

PIERSON TOWNSHIP
Community & Economic Growth Committee Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2020
3:00 pm

In accordance with Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-129 to address meetings of public bodies, such as township boards, village councils, county boards of commissioners, etc., required under the Open Meetings Act ("OMA"), MCL 15.261 et seq., in the wake of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Acting under the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and Michigan law, Governor Gretchen Witmer's Executive Order 2020-129" order the following: 1. Effective immediately and continuing until July 31, 2020 at 11:59 pm, to the extent that the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended, MCL 15.261 to 15.272 ("OMA") requires that a meeting of a public body be held in a physical place available to the general public or requires the physical presence of one or more members of a public body, strict compliance with section 3 of the OMA, MCL 15.263, is temporarily suspended in order to alleviate any such physical-place or physical presence requirements, as follows:

(a) A meeting of a public body may be held electronically, including by telephonic conferencing or video conferencing, in a manner in which both the general public and the members of the public body may participate by electronic means." (full verbiage is posted on township website or upon request).

I. Meeting

a. Call to Order: 3:10 pm

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Roll Call:

Buyze, Burkholder, Schroeder, Coffin, Becker-Fountain Late via Zoom/phone: Rockburn

II. Meeting of Agenda

Motion: Coffin 2nd: Becker-Fountain Aye: All Nay: None

III. Approval of June Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Burkholder 2nd: Schroeder Aye: All Nay: None

IV. Public Comments

V. Project: Clean-Up Wrap-Up

a. Sadly, trash has started to accumulate again with plastics and restaurant trash.

b. Roger to collect pokers & vests

c. Team-Up Prize

i. No word from Leppinks/Spartan Nash (try again later project)

ii. (Roger) **Republic will bring Ice Cream on July 24 to the Farmers Market** for the #TeamUp2CleanUp participants and other residents.

VI. Clean-Up Phase 2: Tire Clean-Up

a. Date Options: Grant for Twp Only event; join Household (Montcalm Co) event (not in Pierson) or Labor Day Pierson event. (Roger/Matt to see if grant is option); hire tire contractor (fundraising)

b. Promotion: FB, BWL, LWL, local churches

c. Equipment needs (pick-ups, staging)

i. Residential only, week of assistance only, limit of 6-8 tires per household, 19" tire size

ii. Ask HC how their tire project went (Roger)

iii. If no grants are available/consider fundraising?

iv. Staging: Twp or Republic?

v. CE&G referral pick-up assistance for those "physically unable" Will need 3 volunteers & Roger for collection assistance.

- vi. Create gmail for CE&G projects ie: piersontrash@gmail.com – that way it would work for multiple projects (tires and trash) (Sara)

VII. Clean-Up Ordinance Violations

- a. Interim Zoning Administrator Orvin Moore discussed the multiple items needing attention since his appointment. The complaint log was not utilized by the previous admin, so he is unsure of status of complaints in possession to date. He will work on complaint tracking and update the online-shared drive tracking report. He will enlist the support of the state police/county sheriff's office for support for enforcement.
- b. Committee described how we see the CE&G Committee to be used as referral, resources & support for the second notice "if physically unable" to become compliant on blight and vehicle clean up violations. Must be at no cost, or possibility of direct to resident donation only.
- c. Promote/what initiative to comply

VIII. Community Garden

- a. Stakes – Dan Clegg to drop off.
- b. Planting & Water - Dora is ready to plant once stakes are placed. Fishing line needed (Buyze)
- c. Consider future needs & suggestions for Recreational Plan
- d. Fall Event Planning: Friday, October 30 Pumpkin painting & scarecrow stuffing (details and rolls to be defined).

IX. Farmer's Market

- a. Continue using Facebook to reach our community – utilize TC principals to share with their FB pages for continued inclusion. Share with BWL (Lynch)/LWL (Coffin) associations and local churches.
- b. Events: Food truck vendors have been added to calendar for greater attendance!

X. Future Projects

- a. Projects to involve schools/families/kids
 - i. Buyze suggested Pierson Township Waterways: mapping, protection from development, plant life, phragmites, etc. Opportunities to eradicate and control invasives. Grant opportunities may be available. Consider science class or STEM for student involvement, and possibly start with school property. Schroeder to further look into this project.

XI. Mission

- a. Becker-Fountain will email her suggestions. Look at this further as we evolve.

XII. Public Comments

XIII. Next Meeting: Thursday, August 13 at 3 pm

XIV. Adjournment: 4:22 pm

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Schroeder

Aye: All

Nay: None