

Lee Township Board of Trustees  
April 12, 2021, Monthly Board  
Zoom Meeting

Kristy Gustafson called the meeting to order at 7: 04pm. Roll call was taken. Darla Rippee, William Stewart, Lawrence Henry, Kristy Gustafson and Laura Dawson were present, as well as numerous residents. (102 participants)

- **Approval of Agenda:** Kristy made a motion to approve the Agenda with the Clerk's additions and the correction of the date of the Minutes needing approval from 3/30/21 to 3/29/21-03/31/21, the addition of FOIA Coordinator and Code Authority Report. Bill seconded said motion. Roll call was taken. Bill: yes, Lawrence: yes, Kristy: yes, Laura: yes, Darla: yes. A yes motion carried.
- **Guests:** Our County Commissioner, Steve Glasser gave a brief report.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Bill presented the monthly Treasurer's report.
- **Approval of bills:**
- **Fire:** Bill made a motion to approve the Fire but wants confirmation on the "Samsa" if it is something the fire Dept has already received is so pay it. Lawrence seconded said motion. Roll call was taken. Lawrence: yes, Kristy: yes, Laura: yes, Darla: yes, Bill: yes. A yes motion carried.
- **Payroll:** Bill made a motion to approve payroll as presented in the Amount of \$14054.58. Darla seconded said motion. Roll call was taken. Kristy: yes, Laura: yes, Darla: yes, Bill: yes, Lawrence: yes. A yes motion carried. Dave is owed 2 hrs. on next check.
- **Solid Waste:** Bill made a motion to approve Solid Waste in the amount of \$18,570.18. Lawrence seconded said motion. Roll call was taken. Laura: yes, Lawrence: yes, Darla: yes, Kristy: yes, Bill: yes. A yes motion carried. Lawrence will check on invoice from 2-25-21.
- **Water:** Kristy made a motion to approve the Water fund bills in the amount of \$1460.63. Bill seconded said motion. Roll call was taken. Lawrence: yes, Darla: yes, Kristy: yes, Bill: yes, Laura: yes. A yes motion carried. Bill
- **General:** Bill made a motion to approve General to include John Hancock for 2020 in the amount of \$14594.13, \$1,600.00 Final painting payment and \$3,499.06 for monthly bills. Total is \$19693.19. Darla seconded said motion. Roll call was taken. Darla: yes, Kristy: yes, Bill: yes, Lawrence: yes, Laura: yes. A yes motion carried.
- **Minutes:** Bill made a motion to approve minutes from the March 29 with continuing on March 31, 2021, meeting. Lawrence seconded said motion. Roll call was taken. Kristy: no, Bill: yes, Laura: yes, Lawrence: yes, Darla: no. A yes motion carried.
- **Fire Report:** At 7:52 pm Daryl gave his report. He is working on the classes that were approved for him to take. Kristy asked for a synopsis on all classes after he has completed them all.
- **Correspondence:** Laura presented the correspondence she received. One was from someone wanting to rent the hall, but asking if she took out a rider to serve alcohol what would it take? Lawrence and Darla will be following up on this and bring to their findings to the next meeting.
- **Unfinished Business:**

