

Holly Township
Board of Trustees – Special Virtual Meeting
Minutes of June 22, 2020

Call to Order: Supervisor Kullis called the regular meeting of the Holly Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. Held on Zoom Webinar.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

George Kullis, Supervisor
Mark Freeman, Treasurer
Karin Winchester, Clerk
Steve Ruth, Trustee
Pat Feeney, Trustee

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Agenda Approval.
2. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2020
3. Approval of Financial Statement – May 2020.
4. Approval of Bills for Payment – June 2020.
5. Receipt of Routine Reports:
 - A. N.O.C.F.A. Minutes – May 19, 2020.
 - B. Planning Commission Minutes – May 7, 2020.
 - C. Building Permits – May 2020.
 - D. Treasurer’s Annual and Quarterly Report – NA.
6. Communications:

Agenda Approval:

Supervisor Kullis stated that he would like to add the Farmstead to the agenda. Trustee Feeney added that he would like to see Communications removed from the consent agenda and moved to #7 of New Business.

- **Supervisor Kullis made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended to add the Farmstead to Old Business #1 and add Communications to New Business as #7. Trustee Feeney supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken; all those present voted yes; motion carried 5/0.**

Public Hearings: none.

Presentation: none.

Reports:

Supervisor Kullis informed those attending the virtual meeting that the cancellation of the previously scheduled meeting for June 17 was due to miscommunication about that ability to conduct a live, in person meeting at the Karl Richter Meeting Room. Holly Area Schools has been contacted for better communication.

Treasurer Freeman stated the 2020 Tax Roll for Holly Township was almost done. Once completed that tax bills will be sent to Oakland County for printing and mailing on July 1.

Clerk Winchester reported that she would be speaking later in the agenda.

Supervisor Kullis stated that due to Gov. Whitmer's executive order extending that State of Emergency to July 31, most townships have decided to continue with virtual meetings. The Supervisor also discussed the need to address the doors on the Township Hall; the doors are not shutting properly and setting off the security alarms.

Trustee Feeney asked why the communication letter regarding the entrance to Holly Hills from the RCOC was not on the consent agenda; Trustee Feeney would like to review the letter and send the RCOC a resolution to show support for the local residents concerns. Trustee Feeney addressed a message he received from Roberta Pechota (516 Michigan St) regarding the Holly Township Parks via social media. Ms. Pechota message addressed many points that had been addressed at the last meeting with the Director and Commissioner Determan; why are the phone bills up? Why was the maintenance position cut if the Director is shorthanded? Trustee Feeney continued addressing the grant received by the Holly Township Parks last year that has only now been addressed, but without proper oversight the Board and the public have not been given accurate information as to the state of the grant or how much of the grant has been spent to date. Trustee Feeney insisted that the Board of Trustees should ask more questions in order to know what is exactly going on with the Parks Commission; in his opinion it was foolish to approve the Parks budget.

Trustee Feeney gave an update from the Planning Commission: LaMont Farms were given a 365 day permit, the PC is expecting to see a permanent site plan by the end of the year for this multiple season business. The PC has recommended the amended Agritourism Ordinance to the Board of Trustees after reviewing some technical changes made by the Planner and the Township Attorney.

Supervisor Kullis commented to the communication from the RCOC regarding the Holly Hills Falk Rd entrance. The Supervisor noted that the Road Commission is not required to communicate with municipalities on permits; if a permit application meets the criteria the permit is issued.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only:

Mark Taylor, 15566 Falk Rd-addressed the Board regarding Holly Hills, the RCOC permit and water permit.

Mary Blanchard, 3444 Old Creek Dr- addressed the Board regarding the Farmstead Food Bank Garden.

Old Business:

1. Farmstead

Supervisor Kullis opened the topic with a review of the previous months meeting; the Board of

Trustees had voted to close the Farmstead to the public and did not grant permission for the Community and Food Bank garden for the 2020 season. The Board discussed what had been intended during the previous meeting in regard to the Board of Trustees readdressing the closure once the Governor has reviewed or revised State mandates due to COVID-19. The Supervisor stated that in the previous meeting the reasons stated for this decision had been, COVID and the North Holly Rd construction project allowing only residents to access North Holy Rd during the project, as well as not having a working agreement with the Holly Heritage Farmstead Foundation, the non-profit group that facilitates the Community and Food Bank garden on the farmstead property.

The Board of Trustees continued to discuss the Farmstead, the history of the relationship with the Foundation and the reasons for closing to the public. Mary Blanchard informed the Board that the non-profit (501C3) paperwork is up to date and proper filings have been submitted by the local Tax Center. Discussion continued about the request to readdress, activities on the Farmstead by members of the Foundation, the request for an operating agreement and an article by the Tri-County Times stating that the garden would be closed for the 2020 season.

- **Trustee Ruth moved to approve the Community garden for the 2021 season with an operating agreement and documentation of the Holly Heritage Farmstead Foundation non-profit paperwork. Clerk Winchester supported the motion. A roll call was taken; Feeney: no; Freeman: yes; Winchester: yes; Ruth: yes; Kullis: yes; motion carried 4/1.**

New Business:

1. Dawson Tire.

Supervisor Kullis stated that Dawson Tire has returned with a request for interest only payments. An amortization schedule has been provided.

