

**PIERSON TOWNSHIP**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**December 15, 2020**

7:00 pm at Township Hall (Zoom available).

The Open Meetings Act, as amended by Public Act 228 of 2020, allows virtual meetings to be held for or any reason through Dec. 31, 2020. Legislation is being considered that would allow virtual meetings for any reason until the end of March.

A. Meeting called to order: 7:01 pm

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call Present: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice                      Hyrns via Zoom

B. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion: Buyze  
2nd: Burkholder                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda: Pierson Township Board Meeting Minutes from November 17, 2020, Register of Warrants/Checks dated November 17, 2020 – December 14, 2020, Invoice 651046 to Mika Meyers in the amount of \$70 for LWL REU Transfer GL 101-101-803.000 from general fund, Invoice 20133 to Montcalm Road Commission for \$49,920.43 from Road Fund GL 202-446-819.000 and GL Journal entry: to move Grimm Contribution to Road Fund Materials & Labor and issue check to Mr. Grimm to return overage of \$4,061.17, correspondence: donation from Tri-Corner VFW Post for \$200 for Patriotic Donation for Cemetery flags for veterans, and Asset Forfeiture Reporting (Michigan Dept of State Police); Assessor & Zoning Activity Reports, Villages of Sand Lake and Howard City Fire Reports, BWL/LWL November Sewer Report, Rose Pest monthly report and The Right Place monthly report.

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

Motion: Burkholder  
2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

D. Presentation of Accounts

1. Treasurer's Report

Motion: Grice  
2nd: Bergman                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

E. Public Comments

F. New Business:

1. Resolution 2020-10 Granting & Removing Real Property Exemptions.

Motion: Buyze  
2nd: Burkholder                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

2. Supervisor to provide Seagull/Swan Control permission letter for Big Whitefish Lake.

Motion: Buyze  
2nd: Grice                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

3. Sign and accept Bond Council Engagement Letter - Capital Improvement Refunding Bonds to Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC. [for Pierson LWL Refinance].

Motion: Hyrns  
2nd: Burkholder                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

4. Accept Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC Engagement letter agreement regarding Refunding Bond Issue & Rate Management [for Pierson LWL Refinance].

Motion: Burkholder  
2nd: Hyrns                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

5. Approval of Bloom Sluggett, PC attorney for use when needed with township zoning issues.  
 Motion: Grice  
 2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
6. Lance Gates to be Deputy Supervisor and fill in for Zoning Administrator [when needed], Interim Zoning Administrator Moore to receive half the monthly salary for consulting [during winter vacation] and the remaining half monthly salary to be placed in Deputy Supervisor GL 101-171-712.000 [Lance] to be paid at Deputy rate [\$15.45 per hour], any additional funds to come from contingency and to be included in next fiscal budget.  
 Motion: Grice  
 2nd: Burkholder              Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
7. Approved updated Zoning Compliance Permit at permit fee of \$35 and Razing Permit at permit fee of \$35 plus bond, with bond minimum of \$1,050 for up to 1500 sq. ft. /over 1500 sq. ft. \$5% of total square footage and \$1,000 of bond refunded (for both sizes) upon satisfactory inspection.  
 Motion: Buyze  
 2nd: Burkholder              Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
8. Trustee Grice to purchase mats for Township Hall up to \$500 from Building Maintenance GL 101-265-932.000.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
9. Remove names Barb (Barbara) Sagorski, Gerard Bogner, William (Bill) Bryant and Melanie Gould [all if listed] from the Safe Deposit box at Independent Bank and add Trustees names (William) Bill Grice and Jason Bergman.  
 Motion: Hyrns  
 2nd: Burkholder              Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
10. Josh Gabrielse of Siegfried Crandall PC to assist with the State of Michigan Chart of Accounts conversion at the cost of \$500.  
 Motion: Hyrns  
 2nd: Burkholder              Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
11. Board Meeting Schedule 2021 shall be January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm, with the exception of November 9 and December 14, 2021 [also at 7:00 pm] and the budget meeting to be scheduled at a later date with proper notice.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
12. Public Hearing for Recreation Plan Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm, set Parks and Recreation meeting dates for 2021 to be April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9 at 4:30 pm [new time] and approval of 2020 tax bill/special assessment [for weed treatment] for Winslow Park in the amount of \$198.00 from GL 101-751-818.001.  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
  
13. Post on website and Facebook for positions on the Community & Economic Growth committee for vacancy created by Dan Buyze resignation [and unfilled position] for February meeting discussion, set 2021 meetings for February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14 at 3:00 pm and approve an invite to Burnham & Flowers agent to attend a [CE&G] meeting to discuss liability for activities, events, and an AED [for township].  
 Motion: Burkholder  
 2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns

G. Open Items:

1. Big Whitefish Lake & Little Whitefish Dispute Update: Montcalm County Commissioners have agreed to pay the township attorney costs in the amount of \$3,060.83 and the FOIA suit will be dropped.
2. Bids for Township carpeting was tabled for one month for consideration of State Shared Revenue update and tear out consideration [from supplier].  
     Motion: Burkholder  
     2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
3. Accept bid from J & I Floor Coating for the floor coating [basement/hall floor] in the amount of \$5,800.  
     Motion: Grice  
     2nd: Burkholder              Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
4. Ark's Electric Bid for LED lighting for Township hall tabled until repair or replacement is necessary.  
     Motion: Burkholder  
     2nd: Buyze                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
5. Jay Bassett Land Donation Update: Supervisor to approach [resume discussion with] Mr. Bassett for 5 acres of land [behind the township hall] with easement access [for Bassett] to be used for a township park [2004 commitment to donate 15 acres was not fulfilled at time of purchase from Montcalm County].  
     Motion: Buyze  
     2nd: Grice                      Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns
6. Zoning Administrator position ad will be pulled from the website.
7. Policy Manual Review tabled until next meeting.

H. Public Comments

I. County Commissioner – Brandon Stowell absent

J. Announcements and Board Comments:

Supervisor Buyze wanted to congratulate Pierson Township Assessor Carl Schuitema for an outstanding job with the AMAR/State Audit and also thank Orvin Moore for his hard work as Interim Zoning Administrator.

K. Adjournment: 9:23 pm

Motion: Grice

2nd: Buyze

Roll Call Yes: Bergman, Buyze, Burkholder, Grice, Hyrns