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- **Park Trees:** *Kristy* will follow up with *Jeffries* on the quote that was approved to do tree work.
- **Policies & Procedures Manual:** *Lawrence* will work to get a Workshop set with Planning and the Board. It will be scheduled for April 17, 2021, at 10:00 am.
- **Cemetery Columbarium:** On the Level will be starting soon, with the challenges happening in the township *Cal* wants to make sure he will get paid upon completion. On the Level has received ½ payment down.
- **Facebook:** Is up and running. *Lawrence* gave the guidelines pertaining to Lee Township page, to be posted on our page. *Kristy* made a motion to add *Lawrence* to be another Admin on our Facebook page and to add the Guidelines. *Bill* seconded said motion. Roll call: *Bill*: yes, *Laura*: yes, *Lawrence*: yes, *Darla*: yes, *Kristy*: yes. A yes motion carried. *Bill* also wants a snapshot if it is a “inappropriate post to” save in case of any later challenges.
- **Audit:** *Kristy* stated she contacted the state and gave them the paperwork needed for the Audit. (123 participants currently.) A forensic audit to include both Treasurer and Clerk. *Laura* Stated she needs *Bill* to work with her to balance the checkbooks. They have not balanced since November 2020. Transfers need to be made. *Kristy* asked *Bill* to get with *Laura*.
- **New Business:** Park and Hall proposal. *Laura* asked *Kristy* on March 9, 2021, if her proposal was “approved” she stated no, either we address it or move on, it is 8:36 pm. Then she talked about locks on the bathroom doors, volunteers, grants etc. Get a post together to address a caretaker for park. Post it on Facebook and Web site. (Restroom break). Hall rental was discussed. *Kristy* stated: Keep in mind, it is just a proposal we can adjust the budget. Post for a hall and caretaker both. *Lawrence* will work on the Post and *Bill* will work on the job descriptions.
- **Website:** *Laura* emailed website quotes to the Board prior to meeting from a few Vendors, which have been discussed numerous times. *Lawrence* also emailed a new one from: Great Lakes Web Design, *Bill* stated Revised had pursuing us a few years ago. He will ask them for a new one. Tabled until next month. *Laura* will put all quotes in packet again.
- **Question & Answer questions:** *Kristy* is requesting *Laura* to comply the list from March 8, 2021, meeting.
- **Laura’s letter:** *Laura* read her letter. (See attached).
- **FOIA:** *Laura* sent the Board an email (See attached) handing the FOIA’s back to the Supervisor. During this meeting *Kristy* made a motion to appoint *Laura* as the FOIA Coordinator, *Bill* seconded said motion. Roll Call: *Laura*: no, *Lawrence*: no, *Kristy*: yes, *Darla*: yes, *Bill*: yes. Motion carried. (*Laura* was referring to Monthly Treasurer reports, not just GAA’s). *Laura* recommended giving the to the FOIA’S the township attorney.
- **Solid Waste:** *Kristy* read the memoranda from the Township attorney after “scolding” *Laura* about posting on Facebook, she had help researching the Township attorney, we thought he was the attorney from Mt. Pleasant with the same name as our attorney that “specializes in divorce”. *Laura* had a few residents ask who he was. It was not malice on anyone’s part. Also, it was not necessary for Ms. Gustafson to

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make her statement during a public meeting. Upon the completion of reading the Township Attorneys opinion, Kristy gave her concerns, we can use volunteers, but they are required be licensed and must sign a waiver. There is no running water, we would need a costly water line, septic field, and tank, heat in the building, eye wash shower, emergency shower etc. The Supervisor stated she had a businessperson at the W.T.S and they witnessed a "Business" dumping out back as well as up front. She never made mention if she stopped that said business from dumping or question him. If we are not supposed to be taking in certain things, why has it been allowed to continue. The Supervisor stated we cannot monitor the Waste coming into the Transfer station. But we can monitor the curbside. She stated it would cut the land fill fees in half, therefore it would keep our waste assessment under two hundred dollars. Supervisor stated our waste assessment would be over \$700 yearly if we continued to maintain the dump. She also stated if we need another bin for curbside, it will be free to you, just work with the township to get it. If you are elderly with a long drive, call to work out arrangements with Republic, as they will accommodate you. Water assessment fees also went up, "because if we do not raise them now in 10 years, we will not be able to pay our water loan". **Lawrence:** presented his numbers, he feels it could be done for apx. \$205-215 with recycling. Limit open tops. Work with OHSA giving your plans to them working on goals. Volunteers, give dump cards, work together. If we do not have money for the dump, we do not have money for curbside, give the residents a chance to work with the Board. We owe it to the citizens to work on saving the dump. We need to ask the township to work together with the Board. Work with the employees to improve what comes in. **Darla:** spoke stating we would need a guard shack at the road. Stickers on cars, but everything would be expensive. **Bill:** stated it was a money pit. He congratulated Kristy on all her hard work. **Laura:** I still stand with the citizens. **Kristy** accused **Laura** of telling someone to dump tires in **Kristy's** yard. **Laura** left to breath.

- **Planning Commission:** **Mary Spraul** gave a brief report.
- **Code Authority:** **Darla** gave a brief update. She stated the representative on Code Authority could be a resident. Children are calling and complaining that their landlords are not fixing things, so there will be a new complaint form, she also mentioned a Cal and if he was out in the audience, he needs to call Amy to discuss a situation.
- **Back to Solid waste:** **Kristy** stated what **Laura** found at the County (the ballots) was not what she was asking for, she wanted the Ordinances to go with them. Those should be at the Town Hall as they would be permanent records. She asked if all members were in attendance, without knowing Laura was there, as she was cut off the meeting and had to sign back on. She was muted. **Bill:** made a motion to accept the **Ordinance 2021-03**. Seconded by Darla. Roll call: Lawrence: no, Bill: yes, Darla: yes, Kristy: yes. As Kristy had Laura muted, she did not vote.
- **Resolution:** Laura finally called Kristy on her phone to say she had been there but was muted. Laura stated the ordinance was not numbered correctly. Kristy made a

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motion to amend the ordinance to read 2021-04-12(1). Seconded by Bill. Roll call: Lawrence: no, Bill: yes, Kristy: yes, Darla: yes, Laura: no. A yes motion carried.

