

YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 12, 2019
7:00 p.m.
Yankee Springs Township Hall
284 N. Briggs Rd., Middleville, Michigan 49333
MINUTES

FINAL MINUTES
 Page 1 of 13
 YS BOT – Regular Mtg.
 9/12/19

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Mark Englerth.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PLEDGE

Roll Call: Jansma, L. Knowles, Englerth, Lippert, VandenBerg. All present.

ROLL CALL

Catherine Kaufman, YS Township attorney, present as well.

Staff Present: Karen Kennedy, Dave VanHouten, Ron Heilman, Frank Fiala, Chuck Biggs-Constable, Sandy Marcukaitis, Rich Beukema.

Visitors: 25 (not including staff present).

ADDITIONS or CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:

**ADDITIONS/
CHANGES TO
AGENDA**

Add: Phyllis Wordhouse to **Public Comment.**

Under Old Business: Crack sealing on parking lot. *(Requested by M. Englerth)*

Item #15: 9/16/19 Spec. Board meeting is at 6 p.m. not 7 p.m. (If meeting is held -*Noted by Lippert*).

Add to Treasurer’s Report: Articles of Sewer Authority Incorporation to be distributed and reviewed by Board Members- (requested by Jansma).

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Limit to 3 minutes)

**APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA
(See exception in
motion).**

Ron Heilman, ZBA, came to the podium with a **Veterans Memorial Update.** Heilman thanked those who planted plants along the walkway (names not available). Heilman also thanked M. Englerth and L. Cavanaugh and three (3) Barry County “hotel” volunteers for weeding, edging and mowing last Sunday. Heilman commented to call Mark Englerth if someone would like to participate with the Veterans Memorial. The memorial is funded by donation only. Heilman commented that they would like to add benches, flags, poles, and maybe flower pots; hopefully it will be an ongoing project 100 years from now. Ron Heilman mentioned the marble stones for memorials. They can be purchased at any time. Heilman concluded that he didn’t know where the idea came from where the five (5) board members should decide what is written on the south side of the memorial. Personally, Heilman thought it should be something simple like “To honor those who defended freedom.”

PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE.

Gloria Medendorp, YS Resident, Vista Point Dr.: (provided manuscript): (G. Medendorp noted that this was a comment but also a complaint.) At the May 9th Board of Trustees meeting, I made a public comment that was typed out and signed, which I was told would ensure that my comments would be entered in the minutes. I checked to see about a week after and they were there, I checked last month and they had disappeared. I went to the township hall to see why. Jan Lippert told me that Marge puts the minutes on the computer and Marge told me after the minutes were approved she failed to put my comments back on. They also were omitted in paper files. I have a hard time thinking this is just coincidental, when there has been deception on this board and my public comments were unfavorable to Mrs. Lippert, Alice, and Mr. Knowles. This needs to be examined for future filings to ensure it doesn't happen again. I shouldn't have to check up to see if everything is in order. No minutes or public comments should be dropped or omitted, it smacks of censorship, especially when comments are unfavorable to the board. I will continue to be suspect in all dealings in Yankee Springs Township.

Phyllis Wordhouse: Introduced herself as a beginning Pickleball instructor at the YS Township Park, and volunteer coordinator for the players using the beautiful YS resurfaced courts. P. Wordhouse provided a two-page, typed handout for board members and all interested residents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

Barry County Commissioner, Vivian Conner gave the County Commissioner's report.
Written report submitted.

Catherine Kaufman, Attorney of Township, was acknowledged by the Supervisor.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Consent Agenda Minutes:

- a. Special Meeting Joint Meeting of the Boards 8/6/19.
Regular meetings: 8/8/19; Renovation Committee Meetings: 8/7/19 & 8/28/19.
- b. August Accounts Payable Check register #915345-915380: \$45,790.87.
August Payroll Check Register #6558-6579, \$11,813.13.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Jansma with support from Knowles to approve the Consent agenda for tonight's meeting as presented. Roll Call: Jansma: Yes, Lippert: Yes, Englerth: Yes, VandenBerg: Abstained (was not at meeting last month), Knowles: Yes . Yes: 4, No: 0 , Abstained: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

BARLOW LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT -FIVE YEAR- \$12,800 yearly.

MOTION by Lippert with support from Jansma TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING of BARLOW LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT- FIVE YEAR @ \$12,800-per year. All yes. Motion Carried.

