

**Melrose Township Board of Trustees Approved Minutes  
December 11, 2018 7:00pm**

**Call to order**

V. Goodwin called to order at 7:02pm

Present: V. Goodwin, S. Burr, P. Cotanche, L. Stephens, R. Hissong Berry

**Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to amend the agenda by adding under new business: Planning Commission, and Senate Bill 396 resolution; and approve as amended.

Motion: P. Cotanche 2<sup>nd</sup> L. Stephens approved 5/0

**Approval of minutes from previous meeting:**

**Minutes of November 13, 2018 Regular meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2018 Regular Township Board meeting as presented.

Motion: S. Burr 2<sup>nd</sup> L. Stephens approved 5/0

**Guest**

- **G. Lasater** not present

**Old Business**

- **Sewer Update** –  
A. Nordman presented the enclosed report. Things are going well.  
Working on design of North Shore extension  
**Holmes Rd. Land deed**- Received and recorded
- **Water Update** – no news
- **Circle Park update** Shared information about insurance cost and coverage if we own it.
- **Park Ordinance Revision** Reviewed and discussed some questions. Get concerns into writing, so they can be incorporated into the draft. The attorney will be asked to prepare the ordinance with additions.
- **US131 & M75 intersection update**  
People are submitting comments to Triston Coles' office. Discussed the MDOT public hearing and possible dates and times. Will request a Tuesday in Jan. or Feb. at 7pm, not regular board meeting date.

**New Business**

- **New Chairs for offices options** reviewed the first options and determined the basic features desired. Cushion seats, mesh backs, arms, on wheels, and minimal plastic parts. Will check for options at Office Max and Integrity.
- **Holiday Hours at the Transfer Station**  
Will be important to monitor the use of the station on the Holiday changed dates.
- **Office Employee**  
In the budget is funds for an office employee. Seeking Township Board on the support for a fulltime employee to be in the office who will work for the Board not any one position. The proposal includes wages, benefits, insurance at approximately \$45,000. Agreement in the discussion to support a fulltime position in budget planning for 2018& 2019. January agenda to discuss tasks to be assigned to the employee.
- **Flywheeler Grant support**  
Motion to support the Flywheelers grant application for funds to support the Harvest Days Events that are held each fall.  
Motion: S. Burr 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Cotanche approved 5/0  
Notice to be sent to the Flywheelers explaining in the future they must submit in a timely way.
- **Bear River Subcommittee- Tipp of the Mitt Watershed Council**  
The proposal to create a subcommittee to focus on the whole length of the Bear River has been presented. To focus on stream crossings, erosion control, invasive plants, habitat improvement, and navigation improvement as possible work.  
Motion: Support the Bear River subcommittee concept and effort with the Tipp of the Mitt Watershed Council and seek to have a representative serve on the committee.  
Motion: L. Stephens 2<sup>nd</sup> S. Burr approved 5/0

- **Planning Commission**

A letter of resignation from B. Marquardt has been received. Mr. Charles Zimmer has agreed to serve on the Commission.

Motion to appoint Charles Zimmer to serve on the Planning Commission for a 4 year term.

Motion: V. Goodwin 2<sup>nd</sup> L. Stephens approved 5/0

- **Senate Bill 396**

**RESOLUION 2018-12-11-01 Senate Bill 396**

Opposing as it will negatively impact roads in our Township.

Motion: S. Burr 2<sup>nd</sup> V. Goodwin

Roll call vote: V. Goodwin-Y, S. Burr-Y, P. Cotanche-Y, L. Stephens-Y, R. H. Berry-Y

Approved 5/0

### **Financial Report**

- **General fund reports**

Motion to accept reports as presented and pay all bills.

Motion: P. Cotanche 2<sup>nd</sup> S. Burr approved 5/0

- **Sewer fund reports**

T. Mackie presented the sewer fund reports.

Motion to accept the sewer fund reports as presented and pay all bills.

Motion: S. Burr 2<sup>nd</sup> L. Stephens approved 5/0

**Zoning Administrators Report** see included report

### **Assessors Report**

Board of Review will meet on 12/12/2018. There is training coming for Board of Review members in February.

**Employee Grounds Report** none

### **Committee Reports**

- **Planning Commission** P. Cotanche presented a summary of the December 3 meeting. Discussed the Marihuana issue and will watch what develops from the state.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals** no meeting
- **Road Committee** E. Lee reported that the Road Commission Engineer is working on plans for West St., East St. and Third Street. The survey of Third St. needs to be staked and a copy of the survey provided to the road commission. Has asked the CCRC what will be required to have Third St. certified so the county will plow the street.  
Requested that the Board support the appointment of Russel McGee to the CCRC.  
Motion to support the appointment of Russel MaGee to serve on the Charlevoix County Road Commission.  
Motion: V. Goodwin 2<sup>nd</sup> L. Stephens approved 5/0
- **Park Committee** none
- **Fire Department**  
L. Stephens shared the included report.
- **DDA** none

**Correspondence** none

**Public Comment** called for

- When are the minutes posted to the website?
- Current Policy and Procedures need to be updated. P. Cotanche would like to work on this.

**Adjournment** 8:52 pm

**MELROSE TOWNSHIP  
RESOLUTION 2018-12-11-01 ON SENATE BILL 396**

**WHEREAS**, roads are the backbone of the social, cultural and economic stability of Charlevoix County and our region, and particularly Melrose Township, which makes significant annual contributions to preservation, maintenance and other activities on the local road system; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as “frost laws”) to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS**, it is a fact in Melrose Township and throughout all Northern states that all roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in Melrose Township and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system, which is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package*; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public* accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Melrose Township residents and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS**, the Melrose Township works closely with the Charlevoix County Road Commission to maintain our vital local road network and to accommodate the logging industry wherever possible to also maintain the economic vitality of our region;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Melrose Township hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member: \_\_\_S. Burr\_\_\_

Support by Board Member: \_\_\_V. Goodwin\_\_\_

Ayes: \_\_\_5\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_0\_\_\_

Roll call vote: V. Goodwin-Y, S. Burr-Y, P. Cotanche-Y, L. Stephens-Y, R. H. Berry-Y

I certify that the above and foregoing resolution was duly approved and adopted at a regular meeting of Melrose Township, Charlevoix County on the \_\_\_11\_\_\_ day of \_December\_, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robin Hissong Berry, Clerk