

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 4, 2021**

**MEETING HELD ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM
PER MICHIGAN PUBLIC ACT 254 OF 2020**

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

OPENING PRAYER:

Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Clerk Krug called the roll.

Present: Lorraine, Krug, Tucker, Goupil, Katrak, Kesler, Reid

Absent: None

Also Present: Attorney Belzer, Operations Manager Broecker, Fire Chief Volz, Township Engineer Allen Lawrence

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the 1/4/21 Fenton Township Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Reid

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

Nays: None

Motion carried. The agenda is approved.

MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes for the 12/21/20 regular meeting stand approved as presented.

EXPENDITURES:

Motion to approve invoices and expenditures for all funds totaling \$87,168.26 for payment as presented.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Reid

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

REPORTS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:

None

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Purchase Offer - Tax-Reverted Property

The board approved at the 12/21/20 meeting a counter-offer of \$425,000 in response to the purchase offer for two commercial properties on Thompson Road. The prospective buyer has countered that offer at \$415,000.

Treasurer Tucker stated that he is agreeable to the dollar amount of the counter-offer, but not the form of the purchase order. The agreed upon sales prices must be net to the seller, with pro-rated property taxes and no warranties.

Motion to reject the counter-offer purchase form from Owen Rd, LLC, for the purchase of parcels 06-03-576-004 and 06-03-576-005 at a sale price of \$415,000, and to authorize a counter-offer at the same price using different documentation, to include \$415,000 net to the township, with customary property tax proration and no warranties.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Kesler

Ayes: Lorraine, Krug, Tucker, Katrak, Kesler, Reid

Nays: Goupil

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 2021-01, Honoring Eagle Scout Breanna Trecha

Supervisor Lorraine reported that Fenton Township resident Breanna Trecha recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, making her one of the first females in our nation to achieve this honor. A resolution has been prepared to honor Ms. Trecha for this outstanding accomplishment. Clerk Krug presented the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01

WHEREAS, Fenton Township resident Breanna Nicole Trecha recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout is the highest rank of recognition attainable in the Scouting organization, and

WHEREAS, Breanna became the first female in Fenton Township and Genesee County, one of the first in the State of Michigan, and one of the first in the United States, to earn the Eagle Scout rank, and

WHEREAS, to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, a Scout must advance through the various ranks of Scouting, earn a minimum of 21 merit badges and complete a service project that benefits a non-profit organization within the community, and

WHEREAS, Breanna Trecha, a valued member of Scout Troop 212G, is a dedicated young woman who has earned the respect and admiration of her fellow scouts through her active participation in the many programs sponsored by the Scouting organization, including six years in Girl Scouts and five years in Venture Scouting. She joined Troop 212G in 2019, advancing through the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star and Life, and earning her Eagle Scout Rank in October of 2020, and

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WHEREAS, Breanna becomes the tenth member of the Trecha family to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, including her father Jeff and her brothers, John, Parker and Bradley, and

WHEREAS, Breanna has truly exhibited a commitment to the principals of Scouting and has consistently conducted herself in a manner becoming an Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, Breanna completed a major community service project consisting of repairing and refurbishing more than 50 picnic tables at the Linden Recreational Park, leading a group of volunteers in working over 100 hours on the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton hereby applauds the diligence, determination, and dedication of Breanna Nicole Trecha in pursuing the highest honor awarded by the Scouting organization and extends its heartiest congratulations to her on the occasion of her earning the rank of Eagle Scout, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy provided to Ms. Trecha.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-01 as presented.

Motion by: Krug

Seconded: Tucker

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

Nays: None

Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

All of the board members congratulated Ms. Trecha on her remarkable achievement.

Selection of CDBG Project(s) - 2022-24 Funding Cycle

The board reviewed a recommendation from Operations Manager Broecker regarding the submission of project applications for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. He recommends allocating all available funds to sanitary sewer improvements in the designated low-moderate income area of the Township. The project would include:

- Phase 1: Full upgrade of pump station #26 (Petts Road). This would convert the station from a dry pit system to a submersible pump station (similar to other recent pump station upgrades). The upgrade would also include the Omnisite wireless monitoring system.
- Phase 2: Installation of Omnisite wireless monitoring system on pump station #23 (Firestone Drive) and #27 (Pomona Court).
- Any funds left after Phase 1 & 2 would be used to pay for any needed repairs of gravity sewer mains in the low-moderate income area.

