

**Watertown Township**  
2630 South Sandusky Rd  
Sandusky, MI 48471

Monthly Meeting  
Public Meeting  
Tuesday, October 1, 2019 – 6:00

The Watertown Township Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Franzel at 6:00 P.M.  
All present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Kenny, Cambridge, Franzel and Ross

GUESTS: Matt and Susan Cole, William Dixon, Jonathon Johnson, Jeff Renaudin, Rick Pangburn  
and Chris Wedge.

ABSENT: Coats, Diaz

**ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:**

Move of Jonathon Johnson, Burnham & Flower Insurance Company Representative Presentation  
to the next item on the agenda under Guest.

Additions under New Business

- Windows
- LED Lights
- Planning Commission Projector Request

\*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Kenny supported. Ayes:  
Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**Guest:** Jonathon Johnson, Burnham & Flower Liability Policy

Jonathon Johnson presented the annual insurance renewal update. Highlights include-

- Burnham & Flower provides the township property & liability and workers' compensation insurance
- The township's current program is the Michigan Township Participating Plan
- The township has received just under \$1,300 in dividend reimbursements
- The application window for the Risk Reduction Grant opportunity is now open through November 2019. Participants may receive up to \$5,000 for risk reduction programs. Official Board approval is needed to be considered for the grant.
- This department will reimburse for a few specific certifications including the Michigan Citizens' Planner Certification and the Zoning Administer Certification. As the township is interested in these programs, Mr. Johnson will have the proper personnel contact the township.
- There are several company offered risk control services including on-site review visits of both facilities and policies.
- Benefit coverage extends to
  - o Any member of the government body
  - o Any member of a board or special commission
  - o Any elected or appointed official
  - o Any employee
  - o Any volunteer

- Policy benefits include
  - o Comprehensive General Liability – Covers bodily injury or property damage, plus specific extended coverage areas
  - o Employee Benefits Liability – Covers benefits promised to an employee but not given. i.e. workers’ compensation, health insurance, pension, etc.
  - o Public Officials Liability – The Board’s coverage for decisions or actions taken on behalf of the township.
  - o Automobile Liability – Covers vehicles that the township may own and also employee/volunteer’s personal vehicle when conducting township business
  - o Property Coverage – Covers the Township Hall and contents and the Lift Station, plus specific extended coverage areas
  - o Electronic Data Processing Coverage – Coverage extends to all township owned technology
  - o Inland Marine – Covers mobile equipment (equipment that may leave and return to the township) i.e. voting equipment and misc. equipment.
  - o Prime Bonding Coverage – Covers township funds – theft, disappearance, forgery, etc.
  - o Bonding – Certain positions are covered.
  - o Mr. Johnson discussed the rate page and additional coverage that may be purchased.
  - o The Board requested Mr. Johnson quote an increase in sewer liability coverage. Mr. Johnson will email Tammy Ross with the additional coverage quote.

\*\*\*Kenny made the motion to decrease the insurance deductible to \$500 for a premium increase of \$17.00 annually. Cambridge supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Scott Franzel reported that the correspondence received includes

- Mail correspondence from the Department of Treasury stating the assessor, Jeannie Diaz had two issues with the audit report and both were corrected satisfactorily.
- Phone call notice from the Building Department, that the house on the corner of Marlette and M-19 requested a 600-amp electrical service, which they assume is for a marijuana growing facility. Franzel explained that the township has an opt-out ordinance. Franzel spoke with Sheriff Biniecki and he would like the township to keep him updated on this.
- Phone call regarding a ditch being filled in at Sandusky Auto Parts
- Phone call regarding a ditch being dug on a property line
- Alex Ritter got a land use permit
- Phone call on a well setback
- The Sontag permit will be modified to include a breeze way attached to her garage
- Received a question on a trailer on Walker Road. Neither the Township, nor the Building Department can find any permits on file regarding this trailer.
- Phone call about a fence setback
- Phone call regarding the Wind Mill Ordinance

Tammy Ross, Clerk received correspondence from MTA offering a November 19 & 20 conference regarding Defining Your Township’s Land Use Future, Strategic Planning for Townships and Making Meetings Work.