FINAL MINUTES
Page 2 of 13
YS BOT – Regular Mtg.
9/12/19

**ACKNOWLEDGE-
MENT OF
VISITORS**

**BARLOW LAKE
IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT -FIVE
YEAR \$12,800.
(Weed Spec.
Assessment)**

PUBLIC HEARING

spokesman for Barlow Lake this evening “pitch hitting” for Tony Groves is **Paul Hausler, of Progressive AE.**

FINAL MINUTES
Page 3 of 13
YS BOT – Regular Mtg.
9/12/19

Improvement will start in 2020 and go through 2024. Total annual budget is \$12,800.

Lakefront lots: \$60.00 Back lots with deeded or dedicated access: \$30.00

Eurasian milfoil and starry stonewort are invasive aquatic plant species that will be targeted.

Earl Krol of Barlow Lake asked if the areas were mapped out so that the areas that need to be treated are known. It was confirmed that the lake map and treatment info will be available at the township office.

Treasurer Alice Jansma noted that the township didn’t collect last year because there were enough funds in the budget. “It is restricted money in our budget (twp.)” noted Jansma. Hausler noted that typically, the whole budget is not spent.

P. Hausler spoke of a new law this year – regarding cleaning boats off. The Sheriff or DNR Conservation officer can ticket for trailering boats without plugs out and with plants hanging from it. \$150 for first violation- starting next year.

*With NO further public comment: Motion to close Public Hearing by Jansma with support from VandenBerg. All Ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.***

MOTION by Jansma with support from Lippert to adopt Resolution #2 BARLOW LAKE Special Assessment District (Determination to Make Public Improvements; Approval of Plans and Estimate of Cost; Final Determination of Special Assessment Dist.) 2020 to 2024. Roll Call VOTE: Knowles: Yes, Lippert: Yes, Englerth: Yes, Jansma: Yes, VandenBerg: Yes. Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to APPROVE Res. #2 Barlow Lake Spec. Assessment District (Weed Control)

Next meeting regarding the Special Weed Assessment for Barlow Lake will be: Oct. 10, 2019- all residents will be noticed per J. Lippert.

TREASURER’S REPORT: presented by Alice Jansma, Treasurer

TREASURER’S REPORT: Alice Jansma, Treasurer

- a. August 2019 Financial Statement & Investment Report+
- b. August 2019 Receipt Report+
- c. GLASWA Report+
- d. Audit to be conducted Oct. 3 & 4, 2019

*Motion by Lippert with support from Knowles to accept the Treasurer’s Financial Report for August 2019. All ayes. **MOTION CARRIED.***

BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

- a. 2019 L-4029 (millage rate request) .7452 (with Headlee Rollback applied) will be requested for Emergency Services. (A. Jansma explained the request and how it was determined.)

Action by Jansma with support from Knowles to adopt L-4029 millage rate request as presented. Roll Call VOTE: Knowles: Yes, Lippert: Yes, Englerth: Yes, Jansma: Yes, VandenBerg: Yes. Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

FINAL MINUTES
Page 4 of 13
YS BOT – Regular Mtg.
9/12/19

Treasurer A. Jansma also provided information regarding Casino Funds:

MOTION to
APPROVE L-4029.

Casino Revenues have totaled: \$242,583.59 Jansma reviewed expenditures of these revenues and noted the current amount in fund is \$203,424.59.

Casino Expenditures in:	2012	*\$11,664.00	*Summer Ambulance
	2013	*15,120.00	*Summer Ambulance
	2016	** 3,375.00	**Weather Alert Siren Allocation
	2019	*** 9,000.00	***Transfer to Vet. Memorial
Total Expenditures:		<u>\$39,159.00</u>	***(See minutes of 8/9/2018)

b. Water Advisory Committee’s Recommendation for Permit and Connection Fees – Yankee Springs Township Water System

BOARD ACTION
ITEMS *continued*

c. Catherine Kaufman discussion with the Board

Kaufman commented on the reasons for her being present this evening. Reference letter b. above.) C. Kaufman referred to a draft resolution forwarded to her (by L. Knowles copied to YS board members, Tara Palandri (GLASWA) and G. Purcell) on August 28th, with the questions: “Can I look at this resolution to make sure it’s lawful?”; “Can I attend the meeting tonight?” The draft resolution regarded permanent connection fees for the YS Twp. water system. Kaufman also received a memo from the YS Water Utility Advisory Board, dated August 27, 2019. Kaufman briefly reviewed the memo for those in attendance. Kaufman noted that from reading the memo of the Water Utility Advisory “Committee” she felt the recommendation of the Committee was “that they move toward having one fee for the sake of simplicity and recommended that there be an automatic inflation adjustment for inflation annually. And that would go into effective at the beginning of the year.”