Trustee Reid noted that she and Trustee Katrak recently visited the DPW facility at the invitation of Engineer Allen Lawrence to learn more about sewer system. She was impressed with the volume of work that goes into maintaining the sewer system. Trustee Katrak agreed and said her learned a great deal from the visit. Both agreed that the proposed sewer system project is a good use of the grant funds.

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Treasurer Tucker also supports using CDBG funds for sewer improvements. Because it is such a costly system to maintain, adding another revenue source is a good thing.

Motion to authorize the submission of a CDBG project application for Sewer Improvements, as presented.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Kesler

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Proposed Summer Tax Collection Agreements – Linden, Fenton & Genesee Intermediate School Districts

Supervisor Lorraine noted that Fenton Township has received requests again this year to collect a portion of the local school district taxes in the summer property tax bills. Agreements have been prepared to formalize these arrangements with Linden & Fenton Schools and GISD. The agreements are virtually identical to the agreements executed for 2020.

Treasurer Tucker stated that he reviews the contract fees with Operations Manager Broecker each year. Because the Township is covering its costs with the current fees, and the fact that school districts are facing serious budget issues due to the pandemic, he supports maintaining the fees at the same level as last year. The fees will be reviewed again next year.

Motion to approve the 2021 Summer Tax Collection Agreement with Linden Community Schools as presented.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Katrak

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2021 Summer Tax Collection Agreement with Fenton Area Public Schools as presented.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Krug

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2021 Summer Tax Collection Agreement with the Genesee Intermediate School District as presented.

Motion by: Tucker

Seconded: Reid

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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Proposed Change to Waste Collection Schedule - Republic Services

Operations Manager Broecker reported that the Township had been approached by Republic Services regarding a proposed change to the waste collection schedule in Fenton Township. Republic is proposing that all of Fenton Township be collected on Friday each week, rather than a portion of the Township being collected every day.

Gary Hicks, Municipal Services Manager for Republic Services, stated single day would simplify the collection scheduling and provide more backup resources during staffing shortages. He noted that, in addition to every Fenton Township address being collected on Friday, the recycling calendar would also be revised. Recycling will still be collected every other week with all properties located north of Silver Lake Road on one schedule and south of Silver Lake Road would be the opposite weeks.

Trustee Katrak stated that he sees benefit in everyone having the same collection day. He also asked why Friday was selected for Fenton Township. Mr. Hicks stated that lake communities tend to favor Monday or Friday collection days. Since Monday is not an option due to other contractual obligations, therefore Friday was selected.

Treasurer Tucker stated that he doesn't see any real downside. It may also be easier to remember your trash day and recycling week if everyone's is the same.

Mr. Hicks added that single-day collection would allow Republic to have several supervisors in the Township on collection day rather than scattered among several communities.

The board members had no issue with the concept of single-day collection, therefore Republic can move forward with their plan to implement single-day collection as of 2/1/21. Attorney Belzer has determined that the proposed change does not violate the current agreement between the Township and Republic Services, therefore no formal approval is required from the board.

BOARD COMMENT:

Trustee Goupil raised the issue of video inspection of sewer lines, which was briefly discussed during the CDBG discussion at the 12/21/20 meeting. Engineer Allen Lawrence reviewed potential volumes and costs for video inspection of the entire system over a period of several years. If the Township purchased its own video truck, the cost savings, (vs. using the contractor's equipment), would pay for the equipment after 43 miles of sewer lines. This issue will be discussed further in committee.

Trustee Katrak mentioned an eGift card program that was implemented in the City of Fenton. Treasurer Tucker noted that this program is funded by the Fenton Downtown Development Authority, (DDA), a tax increment finance authority (TIFA). The program has been highly successful, however the Township does not have any tax increment financing authority to provide funding.

Trustee Katrak suggested more visible information on the website regarding waste collection, especially in light of the change to single-day collection. Operations Manager Broecker stated that the information will be updated and placed in a more prominent location on the Township's website.

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Supervisor Lorraine advised that the State of Michigan has extended the ability to conduct all meetings virtually through March 30, 2021. The new statute is PA 254 of 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Vince Lorraine, Supervisor

Robert Krug, Clerk

Minutes Posted 01/05/21