

Homestead Township Regular Board Meeting July 6, 2022

A regular meeting of the Homestead Township Board was called to order at 6:06pm by Supervisor Tia Kurina-Cooley.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Mead, Tia Kurina-Cooley, Pat Delorme, Karen Mallon, Bess Butler.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Mead to approve agenda. Support: Cooley. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Cooley to approve the June 6, 2022, Regular Board meeting. Support: Bess Butler. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Herbicide treatment will begin throughout Benzie County June and July. Maintenance work to be done on the Township Hall (outside) July 3 – July 18, 2022, by Nathan Johnson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Broad Band meeting; Charter to expand in Benzie County only where Charter is able to expand no new service areas. Primary election August 2, 2022.

REPORTS:

Zoning Administrator: Busy with inquiries. Price of wood down. Land Use permits continue to be issued. Reviewed deeds west of Turtle Lake. Eclipse Internet Services requesting to be on the agenda for the August meeting. Still working with Wade Trim. Have met with MTA attorneys regarding Noise Ordinance and issues. Their legal counsel is looking over documents. Eclipse Internet requesting to be at August meeting.

Motion by Cooley to approve the Zoning Administrator to consult with attorneys regarding Zoning and Police Power ordinances for interpretation of the US District Court ruling. Support: Delorme. Roll Call: Mallon – yes; Mead – yes; Cooley - yes; Delorme – yes; Butler – yes. Motion carried.

Assessor: Working with Equalization on Sales Study. 27 inspections completed, 50 more to inspect. 68 building permits are open. AMAR completed; adopted resolutions will need to be corrected.

Board of Review: Will meet on July 19, 2022, for clerical error and late filing of PREs. Current Board of Review members are: John Hancock, Gary Marchionni, Wayne Corbett and Nadine Scowden. The Board of Review should consider another alternate as Scowden leaves for Florida in December and does not return until April. March Board of Review cannot be short members as appeal of assessments are done at this time.

Parks: HARP – plan progressing slowly. Fencing is out and no resources remain for blueberry patch.

Planning Commission: Next meeting scheduled for July 18, 2022, at 6pm. Contact Geoff Sandman to cancel meeting if nothing is to be presented before the Planning Commission.

County Commissioner: Broad band survey results are in. County paid \$40,000.00 for the survey. Spectrum won the rural development. Animal control grant for “cat condos” and working on a walking path for animals. Emergency Management and Central Dispatch Director wants to split. Board granted request. New Dispatch Director will be sought effective October 2022. County applied for a Brownfield grant for the property in Honor which was the old Bud’s gas station. Tax abatement granted.

Will amount to about \$650,000.00 for 3 years. Working on next year's budget. A handbook will be created to explain all of the county's millages. A citizen's survey has been created to get input on how the county should use the ARPA funds.

Fire Department: Written and submitted. Mutual aid agreement with National Park Service is complete. Signatures are needed. Ironman will be held September 11, 2022. Fire department will work as volunteers again in medical and rescue. The time will be refunded by Ironman organization. 4 new firemen have completed the Fire Academy as certified firefighters. Fire Chief will be on vacation beginning July 22, 2022. Jeremy Burrows, Assistant Fire Chief should be contacted if needed.

Motion by Cooley to sign Mutual Aid Agreement between fire department and National Parks Service. Support: Mallon. Roll Call: Cooley – yes, Delorme – yes; Butler – yes; Mallon – yes; Mead – yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer: Written and submitted. Auditor were in and audit is complete.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Audit complete. Clerk will look into the discrepancies that still exist between the Clerk and Treasurer financial reports for the following accounts: General Fund, Fire Ops, Fire Equipment, Park and Rec, and CD.

Primary election is set for August 2, 2022. Public Accuracy Test is scheduled for July 20, 2022. Supervisor and Treasurer must attend accuracy test. Certification and Testing are open for Poll Workers. Anyone interested in working the election must be trained. Contact clerk for more information.

