

MINUTES  
DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Tim Murphy

Present	Tim Murphy	Supervisor
Present	Walter Nelson	Clerk
Present	Connie Lynch	Treasurer
Present	Randy Martin	Trustee
Present	Alan Johns	Trustee

Three others were also present.

Agenda additions: Parking Lot Lights and Sign and Electronic Poll Books

Motioned to approve Agenda by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin, motion carried.

Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin to approve the minutes of February 17, 2020 Regular Meeting, motion carried. Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin to approve the minutes of February 25, 2020 Special Meeting, motion carried. Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin to approve the minutes of March 6, 2020 Budget Workshop, motion carried.

Treasurers Report By: Connie Lynch: Filed for audit, final check for fiscal year revenue sharing was \$47,000.00.

Fire Department Report was given by Chief Ryan Martin: The cost recovery ordinance was postponed. Three runs in February YTD seven runs discussed COVID-19 Response.

Planning Commission Report: By Connie Lynch, There is nothing new to report

JCCA Report: by Randy Martin, There is nothing new to report

Motion by Walter Nelson seconded by Alan Johns to pay the General Fund vendor Bills (\$14,800.61), General Fund Payroll Bills (\$5,639.98) and the Fire Department Vendor Bills (\$11,732.94) Fire Department Payroll Bills (\$10,240.02), Roll call vote, 5 aye, 0 nay, motion carried.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:** Sherriff Main reported on issues at the Sheriff's Department and also public safety in general. One of the most serious issues is the shortage of personnel with all police agencies.

**Unfinished Business:**

Nothing new on cemetery improvements. There was nothing new on hall equipment. Nothing new on Irish hills water Issue.

## **Minutes**

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The board discussed upgrading the computer network and software upgrades Motioned by Walter Nelson seconded by Randy Martin to approve Ryan Martin and Tim Wolters to research government discounts for a server and computers and put together a package for a new computer network, and approve up to \$10,000.00 for purchasing computers and related equipment,

roll call vote 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried. Walter Nelson also informed the board of the need to replace the Electronic Poll Book Laptops and will ask for an increase in the new budget for Elections Capital Outlay.

Walter Nelson presented a resolution from the township attorney containing the ballot language to renew the fire department operating millage, motioned by Walter Nelson seconded by Alan Johns to adopt the resolution and approve the ballot language, roll call vote 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried.

Discussion on green burial request was postponed. Discussion on electronic records retention was postponed.

The board discussed parking lot lighting, more quotes are needed, also discussed was more signs for prohibiting heavy trucks from using the parking lot, the supervisor will order new signs.

### **New Business:**

The board discussed contracts with Isabella County Road Commission: Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin to approve Overlay Pickard Road from North Branch Bridge to Meridian Road, \$178,614.00 roll call vote 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried. Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin to approve Overlay Pickard Road from Vandecar Road to 1000' East of Nottawa Road, \$170,928.00, roll call vote, 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried. Motioned by Walter Nelson seconded by Randy Martin, Limestone Refresh Nottawa Road between Pickard and River Roads \$32,987.46, roll call vote 4 aye 0 nay, Alan Johns abstained, motion carried. Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Connie Lynch two applications of 2,500 gallons of chloride water to all 26.89 miles of gravel roads, roll call vote 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried. Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin gravel refresh Millbrook Road from Winn Road to Vandecar Road, \$8,127.30, roll call vote 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried. Motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin gravel refresh Millbrook Road from Vandecar Road to Nottawa Road, \$8,127.30, roll call vote 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried.

The clerk requested the board authorize the creation of a permanent absentee voter list, motioned by Alan Johns seconded by Randy Martin to create a permanent absent voter list, roll call vote 5 aye 0 nay, motion carried.

The board discussed two planning commission appointments that need to be staggered with other appointees, motioned by Connie Lynch seconded Walter Nelson to reappoint Roger Lintemuth and Alex Imlay to the planning commission, both terms to expire in 2023, motion carried.

Walter Nelson suggested to the board that some measures should be taken to counter the mandates from the state to local units of government without adequate funding and in some cases no funding at all. Mr. Nelson stated the state constitution is very clear in its requirements that any time the state mandates the local government to do something or raise the level of services, the state has to provide funding for the increase. It was suggested that the MTA may be able to offer some suggestions for solutions to the problem.

**Public Comments:** Walter Nelson informed the board that the Council of Governments would be discussing how the county is handling the Corona Virus Situation provided the meeting is not cancelled.

Motioned by Walter Nelson seconded by Connie Lynch to adjourn, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Walter Nelson

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Deerfield Township Clerk