Englerth asked about the resolution being drafted by Kaufman. It was confirmed that Kaufman did not draft the resolution. Kaufman was asked to reply by Sept. 5th. Kaufman summarized the questions she had regarding the draft resolution. Kaufman noted her opinion that she had determined the proposed resolution was lawful. “It is also my opinion that the board has the authority to adopt rates to provide revenue for the system and can adopt rules.” Kaufman felt the ordinance needs to be looked at and “probably overhauled. I’m not sure it’s current with how your water system operates or how you want it to operate. I recommend that you take a look at the water supply system ordinance in total, in addition to just this issue of connection fees. As the resolution was proposed, I think it’s lawful and I think it complies with your authority of the township board under your current ordinance. Whether or not policy-wise you want to do that, that’s up for the board to decide.”

Englerth commented that he thought that this (Resolution) should be tabled and done in a special work session, “and look at the bigger picture and sit down with the water board and look at all the pieces -parts. There’s some discussion about direct and indirect fees.” Englerth spoke of bringing developers in- to speak regarding the past history of connection fees.

A. Jansma commented that she thought the board has talked about revising the complete water ordinance. A. Jansma then referred to a recent letter from S. Vandenberg’s attorneys.

C. Kaufman read the letter, dated Sept. 11, 2019, aloud, from G. Moffat, legal counsel of Shane Vandenberg. The letter requested action regarding changes to the Township’s water connection fees be postponed until the Township Board’s regular meeting of October 10, 2019. The letter noted Attorney Christian Meyer and G. Moffat will attend meeting of Oct. 10th.

Kaufman commented that the board could legally go forward with a vote, or postpone action.

Discussion occurred regarding S. Vandenberg not being aware of the situation. It was determined that S. Vandenberg didn’t receive the email (regarding the draft resolution).

L. Knowles commented that on his email regarding the draft resolution, he asked J. Lippert to place copies in the board members’ mailboxes. The YS website has Shane’s email address listed. (S. Vandenberg does not have email.)

J. Lippert confirmed they (copies of email with draft resolution) were put in board members’ mailboxes.

Vandenberg commented that he didn’t have it.

Knowles noted at the July 23, 2019 meeting the Water Advisory Board was asked by the Board to prepare a recommendation. Knowles commented that the Water Advisory Board worked on this for three meetings to have ready for this meeting. Knowles noted that the water advisory board had the recommendation finished before September 5th so that the YS Board would have time to review it. “We have been kicking this can since February...,” commented Knowles. Knowles commented that at a recent budget meeting an exception to the indirect connection fee was passed. “So we definitely need this. While I would agree that we need to revamp the ordinance, I don’t know if one stops the other.” Knowles noted he wanted to continue to move forward tonight.

J. Lippert referred to working on the water fee rates and connection fees for over a year and that was why the advisory board was created. J. Lippert referred to the recommendation of the Water Advisory Board. J. Lippert began to comment about consulting Michigan Rural Water.

Vandenberg asked J. Lippert to “kindly tell the board and the audience what you told me yesterday, when I stopped in the office, that you assured me, and there are witnesses that

you assured me, (VandenBerg referred to D. Scheuerman being a witness to be possibly called upon). Lippert asked, "Why?" VandenBerg continued, "What did you tell me yesterday?"

Lippert commented, "That I made copies and put it in their mailboxes."

VandenBerg commented to Jan Lippert, "You said that there was going to be no vote this evening."

Lippert commented, "Discussion only. You're referring to that on the agenda. Yes. We were going to discuss it."

VandenBerg commented "That's what you said. It was not going to be voted on. That's what you told me. And Mr. Scheuerman was a witness."

Lippert addressed C. Kaufman, "So this could be considered a first reading of the resolution, Catherine?"

C. Kaufman commented that she was not aware of having first or second readings of resolutions. "Lawfully, you can go in either direction. In terms of what you think is fair and appropriate, that's for the board to determine." C. Kaufman commented that she "replied to all" on the resolution emailed to her. She commented that she was not deliberately leaving anyone else out.

Motion by Knowles with support from Jansma to adopt resolution prepared by the Water Advisory Utility Board. (See pg. 10) for roll call vote.

Englerth commented to take a time out, "We've got somebody from the Water Advisory Board here, and this is how we get in trouble."