- **Clerk Winchester moved to approve the request from Dawson Tire. supported the motion. A roll call was taken; Winchester: yes; Ruth: yes; Freeman: yes; Feeney: no; Kullis: yes; motion carried 4/1.**

2. Authorization to purchase Absent Voter Counting Board tabulator.

Clerk Winchester that since the Secretary of State had sent out the AV Ballot applications to every voter the Clerk's office is anticipating a large AV ballot turn out up to 70% of the voter turnout. This requires an AV counting board and additional equipment for this board to operate on Election Day. Clerk Winchester informed the Board that Oakland County has stepped up and offered to facilitate high speed counting of ballots for selected communities; this is a possibility for Holly Township but the Clerk's office has not been informed as to whether they have been selected. The Board of Trustees discussed the possibility of a CARES Act reimbursement for this purchase, the service agreement for the purchase and the increase in permanent absent voters.

- **Trustee Feeney moved to approve the request for \$8,365 total request to purchase**

an additional tabulator with a service maintenance agreement years 6-10, with the condition that the purchase will not be necessary if AV counting is provided by Oakland County. Clerk Winchester supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken; Winchester: yes; Freeman: yes; Feeney: yes; Kullis: yes; Ruth: no: motion carried 4/1.

3. Proposed Code of Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 32 Zoning, Section 32-6 Definitions and Chapter 32 Zoning, Article IV Supplementary Regulations, Add Section 32-169 Agritourism.

Trustee Feeney informed the Board that the Planning Commission had recommend the ordinance to the Board of Trustees for approval. The Planning Commission had worked for the last year with the Planners and Township attorney to provide a solid ordinance to promote local economic boost. Clerk Winchester added that the attorney had reviewed the ordinance which delayed approval; she addressed conflicting language and problems with the table provided within the ordinance.

- **Supervisor Kullis made a motion approve the reallocation of funds for the 2020 gravel program to Fagan Rd if Consumers Energy will provide a grant for Fish Lake and Mitchell Rd. Trustee Feeney supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken; all those present voted yes; motion passed 5/0.**

4. 2020 Road Gravel Program Update

The Board discussed the allocation of \$300,000 to fund a gravel program for the NW quadrant of the Township; current construction projects have detoured traffic from North Holly Road to Belford, Lahring and Fagan Rd. The Supervisor would like the Board to consider reallocating funds for this year's gravel disbursement from Fish Lake Rd and Mitchell Rd to Fagan Rd. It is anticipated that the Township will be able to apply for a grant from Consumers Energy for Fish Lake Rd considering increased traffic due to the Saginaw Trail Pipeline Phase 4 project.

- **Supervisor Kullis made a motion to approve the West Nile Grant-Proposed Resolution 2020-13. Treasurer Freeman supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken; all those present voted yes; motion passed 5/0.**

3. 2019-2020 Holly Township Parks Budget Amendments.

Parks Director Toni Brinker addressed the Board regarding the questions posed by Trustee Feeney; discussion continued regarding the amounts spent for the Ninja Warrior course Planning grant. Clerk Winchester asked why there was a request for an increase in the social security funds; Brinker stated that this line item was a mistake, as well as the decrease line item for salaries. The Board continued discussion about the Parks budget line items; Clerk Winchester stated the easiest fix is to remove the mistaken line items and approve the amendments totaling \$10,728.65.

- **Clerk Winchester moved to approve the amended 2019-2020 Holly Township Parks Budget Amendments. Supervisor Kullis supported the motion. A roll**

call vote was taken; Winchester: yes; Kullis: yes; Feeney: no; Ruth: no; Freeman: no; motion failed 3/2.

5. COVID

Supervisor Kullis stated that the Board of Trustees had denied the previous request by Dawson Tire to allow Dawson Tire to extend its period of non-payment until April of 2021. Chuck Truan has presented the Board with another request to make interest only payments for six months; Mr. Truan explained to the Board that Dawson Tire is working at 25% of its usual workload. Supervisor Kullis stated that the approval of this request would require an amendment to the agreement contract. Those legal fees would have to be passed onto Dawson Tire.

Clerk Winchester stated that Holly Township is not a bank, noting that renegotiating is tricky being it is taxpayers' assets.

- **Supervisor Kullis moved to approve the request from Dawson Tire accepting interest only payments for six months with attorney fees to be paid by Dawson Tire. A roll call vote was taken; Feeney: no; Winchester: no; Freeman: yes; Ruth: yes; Kullis: yes; motion passed 3/2.**

Public Comment:

Derek Burton, 14016 Fish Lake Rd - addressed the board.

Mary Blanchard, Old Leake Dr- addressed the board.

Norm Martin- addressed the Board.

Adjournment

Supervisor Kullis, hearing no other business, adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm.

Amy N. Hillman
Recording Secretary

Karin S. Winchester, Clerk