

PIERSON TOWNSHIP  
Community & Economic Growth Committee Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2020 at 3:00 pm

*In accordance with Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-154 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 2020-154 "I order the following: 1. Effective immediately and continuing until 28 days after any state of emergency arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, 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: 3:03 pm
  - b. Pledge of Allegiance
  - c. Roll Call:

Present: Buyze, Burkholder, Coffin, Becker-Fountain, Rockburn, Schroeder
  
- II. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion: Coffin                      2nd: Becker-Fountain                      Aye: All                      Nay: None
  
- III. Approval of August 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Coffin                      2nd: Becker-Fountain                      Aye: All                      Nay: None
  
- IV. Public Comments
  
- V. Board Update/Approval: Buyze to address on Sept 15 Board Meeting
  - a. Committee Member
  - b. Email for CE&G Projects: [PiersonCommunity@gmail.com](mailto:PiersonCommunity@gmail.com)
  - c. Yard Waste/Community Garden
  
- VI. Open Items:
  - a. Project: Clean-Up (Fall Edition)
    - i. Dates: Sept 27-Oct 3, 2020
    - ii. Roles: Sara & Dan to assign routes/Roger to do pickups and drop supplies at twp.
    - iii. Advertise: Facebook & Flyers for board to distribute.
    - iv. September 19 Edmore/Montcalm Tire & Electronic Collection
      1. Flyers for rates & details (Roger) to be posted to FB
  
  - b. Clean-Up Phase 2: Tire Clean-Up
    - i. Grant Process for 2021 (Roger/Republic): Currently because of COVID Freeze on Grants.
  
  - c. Clean-Up Ordinance Violations Update: Zoning/Orvin is doing a good job, not sure on status of complaints. If trash/nuisance violates the County Ordinance, the sheriff will enforce. Sara to find County ordinance and pdf for sharing.
  
  - d. Community Garden Update
    - i. About 40 pumpkins are growing.
    - ii. Divide garden into stages for development: Possibility: Pet friendly walking/Benches in section 1 (by trees/Cemetery) for 2021
  
  - e. Fall Festival: **Friday, October 23 (Rain date: 10/30) 5:30 pm – 7 pm**
    - i. Community Food drive, for each donation of non-perishable items:
      1. Costumes welcome

2. Pumpkin painting – 1 per kiddo/first come/first serve (**Sara/Deb** to check for paint supplies)
3. Candy/Trunk-or treat – **donations**
4. Maze Scavenger hunt (**Sara** to organize mowing and “treasures”)
5. Photo Station (hay bales, corn, pumpkins for photos) (**Deb** Pumpkins/**Kathi** Clegg/hay & corn stalks)
6. Music – band/dressed in costume (**Deb** to contact Ryan)
7. Animals/Tractors: **Kathi** to reach out to Mr. Clegg/**Deb** to call Scott)
8. Cider making/Apples? **Sara** to ask Julie
9. Food Trucks:
  - a. WaffleStix - booked
  - b. Hot dog cart
  - c. Big Reds – booked with Village of SL for weekend
  - d. Pork-n-Steins – checking schedule
- ii. Advertising – FB – **Sara** to make flyer
- f. Farmer’s Market
  - i. 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.
  - ii. Boosters to hold fundraising events at Market/Dan Clegg suggests contact:
    1. Jennifer Anderson
      - a. Car Wash
      - b. Can Drive
- g. Future Projects
  - i. Work on Schedule for next year’s activities
    1. Clean-up
    2. Projects to involve schools/families/kids
    3. Christmas Holiday Giving Tree
      - a. Partner with TC Giving Tree (**Sara** to contact Connie Butler at HS).
    4. 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.

VII. Mission (draft):

- a. The Pierson Township Community & Economic Growth Committee is committed to providing customer service that focuses on excellence, high quality and timely services that meet the community’s expectations.
- b. The 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. As a Committee we want to ensure that we effectively serve its citizens, neighbors, schools, and businesses to help all succeed while nurturing our strong sense of place in the community.

VIII. Public Comments

IX. Next Meeting: October 15 at 3 pm

X. Adjournment: 4:07 pm

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