Clerk reported that hall was rented on June 12, 2022. Per rental agreement, hall needs to be cleaned at the end of the event. Clerk reported that the water in the kitchen was left running, there was garbage left in the bathroom, there were items affixed to the walls that had to be removed, and there was liquid leakage across the floor which appears to have been from a garbage bag and the floor was not cleaned. Floor needed to be mopped. Rental agreement states that security deposit may be withheld from refund if hall not cleaned. Security deposit for hall rental is \$50.00. Clerk suggested partial return of deposit based on these findings. Suggests holding \$10.00 - \$25.00. Supervisor stated that if anything had to be cleaned after a rental, then no deposit should be refunded. Clerk called for roll call vote to withhold security deposit in full (\$50.00) on renter from June 12, 2022. Cooley – yes; Delorme – yes; Butler - yes ; Mallon – yes; Mead – yes. Clerk will advise renter of Board's decision to withhold security deposit of \$50.00.

Clerk inquired about the Verizon account that the ZA has. ZA reports phone needs to be updated and is still using. Once all information is acquired from it, service can be cancelled.

Motion by Cooley to accept reports as presented. Support: Butler. All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

FINANCE: Motion by Cooley to approve APs with additions of \$390.00 to US Postal Service for election postage in GF, Fire Department and Parks and Rec accounts. Support: Mallon. Roll Call: Mallon – yes; Mead – yes; Cooley – yes; Delorme – yes, Butler – yes. Motion carried.

NEW/OLD BUSINES:

MR Consulting: Discussion held regarding presented agreement of services.

Motion by Cooley to hire MRC for Grant Writing services per presented agreement and Park and Rec Plan for the period of July 7, 2022, through January 31, 2023, in the amount of \$2,050.00 (50% for 6 months) annually and Capital Improvement Plan in the amount of \$1,100.00 annually (50% for 6 months). Support: Butler. Roll call: Mallon - yes; Mead – yes; Cooley – yes; Delorme – yes, Butler – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cooley to approve MRC agreement for Zoning Administration services for a 6-month period effective immediately for the period of July 7, 2022, through January 31, 2023, in the amount of \$49,992.00 annually. Support: Delorme. Roll Call: Butler – yes; Delorme – yes; Cooley – yes; Mead – yes; Mallon – yes. Motion carried.

Personnel Policy – Tabled.

PARK MAINTENANCE: Motion by Cooley to hire Shannon Purchase at annual rate of \$24,000.00 for the position of Township Building and Parks Maintenance. Support: Butler. Roll call: Cooley – yes; Delorme – yes; Butler yes; Mead – yes; Mallon – yes. Motion carried.

Property Transfer Resolution: Discussion held on waiving property transfer fees. Resolution to be presented at the August 8, 2022, Regular Board Meeting.

Poverty Exemption Resolution: Amend Resolution 03072022-04. Motion by Cooley to amend Resolution 03072022-04 by removing the following section 2): ... including any property tax credit returns, filed in the immediately preceding year or current year. Support: Butler. Roll call: Mallon – yes; Mead – yes; Cooley – yes; Delorme – yes. Motion carried.

Asset Test Resolution: Discussion held regarding amount of assets property owner can have while still being considered for poverty exemption. Asset Test Resolution 070622-01: Motion by Cooley to offer Asset Test Resolution to include 1). \$10,000.00 additional assets, 2). Income included for all persons living in household, and 3). Minimum footprints per zoning district for legal splits. Support: Delorme. Roll call: Mallon – yes; Mead – yes; Cooley – yes; Delorme – yes; Butler – yes. Motion carried.

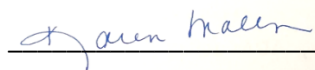
Ironman Agreement: Motion by Cooley to approve agreement to provide support from fire department at the rate of \$110.00 per hour for two fire department individuals and the fire department side by side. Hourly wage for personnel will be \$35.00 per hour per fire personnel. Support: Mead. Roll call: Cooley – yes; Delorme – yes; Butler – yes; Mallon – yes; Mead – yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tim O’Leary recent resident who has been coming to the Honor area for 17 years thanked the Board for the support of the DNR park.

Motion by Cooley to Adjourn Regular Board Meeting at 8:19 pm. Support: Mead. All ayes. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the July 6, 2022, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Homestead Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 9th day of August 2022.

Respectfully Submitted:



_____, Karen Mallon, Clerk