

**PIERSON TOWNSHIP**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 20, 2020**

7:00 pm at Township Hall (Zoom available but not as quorum\*).

Revised MDHHS Emergency Order Under MCL 333.2253 – “Gathering Prohibition and Face Covering Order,” effective Oct. 9, 2020 states due to the COVID-19 they are ordering limits on attendance at non-residential venues. Indoor gatherings of more than 10 and up to 500 people occurring at a non-residential venue are permitted only to the extent that the organizers and venue without fixed seating to limit attendance to 20 persons per 1,000 square feet in each occupied room and require that each person at the gathering wear a face covering. Outdoor gatherings of more than 100 and up to 1,000 persons occurring at a non-residential venue without fixed seating to limit attendance to 30 persons per 1,000 square feet including within any distinct area within the event space, and require that each person at the gathering wear a face covering. “Gathering” means any occurrence where two or more persons from more than one household are present in a shared space. Except for incidental gatherings in a shared space, all gatherings must include 6 feet of social distance between households.

A. Meeting

1. Call to order:
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call Present: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

B. Approve Meeting Agenda.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Hyrns

Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

C. Approve Consent Agenda: Pierson Township Special Meeting Minutes from August 13, 2020, Pierson Township Board Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2020, Election Commission Meeting Minutes from October 13, 2020, Register of Warrants/Checks dated **Sept 15 - 10/20/20**, Invoices to be paid from the General Fund Inv. 648231 to Mika Meyers for \$114.00 re: Tax Tribunal; correspondence, Assessors ~~July~~ September Monthly Report, Zoning Admin report, Villages of Sand Lake and Howard City Fire Reports, The Right Place Monthly Report.

*All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature and will be approved in one blanket motion.*

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Hyrns

Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

D. Presentation of Accounts

1. Treasurer's Report & update on State Shared Revenue

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Hyrns

Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

E. Guest Speaker:

1. Richard Mosher of 5184 Bass Lake Rd, came to discuss township enforcement of noise. Issue will be passed on to Planning Commission.

F. Public Comments

G. New Business:

1. Budget Amendment for Roads Highway/Streets GL 202-446-819.000 Materials and Labor in the amount of \$47,378.11 to allow the payment of invoices 864, 866, 867, 884 previously approved.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Hyrns

Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

2. Resolution for REU purchase for Roger Louck of 2730 Coveside Rd, Sand Lake, MI 49343.

Motion: Burkholder

Second: Hyrns

Roll Call Aye: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

Nay: None

3. [Bids for painting Township Hall floor] Approval for Burkholder to contact Roger Rockburn for referral and obtain bid for floor painting for the Township hall [basement].

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Hyrns

Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

4. Bids for new carpet in the Township Hall – VanTil to update bid(s).

*Pierson Township meetings are being recorded. \* Zoom not qualified for quorum based on most recent recommendations.*

5. Purchase flag for the cemetery [bid from Flags Unlimited] for \$1,375.00 or up to \$1,475, if bid price changed. [VanTil to confirm flag lighting is in place].  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Hyrns                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
6. Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Review and Road Committee members will receive meeting pay.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Hyrns                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, Burkholder, Scheuermann (VanTil away)
7. Invoice 192 for ~~\$435~~ \$450.00 to Corner Creek Construction, LLC for the concrete pad for the Election Dropbox.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Hyrns                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, Burkholder, Scheuermann (VanTil away)
8. Invoice to Sprik Heating & Cooling for thermostat in Meeting room in the amount of \$70.00.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Hyrns                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, Burkholder, Scheuermann (VanTil away)
9. Hall re-open for rentals based on current health department guidelines (20 people per 1,000 sq. ft.) being 25 (25.9) people in attendance at the new rate of \$75 for residents and \$100 for non-residents. [Offer Deputies 1 hour of pay at \$15 for sanitation/set up].  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Scheuermann      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
10. Rescind COVID-19 Policy. The Township will honor guidelines set by the State/Federal Government.  
 Motion: VanTil  
 2nd: Burkholder              Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
11. Historical records [posts] will be allowed on the Township Facebook page.  
 Motion: Hyrns  
 2nd: VanTil                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

H. Open Items

1. Dispute Update: Big Whitefish & Little Whitefish Lake Association  
 Move that the Board of Trustees convene in closed session under section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider material exempt from disclosure by state statute, section 13(1)(g) of the Freedom of Information Act, being a letter from its attorney dated October 19, 2020, for the reason that the letter is exempt from disclosure under State law due to the attorney-client privilege.  
 Meeting recess for closed session: 8:04 pm                      Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Scheuermann                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann  
 Closed Session.    Meeting resumed: 8:40 pm  
 Board to accept the recommendation of the Attorney regarding the FOIA litigation.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Gould                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann  
 Board to accept the recommendation of the Attorney to have one or two Board Members, Attorney Thall meet with the County Administrator and Drain Commissioner soon after the election to discuss possible solutions to the findings.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Gould                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann  
 Board to authorize Hyrns to contact Independent Bank and a financial advisor by Attorney Thall recommendation based on the update from the Drain Commissioner that they do not feel they will be able to sell the [Refi] Bond with open litigation.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Gould                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

2. LWL Refinance Update
3. Designated Assessor Update
4. [Winslow Survey Marker was installed in the ground by Glen S. Hackbardt Surveyor] Allow Jerry Poisson to remove the [wood] post [marker] at Winslow Park [beside his property].  
     Motion: VanTil                      2nd: Scheuermann  
     Roll Call Yes: VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann                      No: Gould, Hyrns
5. Jay Bassett Land Donation - no change
6. Deputy Clerk's office splits – *installed today! (Bid/invoice approved 9/15/2020 for \$3,583.00)*
7. Zoning Administrator Update (applicants) – no change
8. Committee Updates:
  - i. Planning Commission 10/15
    1. Ordinance 2020-02^01 to Amendment Zoning Ordinance 1999-9; pertaining to Accessory Buildings to amend Section 4.16 d(1) from 800 square feet to 864 feet. [Effective 30 days from today].  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Hyrns                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
    2. Accept Wind Ordinance Draft as presented by recommendation of Planning Commission to post for public viewing and schedule a public hearing during the November 17 board meeting at 7:15 pm.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Hyrns                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
    3. Add Tyler Lecceadone [as a member] of the Planning Commission.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: VanTil                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
  - ii. Parks & Recreation 10/15
    1. Schedule the Public Hearing for the first week of December for presentation for approval at the December 15, 2020 meeting.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Gould                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
  - iii. Community & Economic Growth 10/15:
 

^ Mission Statement: CE&G Committee is dedicated to serve the community as a whole, based on positive planning principles that create livable communities and a sustainable economy.

    1. CE&G Committee to host a Giving Tree at the Township Hall in conjunction with the TC High School Giving Tree Holiday Project.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Gould                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann
- I. Public Comments
- J. County Commissioner – Tony Sorensen (absent)
- K. Announcements and Board Comments
- L. Adjournment: 9:11 pm  
     Motion: Burkholder  
     2nd: VanTil                      Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann