



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board

Regular Meeting: Monday May 6, 2019

The regular meeting of the Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order by Chairman Tom Bloomer at 6:30 p.m. on Monday May 6, 2019 at the Webster Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chairman Tom Bloomer, members Jerry Nordblom, Julie Frost, John Westman and consultant Barry Lonik.

Members absent: None

Approve Minutes:

Motion Frost, second Nordblom to approve the open and closed session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting held on March 11, 2019 as presented. All ayes, motion carried. There was no meeting held in April.

Chairman's Remarks:

Chair Bloomer reported on a conference call he and Barry had with Ginny Trocchio and Coy Vaughn regarding communication and the resolution of procedural issues.

Approve Agenda:

Motion Nordblom, second Frost to approve the May 6, 2019 agenda as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Call to Public:

None present

Review Bills:

Motion Frost, second Nordblom to recommend that the Township Board of Trustees approve and pay the March invoice from Treemore Ecology and Land Services, Inc. as presented. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Nordblom, second Frost to recommend that the Township Board of Trustees approve and pay the April invoice from Treemore Ecology and Land Services, Inc. as presented. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Reports

Township Board

Westman reviewed and answered questions regarding BOT meetings held on March 19, 2019 and April 16, 2019.

Consultant:

Lonik reported that the Sun Times had an article covering the Smith project which closed on March 19th. Problems with the difference between the legal descriptions in the P.A. and C.E. are being resolved. Ford-Goldsmith is moving forward with the closing projected on or before June 30th. Part of Base Lake farms (250 acres) closed on April 11th. Monitoring will commence with half the properties visited this spring; the other half in the fall.

Greenbelt:

Chair Bloomer announced that Jean Cares will be leaving the Greenbelt Commission. Rosanne Bloomer will be assuming the position in June.

Closed session

Motion Frost, second Nordblom to close the open session at 7:30 pm and go into closed session in order to discuss confidential applications to the PDR program. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried. Westman did not participate in the closed session due to an ongoing conflict of interest. Following the closed session Chair Bloomer called the open session to order at 8:10 pm.

Old business

A. Landowner discounts for C.E. purchases: Ways to encourage landowner discounts were discussed. The possibility of getting an up-front commitment from the land owner in order to gain points on the application was suggested. No action was taken.

New Business:

A. Motions as required: none

B. Borrowing from the General Fund: Westman will advise the BOT that we may be requesting up to \$225,000 in order to complete projects this year. The loan would be paid back with December 2019 tax collections. No request will be made at this time.

Correspondence:

None received

Call to Public:

None present.

Adjournment:

Motion Frost, second Nordblom to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting was declared adjourned by Chair Bloomer at 8:30 p.m. Next scheduled meeting: June 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Westman

Member, WTFOSPB

