

**CARROLLTON TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, May 26, 2020**

**Via Zoom Webinar**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86507796855>

<b><u>Roll Call:</u></b>	Supervisor Abney	Present
	Clerk Fritz	Present
	Treasurer Thurston	Absent - excused
	Trustee Douglas	Present
	Trustee Westphal	Present

There being a quorum, Supervisor Abney called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Everyone was in attendance via Zoom Webinar <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86507796855> including: Director Craig Oatten, Office Manager Megan Weaver, Fire Chief Bob Tetloff and DPW Superintendent Don Sumption.

**Acceptance of Agenda:**

It was moved by Westphal and supported by Fritz to accept the agenda as presented. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

**Public Comments:** Public that attended virtually did not request to address the board.

**Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Douglas and supported by Abney to approve minutes for: April 27, 2020 – regular and May 11, 2020 departmental meetings as presented. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

It was moved by Fritz and supported by Douglas to receive and file the correspondence as listed for May 2020. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

**Accounts Payable:**

It was moved by Fritz and supported by Douglas to approve the May Accounts Payable for the amount of \$203,118.16. There being all ayes, the motion carried.

**Committee/Commission/Board Reports:**

Board reports were reviewed. Department heads answered questions from the board members.

It was moved by Douglas and supported by Abney to approve the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Federal Grant received by the Carrollton Township Fire Department to

purchase a foam system in the amount of \$1,550 with Carrollton matching 50% of the purchase (\$775). There being all ayes, the motion carried.

Oatten mentioned that Code Enforcement Officer Salazar had been very busy with code violations and follow-through.

Oatten stated that with the COVID-19 pandemic, there had been many requests for the police officers to participate in birthday/anniversary parades where family and friends drive past the house of someone's birthday/anniversary in order to comply with social distancing requirements. Oatten explained that his officers had been participating as long as they did not have a call for service at the time of the parade. Abney added that they had participated for his grandson's birthday and it was great "PR" for the Police Department! Weaver stated that she had received a request via the Facebook page for June 2 and would forward to Oatten.

Sumption stated that due to the massive flooding in Sanford and Midland (from heavy rains and the Edenville Dam breach) there was concern on the rising level of the Saginaw River. The Township's pump stations were handling it fairly well overall. He informed the board that the DPW had assisted the Saginaw County Drain Commission with pumping water out of the area of Carrollton Rd/Seaway Dr. There had also been water over the road on several streets including: Tyler, Hermansau, Vanguard, Bellenca and Boeing. Luckily the water seems to be receding quickly. Oatten added that this round of flooding was different than the flood of 1986 because the Tittabawassee River passed the flood stage by several feet; however, the Saginaw River was not overcome. He felt that the strength of the railroad grade on Carrollton Rd. was what saved those area residents from flooding. Discussion followed.

Sumption noted that he spotted a couple of residents cleaning up the Township. Chuck Pappas cleaned up Hanchett Park and Ray McKay and his son were seen cleaning up the ditch on Mapleridge. Abney asked Weaver to send thank-you letters to those residents.

### **Pending Business:**

Oatten stated that he had emailed back the lease consultant for American Tower in reference to the cell tower lease proposal they had submitted last month. He had not heard back from them yet and would bring more information to the board as it was available.

### **New Business:**

Oatten stated that he had been approached by a restaurant owner about opening up outdoor service during the COVID-19 pandemic. Oatten checked with the zoning administrator and there was nothing in the Township's ordinance that prohibits outdoor service. Discussion followed. It was moved by Douglas and supported by Abney to support the concept of allowing local bars/restaurants to have outdoor seating for patrons as long as the COVID-19 social distancing guidelines are in place and the request is submitted to Oatten for approval on a per case basis. There being all ayes, the motion carried. Oatten noted that Michigan Liquor Control Commission would also be involved in the approval of a requesting business.

Weaver reviewed the State of Michigan's Revenue Sharing estimates as of May 15, 2020 and the potential effect on the Township's General Fund. With so much uncertainty during the COVID-

19 pandemic and how the economy will bounce back once things open up, she was hopeful that the lower revenue sharing estimates would not hold true. Discussion followed.

It was board consensus to have Oatten contact Spicer Group to schedule the Master Plan Public Hearing in August with hopes that the Stay At Home Executive Order will be lifted and the public can attend in person.

**Public Comments:** Public that attended virtually did not request to address the board.

Douglas had received questions from a resident via email prior to the meeting that he submitted for public comment:

- 1) With the parking ordinance that was put into effect last year for the Skyhaven Subdivision and residents being allowed to add parking spaces between the sidewalk and road without a permit, can the timeline be extended due to COVID-19 and it being difficult to contract someone to install the parking space?
- 2) What is the status of the storm drainage system in Skyhaven Subdivision as residents are experiencing backups in their basements?

It was board consensus to have Oatten respond to the resident after looking into the timeline for the parking space installation permit. Also, to inform them of the proposed special assessment district solution in Skyhaven Subdivision for future work on the sewer system in that area.

**Director Comments/Updates:**

Oatten informed the board that area police departments had been approached by a testing facility offering COVID-19 antibody testing. Both he and one of his officers had the test and they were both negative.

Oatten stated that he and the department heads continue to monitor the COVID-19 Executive Orders and the DPW and Police departments are working at full-staff with social distancing guidelines in place. Weaver stated that her staff continues to work on a weekly rotation with one staff member in the office and three (including herself) working remotely from home. While the current Stay-At-Home Order is in effect until June 12, she would be meeting with the cleaning company the following week in hopes of getting a thorough sanitization of the office before we open back up to the public. Oatten stated that the front office staff was ready to return to work.

**Board Comments:**

Fritz commented that things were starting to ramp up for the August 4 Primary Election which will require his deputy to work in-office instead of remotely. Weaver agreed and also commented that July property tax collection preparation would be starting soon as well that would require in-office work.

Westphal asked if both the Recreation Committee and Neighborhood Watch meetings scheduled for June should be held virtually. Discussion followed. It was board consensus to wait as the COVID-19 restrictions would hopefully be lifted soon.

Douglas thanked Oatten for the email updates during the horrible flooding.

Abney thanked the Township Board and staff in all departments for continuing to work with the restrictions and executive orders due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone was doing a great job under the circumstances.

**Adjournment:**

It was moved by Westphal and supported by Douglas to adjourn. There being all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry W. Fritz, Clerk