Resolution was read. Motion to adopt the resolution 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill.

Roll call: Laura: no, Kristy: yes, Lawrence: no, Darla: yes, Bill: yes. A yes motion carried. The Contract has been reviewed by the Attorney. Laura asked where the other bids were. Kristy gave a bid from a Detroit Company, stating it was less but we would have to pay Republic to back out of our current contract for the Solid Waste contract, so it would be more in the long run.

- **Public Comment:** Public Comment was open from **10:31pm. – 11:25 pm.** (103 participants currently).
- **Adjourn:** As there was no other business to attend to Bill made a motion to adjourn. Kristy seconded said motion. Roll was taken. Lawrence: yes, Laura: yes, Kristy: yes, Darla: yes, and Bill: yes. Meeting was adjourned at **11:25 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Dawson \_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Township Clerk

**Laura Dawson**

1485 W. OLSON RD.  
MIDLAND, MI 48650  
PHONE: (989) 832-2874  
FAX: (989) 486-1667

Date: April 14, 2021

Dear Kristy Gustafson,

I spoke with MTA today. The FOIA coordinator position is not my statutory duty. I will not except the responsibility of this position. You may check Michigan's Freedom of Information Act, page 20 # 15.236: it states the Chief Administrator is the FOIA coordinator. Due to the volume of FOIA's that have come in because of your decision to close the Waste Transfer Station, I will not be responsible for clearing up this mess. I just must provide you an avenue to locate the information if it is the Clerk's information. If you need anything from me with any of the current FOIA'S, please give me a list in an email and I will do the best I can.

You know as well as I, that you have a key to the fireproof storage room. You and Darla were supposed to help with going through all the old records when you were both Trustee's, in the 3 yrs. that never happened.

I cannot go through the March 8<sup>th</sup> recording, as I asked you for a copy. I also gave you the flash drive to copy it on. I have not received the flash drive back from you. You can also put the April 12, 2021 meeting on the same flash drive, as my recording stopped when I left to get a clear head. I need the copy to finish my minutes. I will not comply the list of the Q & A from the March meeting even after I receive the flash drive. If you want to take the time to do so, feel free.

My last topic is the Ordinance should also have an A at the end due to the Resolution also needing a number. Ordinance: 2021-04-12-1 Resolution: 2021-04-12-2. I need both in a word document to have on my computer so I can add everything to it that completes it other than our Signatures.

Laura Dawson

April 7, 2021

To Lee Township Board of Trustees,

I am writing to address the motion Kristy Gustafson made on March 8, 2021, for option #2 for the closure of the Waste Transfer Station, implementing curbside with no recycle, seconded by William Stewart. Roll call Lawrence: no, Kristy: yes, Darla: yes, Bill: yes, Laura: no. Motion carried.

To serve our community with best interests at hand, I am asking for this to be on the agenda at the April 12, 2021 Board Meeting. This is from the minutes of March 26, 2021: "Kristy said there should be records if it went to a vote. She stated apx. 1983 and again 90-94. Laura Dawson stated she would go in search of said records". Laura found the records at Midland County Official Election Storage Room (see attached). It was voted on by the residents on August 2, 1988 with two proposals and again on November 3, 1992. To ignore these votes would be an act of voter's suppression. If curbside is to be considered at a later date, we can make said motion again and move forward.

I have also attached the Affidavit of Publication for the March 8, 2021 meeting. I would like to ask, how this publication states anything to do with the closure of the waste transfer. This was hidden from me as well as at least one more Board member and the Residents. I would call that a "hidden agenda". We need to stop with the hidden agenda's even such as the Park/Hall proposal. I asked, you, Kristy on March 9, 2021, when we were going to address that proposal, as I had many questions. You said we would address it later, your later was to change numbers in the GAA and run it through. Again, a hidden agenda. I have also attached your Park & Hall proposal.

I am asking the Board members to do what is in the best interest of our township and vote to rescind said motion from March 8, 2021 and stop with the "Hidden Agendas".

Thanks,

Laura Dawson  
Lee Township Clerk