**CLERK:**

1. Approval of September 10, 2019 minutes
2. Approve bills to be paid

**TREASURER:**

1. Approval of September checks #15928 thru #15956, Total amount of \$30,001.30

\*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to approve the September 10, 2019 minutes, bills to be paid and September checks #15928 thru #15956 with the exception of check #15935 to be voided. Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**FIRE ASSOCIATION REPORT:** T Ross reported

Fire Chief's Report

- Attended Fireman's Memorial and added Ed Gill, Gordy Hutson and Jerry Rich to the Memorial Wall
- 12 Runs since the August Meeting – 2 rescue, 6 that were chargeable and 1 of the chargeable was Watertown Township.

**SEWER REPORT:** S Kenny report

- There have been 3 power outages that affected the lift station since the last meeting. He would like the Board's approval to apply for the grants for the sewer backup system.

\*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to apply for the grant for the Michigan Township Participating Plan Grant for sewer repairs and backup. Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**WEB SITE REPORT** R. Cambridge report

- Contact information is done except for one Planning Commission Member's Phone Number.
- Added the September 10<sup>th</sup> Agenda and August 6<sup>th</sup> Meetings
- Updated the paving projects start date
- Updated Watertown Township roads paved.
- Added a new law regarding having the property tax payment before any land is divided
- She is updating the ordinances web page

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

1. Rick Pangburn requested clarification on the marijuana ordinances. What can happen? Scott Franzel said that the townships' ordinance prohibits anything but what is specifically allowed by Michigan law. I.e. no grow facilities, dispensaries, etc.
2. Chris Wedge Concerned Citizen. This is not hearsay. This is not a small operation. The state has already been on them. They are not a small mom and pop operation. So, with them asking for a 600-amp service, he guarantees that is what it's for. It's going to bring trouble. They are the same ones that had trouble in Ubyly.
3. Rick Pangburn asked about the daycare facility Franzel will look into the possibility that there is a distance requirement.
4. Scott Franzel will contact Sheriff Biniecki to request someone attend the next Township Meeting to answer questions regarding this subject.

**ZONING:**

1. Jonathon Boyle – Tim is currently in process of getting this to the judge.

2. James Spoutz 105 Morris Rd – Nothing new
3. Thibodue 2586 S Sandusky Rd – Nothing new
4. Pritchett Land Splits – Completed

Cambridge asked about the sharing of a Blight Officer with the City of Sandusky. Franzel responded that this is a seasonal job and will be addressed in the spring.

Cambridge asked about the road side signs. No update on this, but Franzel will research it.

### **PERMITS ISSUED:**

1. Permit for a deck for Alex Ritter was issued

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Windmill ordinance – Need to consider windmill ordinance as presented
  - Scott Franzel opened the meeting up to the public for comments on the Windmill Ordinance and requested that Bill Dixon give a short synopsis on the ordinance
  - Bill Dixon – The original ordinance was crafted between 2012 and 2014. The Planning Committee passed the ordinance, but there are no minutes where the ordinance was approved by the Township Board. As a matter of procedure, the Township Board must adopt or reject the Planning Commission's recommendation. As of now there is not an ordinance on the books. Therefore, the Planning Commission is requesting that the Township considering adopting the ordinance so it is official and can be published. Future goals for the Planning Commission include organizing all ordinances into an easy to use format.
  - Jeff Renaudin asked to see a copy of the ordinance. Scott Franzel offered him a copy and explained the procedure moving forward.
  - When ordinance is approved, an electronic copy will be sent to Cambridge to be posted on the website.

\*\*\*Kenny made the motion to approve the wind ordinance. Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

2. Air Advantage – Grant Program- no new news
3. Dave Faber City Manager – Blight Officer- Nothing yet – Tabled until Spring

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Review the updated list of scheduled fees, Parcel Division Application and Land Use Permit application. Completed fee schedule is made for comment and review for the board.

Scott Franzel researched and reviewed an updated list of scheduled fees with the Board.

\*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to accept the fee schedule as presented Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

2. I (Scott) would like approval for a zoning administrator program class.
  - Discussion was held

\*\*\*Kenny made the motion to approve that Scott Kenny be allowed Cambridge supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

3. LED Lighting,

- Discussion was held

\*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to get a quote on replacing the current lights with LED lights. Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

4. Windows

- Discussion was held

\*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to have Sanilac Glass quote replacement of the fogged windows in the Townhall. Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None.

5. Planning Commission Projector

- Discussion was held

\*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to purchase a projector to be used by the Planning Commission at a cost not to exceed \$300. Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None.

**ADJOURN:** \*\*\*Cambridge made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Kenny supported. Ayes: Cambridge, Franzel, Kenny and Ross. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Next Board Meeting Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Ross, Clerk