Greg Purcell went to the podium and commented that if the resolution is adopted it doesn't take effect until January 1, 2020. So there wasn't a press for time. Purcell noted that the Water Board "spent a fair amount of time on this and consulted with Michigan Rural Water Association and others. I would point out to you ... ordinance... (air conditioner fan noise interference) fees not to exceed 5% annually. And you haven't done that since 2006. Purcell noted they had looked at several kinds of methodologies as to how to establish the connection fee. "Bottom line is we just said, 'Let's use some inflationary factor from the rates that you already set in 2006 then consolidate it into one rate. And we moved it down to the lower rate. So that's what the rate would be if you wanted to adopt the resolution... but the rate that we are recommending is simply an inflationary adjusted rate from the 2006... Todd Delamar, Rich Beukema, Michael Peiffer, and Board Rep. Alice Jansma were noted as committee members by G. Purcell. Purcell referred to the latter part of the memorandum commenting that the ordinance does need to be reviewed; that there are some internal inconsistencies with it. Purcell commented that they could come back and review it.

Englerth noted there was a motion on the floor and then asked "How many new hookups in the next month do you anticipate on the water system?"

FINAL MINUTES

Page 6 of 13
YS BOT – Regular Mtg.
9/12/19

**BOARD ACTION
ITEMS *continued***

**MOTION made to
Adopt Resolution
From Water
Advisory
Utility Board**

Purcell commented, “Our review showed that you are likely to only have 50 new hookups with the current water lines that you have for whatever period of time.”

Discussion took place regarding the current demand of connections. Englerth commented that time was not of the essence. Englerth felt that everyone should sit down “as a team” and address “all of the issues” (regarding the water ordinance).

G. Purcell commented that he felt the board should adopt the resolution “which sets policy” and then move on and retain an attorney and work with either the township board or the water utility advisory committee to look at revising the water ordinance itself. The ordinance is more complicated. “The ordinance itself is law and we really should have those (resolution & ordinance) dove-tailed together.”

A. Jansma commented on remarks of Michigan Rural Water, and the MRW rep wanted the township to “clean it up” (the ordinance). The representative from Michigan Rural Water commented that normally there is always one fee (for connections).

VandenBerg asked C. Kaufman if he could speak on the issue. After being asked by C. Kaufman, VandenBerg commented that he does have homes pending that will probably need the service, and that’s why he contacted his legal counsel. VandenBerg commented that “they have taken away the indirect fees. They have taken away the payback of the investment from the contractors who are putting in the water mains and the fire hydrants...And they’ve made the people that are, let’s just say, didn’t have any out-of-pocket expense, they are paying the same exact fee as the developer. I don’t think I’m misspeaking at all. To put things in perspective let’s just take GLASWA, we’re going to talk about the sewer system.” VandenBerg then addressed C. Kaufman “you are the attorney for the sewer system, are they planning on doing this as far as sewer connection fees also and truncated lines, are they going to take away that? Is there any talk about that?”

C. Kaufman clarified that her law partner, Robert Thall, is the GLASWA attorney and she personally has no knowledge of what GLASWA is doing. Kaufman asked VandenBerg, “Do you have any specific, pending hookups? Because under the Standards of Conduct with Public Officials Act, I have to determine if you would have a personal interest or gain in what we are talking about.”

VandenBerg commented that he had interested people in properties but didn’t have a signed contract.

C. Kaufman commented to VandenBerg, “Perfect. So if there’s nothing that right now that would be affected, then no I have no problem with you participating in this. And I think your background is useful and helpful.”

VandenBerg thanked Kaufman and commented on having “literally thousands of people on the sewer system, so they get an indirect if the homeowner buys a lot and get a trunk

line put in off the original one that was done by a grant. The sewer system, they get indirect fees and why wouldn't the water system? I'm also friends with probably the biggest developer in Grand Rapids, and I plan on bringing him to the next meeting with me. He gets indirect hookups on every single plat he puts in. And going back 15 years the reason why a lot of this stuff wasn't talked about was because we went through the recession and there weren't a lot of plats put in. But plats are coming back in a huge way. It's huge. And they are giving the indirect hook up fees because there is an investment from the contractors, the developers. And this is all relevant to this conversation. This is way, as far as I'm concerned, out of line ...when we just want to just ram this thing through. Not to mention, I personally stopped in to talk to Jan yesterday, and Jan was adamant that there was not going to be a vote tonight. I took her at her word. I did Jan."

Jan Lippert commented, "And I said when we drafted the agenda on last Friday, Mark suggested that it would be a Special Meeting. And we were all in agreement to that."

VandenBerg commented, "Is that true Alice? You had a conversation with Mark, too, right?"

C. Kaufman clarified that the meeting (last Friday) was a public meeting. Englerth commented that it was a public meeting, "We set the agenda, and Jan post the meeting."

