRC look at this area for correction.

George Bearden, 12090 Dalhart Drive

Mr. Bearden stated that he and his wife are new residents in Fenton Township. He acknowledged that the Township has requested grading for Dalhart Drive several times, however the road condition deteriorates significantly after only a few days. Supervisor Mathis stated that the Township Engineer and GCRC would look at maintenance options.

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There was no further public comment. Based on preliminary discussions with Lawrence Engineering, and their discussions with the Genesee County Road Commission, the following roads will be considered for 2020 improvement projects:

Asphalt Paving/Resurfacing

Petts Road	Fenton Road to Eddy Lake Road (CDBG project)
Old Linden Road	Linden Road to Dooley Drive
Ripley Road	Rolston Road to Lahring Road
Ray Road*	Paved apron at Torrey Road intersection (both sides)
Ray Road*	Paved apron at Fenton Road intersection
Hogan Road	Paved apron at Lahring Road (north side)

Limestone/Gravel Resurfacing

Main Road	Thompson Road to Ray Road
Ray Road*	Linden Road to US-23

[* subject to 50% participation from Mundy Township.]

Crack Sealing

Wiggins Road

The Township will request the appropriate cost estimates and bring recommendations back to a future meeting for board action.

REPORTS:

Ordinance Enforcement 4th Quarter Report

Supervisor Mathis reviewed the 4th quarter report from Ordinance Enforcement Officer Pat Shaw. Blight, zoning issues and junk vehicles were the categories with the highest number of complaints for the quarter.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed 2020 Property Tax Hardship Exemption Policy

Supervisor Mathis noted that each year the Township adopts a revised property tax hardship policy for the Board of Review to use in reviewing hardship exemption applications. The proposed policy is virtually identical to the policy adopted in 2019, with updated income levels and deadlines. Clerk Krug presented the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-01

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the Board of Review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for

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exemption in whole or in part from property taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7a), and

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for property tax poverty exemptions is within the purview of the Township, and

WHEREAS, said Public Act 390 of 1994 requires the governing body of the assessing unit to determine and make available to the public the policy and guidelines for granting of poverty exemptions under said Act;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Public Act 390 of 1994, the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton hereby adopts the attached **Financial Hardship (Poverty) Exemption Official Policy – 2020** as guidelines for the Assessor and Board of Review to follow in granting or denying property tax hardship exemptions.*

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-01 as presented.

Motion by: Krug

Seconded: Kesler

Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Tucker, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Reid

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Disposition of Tax Reverted Property

The board reviewed information regarding a property that was deeded to Fenton Township through tax foreclosure. Parcel 06-07-200-032, located at 12107 Sharp Road, was transferred from the Genesee County Treasurer to Fenton Township in December 2019.

The board reviewed a letter from John H. Miller III, who still lives on this property, explaining that his failure to bring the delinquent property taxes up to date was an oversight on his part in 2018. He is asking the Township Board to consider selling the property back to him. He is willing to pay all back taxes, penalties, interest and fees as determined by the Township.

Attorney Belzer advised that administrative costs incurred by the Township should be considered when setting a sale price. Trustee Lorraine commented that he does not like the fact that Genesee County can foreclose on property and take someone's home, even if the delinquency is due to an oversight. Trustee Reid acknowledged that the tax foreclosure process is not a perfect system, but procedures must be in place to be fair and to hold property owners accountable. Board members stated they are pleased that an opportunity exists to convey this property back to Mr. Miller.

Motion to approve the sale of tax-reverted parcel 06-07-200-032 to John H. Miller III for the price of \$7,300.00, to be paid no later than 3/31/20, as presented.

Motion by: Goupil

Seconded: Kesler

Ayes: Mathis, Krug, Tucker, Goupil, Kesler, Lorraine, Reid

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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BOARD COMMENT:

Trustee Goupil requested a special meeting be scheduled prior to the next regular board meeting to discuss the performance review and salary recommendations for Fire Chief Volz. The board agreed to schedule a special meeting for Monday 2/3/20 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Bonnie Mathis, Supervisor

Robert Krug, Clerk

Minutes Posted 01/21/20