

Allegan Township Board Meeting
March 4, 2019
7:30 PM

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Pledge and Invocation

- II. Roll Call
 - A. Supervisor Steve Schulz, Clerk Linda Evans, Trustee Mike Bender, Trustee Jim Connell and Treasurer Jane Waanders were present.

- III. Approve Minutes of February 4, 2019 Regular Meeting and February 11th and 25th, 2019 Special Meetings
 - A. Connell/Waanders made motion to approve with minutes standing approved as read.

- IV. Reports
 - A. Professional Code Inspectors (PCI), Building Inspector
 - 1. There were six permits pulled in February, the most since 2003, with five as new homes, most since 2002, with permit fees totaling \$4,729.00.
 - B. Fritz Spreitzer, Board of Appeals Chair
 - 1. Was not present but member Ted Heckman noted they met twice with the second meeting to approve a variance.
 - C. Ted Heckman, Planning Commission Chair
 - 1. Planning Commission will meet next Monday to approve minutes and look over a site plan application.
 - D. Other Reports
 - 1. There were none.

- V. Public Comment
 - A. Jerry VanderRoest – is running for Director of 19th MTA District and wanted to introduce himself.

- VI. Old Business
 - A. SRTS Update and Concern
 - 1. It was previously stated the grant was a reimbursement grant but that is not true.
 - 2. The engineering work does have to be paid for by both Township and City; the percentage is 62% for Township and 38% for City as the work done is 62% in the township and 38% in the City.
 - a. The total cost of engineering is \$145,400 which would mean \$90,000 paid by township.
 - 3. The grant for the project is \$650,535 but the engineers estimate for the work planned is about \$12,000 over that figure.

4. Commissioner Max Thiele asked what all the engineering is for and learned there is preliminary, design and construction engineering.
- B. River Street Update
1. This project is from 118th Avenue to Babylon Road and is funded by a small urban grant in the amount of \$345,000.00.
 2. Tree removal has come in at \$10,000.00.
 3. All engineering is not included in this grant.
 4. The township board has decided it will match whatever City pays up to \$100,000 and it looks like the cost could come up to \$90,000 which would include \$65,000.00 for retaining walls.
 5. Trees have been marked with audience member Jim Billman asking about the utility poles with Supervisor Schulz saying he “doesn’t think it will affect them.”
 6. Trustee Mike Bender asked about the speed limit on River Street and learned it will become 35 mph each way.
 7. Schulz commented that between the two grants it is close to \$1,000,000.00 we are getting to help with the two projects.
- C. 2019-20 Budget Hearing
1. Schulz closed regular meeting at 7:40 PM and opened budget hearing.
 2. General Fund receives close to one mill in taxes; salaries will increase by 2% as we follow what County does; setting aside \$90,000 for a new roof as there is leakage on flat roof; cemetery has a new fence going up and will purchase trees and shrubs to beautify the new section.
 - a. Also noted was an increase to Allegan City Police Department of \$4,000 annually and some financial support for both USDA District and Lakeshore Advantage.
 3. Fire Equipment receives a .25 mill; Public Safety a .50 mill with budget going up as equipment is getting more expensive; and Sewer Fund is expecting only one residential hook-up.
 4. Treasurer Waanders explained Capital Project Fund is used mostly for road projects with Alexa Lane completed and Riverview Estates now done with two of five years.
 - a. Money is borrowed from Capital Improvement Fund to place in Capital Project and after each tax collection monies are replaced to Capital Improvement.
 5. Waanders also noted Miner Lake Fund is strictly for special assessment monies collected from properties around Miner Lake which pays for supervision of lake testing and any other projects Miner Lake Association chooses.
 6. Road Fund collects three mills and there are plans to spend up to \$600,000 in road work once receiving suggestions from the Allegan County Road Commission.
 - a. Schulz explained we had received an estimate for work on 25th Street and 123rd Avenue of \$517,000 which is only to reconstruct

the road of just a little over a mile, with no paving.

1. There is a tight curve that school buses have trouble maneuvering and with all the snow it makes it more difficult with Trustee Bender commenting buses are picking up more as there are more homes on 123rd.
 7. All costs for SRTS and River Street projects will be paid out of the Recreation Fund as it allows people to get out and walk or ride their bikes.
 8. All monies collected in Tax Fund shows Allegan Public School gets over \$1,000,000, AAESA receives \$674,600; District Library gets \$247,709.00 and township receives \$165,984 for General, \$67,533 for Public Safety, \$404,799 for Roads and Fire Equipment gets \$33,686.00.
 - a. S.E.T. (State Education Tax) is collected only in summer (six mills) and goes directly to State of Michigan and based on school's head count in October, monies come back to local area.
 9. The public hearing closed at 8:15 PM and the regular meeting was re-opened.
- D. Allegan Metal Finishing
1. Schulz reported EPA is doing an investigation on AMFCO property to take samples and he received notice from EPA that "unfortunately, they have not been willing to sign our access agreement, so now we will be forced to take it to Department of Justice to gain access through the courts. This could be a very slow process...."
 2. Schulz commented "he hopes in his lifetime we will see the end result of that."
 3. Connell had earlier asked about PFAS on that property and learned it was a non-detect.

VII. New Business

- A. Scrap Township's Rental Ordinance
1. Township has had rental ordinance for past three-four years and had hired PCI to make sure all rentals were up to code.
 2. PCI could only make inspections in the winter though as they are too busy in the summer months and it has become a hassle.
 3. Schulz suggests scrapping it and only take action when either renters or landowners call which had Trustee Connell ask what ordinance would we have then to act on; commenting he was a part of the Planning Commission when ordinance was put together as they thought of the safety of people living in the rentals.
 4. Waanders asked if we had gotten hold of our township attorney for his opinion and learned we had not.
 5. Evans/Waanders made motion to table it until next month after conversation with township attorney and motion passed with an aye

vote.

- B. Township Seeking Grant for Fencing in Recycling Area and Having Scheduled Hours
 - 1. Waanders noted township has learned from Rosemary Graham, County Recycling Coordinator, that there is \$500,000 available in grant money to improve recycling centers with \$100,000 per center with a 25% match.
 - 2. Since we have made a contract with Lakeshore Advantage, we are now able to use their grant writer but he learned from State DEQ that Allegan Township wouldn't be able to apply for a grant but following more discussion, we now can and have until the new deadline of May 1 to submit a grant to enlarge the pad, put in a fence, have better lighting, more security cameras and pay an attendant to be here for specified hours.
- C. Leaf Pickup for Spring and Fall
 - 1. Since leaf pickup has caught on so well in the township, the board has decided to start allowing for only two free pick-ups and then residents will call in for pick-up and pay the \$40.00 themselves to our two companies.
 - 2. Pick-up in the fall will be from when the leaves start to drop until December 15th (weather permitting).
- D. State Revenue – 2018 (Nov/Dec) - \$62,669.00 2017 (Nov/Dec - \$55,389.00

VIII. Pay Bills

- A. General Fund
 - 1. \$15,938.77 in bills were presented for payment with motion by Bender/Connell to pay, which passed following roll call.

IX. Other Items

- A. Connell mentioned Cabaret is coming on March 15, 16, 22 and 23; the Big Fat Guy (himself) will plan to bike 500 miles again in 30 days and might throw in a 100 mile day, with donations for Wings of Hope/Hospice.
- C. Peanut Butter Collection here at Allegan Township has netted about 200 jars.

X. Adjourn

- A. Waanders/Bender made motion to adjourn with meeting closing at 8:45 PM.