

PIERSON TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2020

7:00 pm VIA Zoom

*In accordance with Governor Gretchen Whitmer's **Executive Order 2020-75** 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 2020-75** "I order the following: 1. Effective immediately and continuing **until June 30, 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).

*In conjunction with **Executive Order 2020-77** ^post meeting revision to **2020-92** "In All in-person government activities at whatever level (state, county or local) that are not necessary to sustain or protect life, or to support those businesses and operations that are necessary to sustain or protect life, are suspended."*

A. Meeting

1. Call to order: 7:05 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Present via Zoom: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

B. Approval of Meeting Agenda.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Scheuermann

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

- C. Approval of Consent Agenda: Meeting Minutes from April 21, 2020, Register of Warrants/Checks dated April 21, 2020 to May 19, 2020; Invoices from the general fund: Inv. 2121May Heckman Landscaping \$800, Invoice 16 Creekside Computer Services for \$340 for the Assessor computer installation, Invoice 581195 to Cassair for \$141.63 for phone/internet services; Correspondence requiring no action, Committee Meeting dates, April Assessor and Zoning Activity reports; Fire reports for the Village of Howard City and Sand Lake; BWL/LWL Sewer Report for April 2020.**

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

Motion: Scheuermann

2nd: Hyrns

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

D. Treasurer's Report

Motion: VanTil

2nd: Scheuermann

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

Pierson Township meetings are being recorded.

E. Public Comments: Dan Buyze of 2516 Center Ct inquired about the status of Zoning Complaints.

F. New Business:

1. COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan.

Motion: VanTil

2nd: Scheuermann Roll Call: Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

2. Approve signature and payment of the Burnham & Flower Agency Policy Renewal in the amount of \$4,498.00.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Hyrns Roll Call: Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

3. MTA Dues Invoice for \$2,455.28 for membership July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, additional \$73.66 for a Legal Defence Fund Contribution for year (optional), total amount due \$2,528.94.

Optional Online Learning Subscriptions - preview available. *(See packet for details) Invoice Due: July 1, 2020: Tabled until June meeting for review.

4. MML Workers Compensation Fund Premium Invoice for \$586.00 for coverage dates July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021, invoice due June 15, 2020.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Scheuermann Roll Call: Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

5. Committee Updates: Community & Economic Growth Committee has launched the Clean-Up Project, Dora Schroeder was added as a new committee member, committee members to volunteer service until the changes to the Township budget are further identified (except clerk), next meeting: June 4 at 3:00 pm.

Parks & Recreation Committee will be creating a new Township Recreation Plan, next meeting June 11 at new time: 5:30 pm.

G. Open Items

1. Dispute Update: Big Whitefish & Little Whitefish Lake Association - no update

2. Planning Commission

- i. Resolution 2020-07 Adopting 2020 Master Plan offered by Burkholder and second by Hyrns.

Aye: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann Nay: None

- ii. Pay DW Video \$100 for cover photo for the 2020 Master Plan.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: VanTil Roll Call Yes: Gould, Hyrns, VanTil, Burkholder, Scheuermann

3. Ordinances: Wind Ordinance [Moore Update]: tabled

4. Little Library to be located next to the mailbox in front of the Veteran's Memorial on the township grounds.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: VanTil Roll Call: Yes: Gould, VanTil, Burkholder No: Hyrns, Scheuermann

5. Township Building & Grounds Improvement Updates: bids for improvements are tabled due to COVID-19 Stay Home order.

6. Mulch to be purchased for township flower beds, lowest of 2 bids under \$50.

Motion: Burkholder

2nd: Gould

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

7. Jay Bassett Land Donation - no change

8. Zoning Update: New online (shared server) reporting & complaint log are not being utilized by Zoning Administrator, Zoning Administrator to mail all permits directly and check mail regularly in addition to office hours (Wednesdays, 6 pm to 9 pm), receipts to be mailed by Treasurer's office if not required to go back to Zoning Administrator. Supervisor to follow up.

H. Public Comments

- I. County Commissioner – Tony Sorensen absent.

J. Announcements and Board Comments

- Township website will be updated often with instructions on how to attend meetings during the COVID-19 Executive Order "Stay Home, Stay Safe".
- Voters are encouraged to register to be placed on the Absentee Voter/Application List from now until the August 4 Election. Stop by the Township Hall Tuesdays, 2p-5p or Fridays, 10a-2p, or email clerk@piersontwp.org

K. Adjournment: 8:53 pm

Motion: Hyrns

2nd: Scheuermann

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

Committee Meeting Dates:

- Community & Economic Growth Meeting: June 4, 2020 at 3:00 pm
- Planning Committee: July 16, 2020 at 7 pm
- Road Committee Meeting – July 15, 2020 at 7 pm
- Parks & Recreation Meeting – June 11, 2020 at 5:30 pm and July 16, 2020 at 5:30 pm
- Zoning Board of Appeals: Appointments by request.
- Sewer Advisory Committee – TBD
- Montcalm County Commissioners Meeting: April 27, 2020 at 6:00 pm
- Solid Waste Committee –TBD.
- Elections: State Primary (State, County and Local positions on August 4, 2020, General Election November 3, 2020).