

**CENTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE
CENTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
September 23, 2020 – MEETING MINUTES**

LOCATION: Center Township Trustee's Office

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jesse Harper, Trustee
Deb Fray, Board Member
Todd Etzler, Board Member
Adam Mindel – Attorney

Stephen Buck, Board Member was absent.

With approval from the Board, Trustee Harper called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion: Todd Etzler moved to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Deb Fray and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

2021 Budget

Trustee Harper presented for first reading, the 2021 budget. A few highlights are the Disaster Relief in the Rainy-Day Fund. In March, due to covid-19, \$100,000 was appropriated. For the 2021 budget he has listed \$50,000 which he feels will be sufficient. There has been a social worker intern in the office. This has worked well. At a later date he may possibly discussing having a part time social worker in the office as a permanent position. The budget will be voted on at the October 5, 2020 meeting which will be held in the Trustee's Office at 6:00 p.m.

Capital Improvement Project

Trustee Harper explained DLGF has required forms to be filled out and a Resolution to be passed regarding the Capital Improvement Project. In Center Township's case they need to fill out a form stating they do not intend to have a capital improvement project for the next three years. Should that change, there is a process to follow which will allow them to have a project.

Motion: Todd Etzler moved to approved and sign Resolution 2020-____. Seconded by Deb Fray and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

CENTER TOWNSHIP, INDIANA
Resolution No. 2020 –

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, Center Township, Porter County, Indiana has prepared a Capital Improvement Plan as required by HEA 1177-2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Center Township Board does hereby authorize the Center Township Trustee to adopt this Capital Improvement Plan.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Center Township, Porter County, Indiana this 23rd day of September, 2020.

/s/ Debra Fray, Chairman

/s/ Todd Etzler, Secretary

ATTEST:

/s/ Jesse Harper, Trustee

Property at 150 E 600 N

Trustee Harper reported he has received an appraisal on this property. The value is listed as \$6,000 but has hypothetical assumptions that the land can be built on. The land is not developable. Trustee Harper has been approached by the new neighbor who has asked to purchase the piece of land. Trustees no longer are allowed to have people buried in the cemeteries. But they are responsible for maintenance of the cemetery. This extra piece of land will not be used as part of the cemetery but will be part of the maintenance cost. After discussion it was decided to have the appraisal re-done without the assumption. It was suggested that if it is decided to make an offer to sell to the new neighbor, it should be with the stipulation that they can not build on the land.

Interlocal Cooperation Agreement

Trustee Harper stated it is necessary to do a reduction in the budget for the \$750,000 for the City of Valparaiso Park Department.

Motion: Deb Fray moved to reduce the 2020 Budget appropriation of the Township's Rainy-Day Fund by Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00). Seconded by Todd Etzler and so approved with a 20 vote.

RESOLUTION 20-05
2020 Rainy Day Appropriation Reduction
In Accordance with Interlocal Cooperation Agreement
Instrument No. 2018-017702

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 5.7 of the Amended and Restated Interlocal Cooperation Agreement dated December 18, 2017 and recorded under instrument number

2018-017702 between the City of Valparaiso and Center Township of Porter County, Indiana that the 2020 Budget appropriation of the Township's Rainy-Day Fund is here by reduced by Seven Hundred and Fifty-Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this reduction shall take effect immediately upon the execution of this Resolution by the foregoing Board Members and acknowledgment by the Center Township Trustee.

So Resolved this 23rd day of September, 2020

/s/ Debra E. Fray, Center Township Board Member

/s/ Todd A. Etzler, Center Township Board Member

ATTEST:

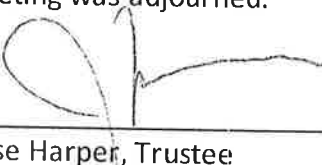
/s/ Jesse Harper, Center Township Trustee

Meals on Wheels


Trustee Harper discussed a request from Meals on Wheels. They are experiencing a severe cash crunch. The Porter County Meals on Wheels is run by VNA. Lunches are paid in full by the recipient, on a sliding scale or are provided free. To date the VNA has been covering the free lunches. It appears Lake County has been delivering some lunches in Porter County. As a result, they requested and have gotten funds from the Porter County Commissioners and the Porter County Foundation. This has left the Porter County Meals on Wheels with no help and has created the cash crunch. More discussion will follow on this. However, it was decided if any assistance is given, they will have to show that the recipients of any funds would qualify for Trustee Assistance.

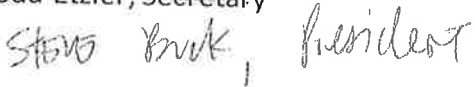
Attorney Report – Adam Mindel reported on the Memo of Understanding with the City of Valparaiso regarding mowing and noxious weeds. It has been determined that certified statements should be turned in to the County Auditor one time per year and that time should be March 1st of each year. This would make the process easier for all involved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Jesse Harper, Trustee



Todd Etzler, Secretary

Steve Buck, President

