



Beaver Island
Michigan

Supervisor's Lens

Notes to Township Board Members from Supervisor Kathleen McNamara

MAY 29, 2020

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 5

SJTGC = St James
Township
Governmental
Center
SJTH = St James
Township Hall



Saturday May 30
@ 10am **BI Rural
Health Center
Meeting**



Monday June 1 @
noon **BI Airport
Commission
Meeting**



Tuesday June 2 @
7pm @ **SJTH
Planning
Commission
Meeting**



Finance

Included in this board packet is the monthly finance report and minutes of the most recent finance committee meeting. The clerk will send the monthly Standard Budget Report which shows adopted budget revenue and expenditure categories compared to what has been received and spent each month; the clerk will email a copy to board members and have a hard copy at the meeting. She will also forward a copy of the bills for payment – please contact her if you have questions about the bills.

An updated draft 2020 Schedule of Wages is attached; it was discussed at the finance committee meeting and revised. The board has adopted an updated version of this document each year since 2017.

Coronavirus Pandemic

You have all been receiving the Public Statements that I have been drafting in cooperation with Peaine Township Supervisor and based upon input from local, regional, state and national health officials. At the June 3rd meeting I will share most current information about the pandemic and ask for township board guidance on issues that directly impact the township. Attached with this board packet is a draft Township COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan – each state municipality must adopt a similar plan. Julie Gillespie, Cynthia Pryor and I have worked on this and there are still pieces that need to be completed before board approval. Please take the time to read through this so you are familiar with the general outline of the plan. I will email you a more complete plan before the meeting.

Update on Marina Infrastructure Projects - North and South

I will provide and update on timeline for project completions at Marina North as well as details about the work to be done under the direction of contractor Lowell Eastman (Northern Woodworks, Inc). The permit paperwork for work on the fuel dock, boat launch and raising of docks is expected to be approved soon by the Army Corps of Engineers. Due to the extremely high-water level, I requested an electrical review of both dock locations and will report more detailed results at the meeting. The short answer is that the north dock electrical is usable with a few minor improvements. However, the electrical connection boxes at the south dock are taking on water and cannot be safely used – power to the docks remain off. I have received word from the Waterways Commission that I can include electrical improvements for the south dock as an extension of the grant I submitted earlier for the fuel pier at the north dock. At the meeting on June 3rd, I will present more information about this and will seek approval to submit an updated grant request which is due June 5th.

Hiring of Municipal Marina Employees There were four applicants for the positions at the municipal marina; one applicant was a no-show for the interview. Harbormaster Marlene Wisner and I interviewed three capable candidates and recommend that the board hire the following people:

1. Joe Johnson – Facilities Maintenance Assistant \$19.00/hour to begin June 5
2. Tom Reynolds – Dock Assistant \$16.00/hour to begin June 5
3. Dan Hendrix – Dock Assistant \$16.00/hour to begin late June

Wednesday June 3 @ 5:30PM @ SJTH **Regular Board Meeting**

St James Township Board

Wednesday June 17 @ 11:00AM @ SJTGC **Public Works Committee**



Wednesday June 17 @ 5:00PM BI **Telecommunications Committee**



Monday June 22 @ 1:00PM @ SJTGC **Finance Committee Meeting**



We still need at least one more dock assistant and most importantly we need a cleaning assistant – I have reposted the positions and will keep you informed as we get applications.

4th of July Fireworks –

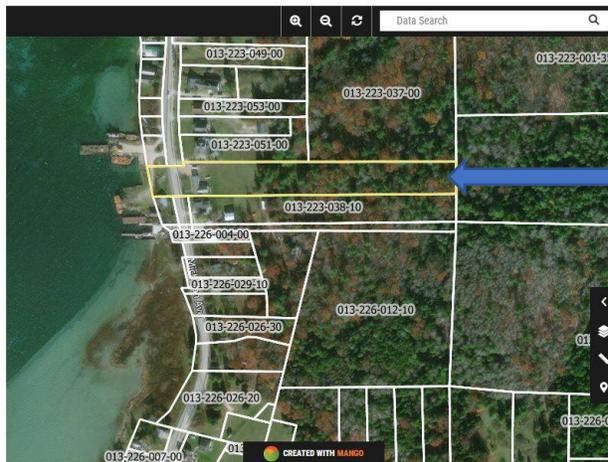
I recommend that the board consider a motion to cancel the fireworks this summer. At the meeting I provide information from the vendor about options.

Veteran's Preference

At the May board meeting, the board reviewed a draft policy allowing veteran's preference in certain work for the township. The board was in favor of such a policy and I sent the draft to the attorney to finalize and make sure its components are legal. I expect to have the attorney-revised policy to share with you before the June 3rd meeting.

Township Property on Harbor At the December 2019 board meeting, Trustee Cole was authorized to research the value of the township's commitment to the piece of property on the harbor located between two parcels owned by Bud Martin in relation to the master plan and other township holding (see map below). Cole presented information at the January 2020 meeting. McNamara was authorized to contact the attorney and to gain understanding about the process for potential future use of the property including improvement, sale or trade. In recent communication from the DNR Real Estate office, I was informed of the process and will present it at the meeting on Wednesday and I will seek the board's authorization to continue to pursue the township's ability to control the ability to have complete control over the use of the property – the current trade agreement from 2012 has a restriction requiring that the property remain in public use in perpetuity. It appears that the state is open to releasing its restrictions, and this may take place as early as September 2020, more likely by December 2020.

Tax Description
COM AT SW COR OF LOT 5 SEC 23 E TO SE COR N 100 FT TO POB TH CONT N 115 FT TH W TO MICH AVE S 15 FT TH W TO SH OF B.H. TH SLY AL SH TO PT W OF POB TH E TO POBPT OF GOVT LOT 5 SEC 23 T39N R10W



This is the land for discussion at the January 8th board meeting. The only piece of this being discussed is the small chunk on the harbor side of the road. The remaining larger parcel includes the building that is currently used to house the summer deputy.

Board Goals

I have set aside 30 minutes at our upcoming meeting to revisit township goals related to blight and dangerous structures. Please read through the documents and be prepared to discuss specific priorities at the June 3rd meeting. We will also briefly discuss the potential arrival on the island of metal crushing equipment and how that may dovetail with our identified goals.