Englerth continued to comment that he perceived that this was going to be an issue. "But when you have a conflict of interest, that's a violation of law. But if there's a perceived conflict of interest, even though it doesn't violate the law, it's a perception of the public, and you want to stay clear of that also. And that was my concern about this whole thing is, what the law says about what you can do and what you should do are a couple different things. We got a letter here put it off for 30 days. We're going to have how many hook ups in 30 days? Probably not one. So that was the consensus that came out of that meeting (last Friday). What was the commitment on the existing developments? There's still a Phase II on Brian Drake's where they paid money up front for infrastructure. Where Dave VanderSlik was, there was a Phase II and III. There was a commitment on that when they run the infrastructure. How does this piece fit with that? And you're saying we can move forward with that knowledge? And how does it apply to the commitments that we already have made?"

C. Kaufman commented "Legally if you want to pass this resolution tonight, I believe your water supply system utility ordinance gives the board the authority to do that. Policy-wise you have many issues that are involved in this decision. Legally you can pass it; you can deny it. It doesn't matter. There's a huge...as you are mentioning, there's a whole lot of other things that go along with this. And whether you move forward with this on its own or whether you wait a month and get more input or whether you wait and do the whole ordinance over again, that's a policy decision for the board. And you all can make it."

Englerth commented "So with those commitments, and that past infrastructure already put in place, I would also worry about the liability of making a decision without slowly going through it. And there is that, correct?"

FINAL MINUTES

Page 8 of 13

YS BOT – Regular Mtg.

9/12/19

BOARD ACTION ITEMS *continued*

C. Kaufman commented, “I don’t know anything about those past commitments, so theoretically, yes. I just don’t know what they are.”

VandenBerg commented “And Mark there were past commitments. There were indirect hookups.... We have an ordinance that actually says that in 2006... they put this in writing. So there were past commitments that somehow are going to disappear?”

A. Jansma commented to Shane, “At one time anyone that was hooked up to the water system when it first started, did not pay anything. Do you agree to that?”

VandenBerg commented that it happened before he moved “out here”. “They got it handed to them. It was a grant.”

A. Jansma commented, “Agreed. But that was part of why this was a direct and an indirect. There was really no definition under definitions in our ordinance of “direct” and “indirect”.

S. VandenBerg commented “We have documentation from Larry (Knowles) that says that we had indirect hookups. I believe it was \$500. ”

L. Knowles commented, “We have documentation from me stating that this board passed a resolution that says \$3,100 for indirect, \$3,600 for direct. I’ve also told you numerous times that your ordinance doesn’t describe either one. So I assumed that’s what the indirect mean. That’s why we’re at this point now is because it doesn’t tell me exactly what to do and I’ve begged you guys to tell me what to do for years now.”

VandenBerg commented, “Wouldn’t you think we need just a little more input?”

L. Knowles commented, “I don’t know what input you’re asking for.”

VandenBerg commented, “Because we obviously had indirect hookups and direct hookups.”

L. Knowles commented, “I’m to the point where if we did stuff wrong for 15 years, do I want to continue to do stuff wrong? No. The other thing is – if somebody walks into our office and says ‘Here’s a contract that said you are going to do this for 30 years for \$500,’ I will bring it to this board and to say, ‘Do you want me to honor this or not? Clear as a bell.’”

Englerth commented that he was “having a struggle here with what’s legal, what’s ethical, what’s a liability. Then we had a question and Mr. VandenBerg- is he sitting here as a board member or a developer? And I’ve got a Trustee to my right that I don’t if he’s manager of the Sewer Authority that’s contracted with the township board or is he a Trustee? It’s a very interesting position to be in.”

C. Kaufman commented that she had anticipated these two scenarios and she analyzed the situation and determined that neither of them at this point have any specific conflict and that they both (VandenBerg & Knowles) could vote.

Kaufman commented on the motion at hand, and also the letter from Vandenberg's legal counsel to postpone until Oct. 10, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

C. Kaufman commented "This is just a policy decision. It legally..."

Vandenberg commented "It's a policy decision that affects a payment schedule for people that have ... that put in their own trunk lines and their own fire hydrants, and that's why I need some experts to come in. And I have two experts that I was going to bring in plus the biggest developer in Grand Rapids. He said that he would be here... plus my attorney, plus Mr. Moffat. I don't think it's asking too much for a little consideration for you and the board to put this off for 30 days." These people can give you a different point of view."

Kaufman commented, "I don't have a vote..."

Vandenberg commented, "But all you want to talk about is what is legal."

Kaufman comment, "Because I'm the lawyer." (Laughter from audience).

Vandenberg commented that his attorney told him that he couldn't vote on this tonight. Vandenberg wanted clarity. "That's why my attorney needed to be here. He couldn't come this evening whoever is saying that in the audience. I just got this paperwork Sunday from Mark..."

Englerth commented "So we have a motion and a second. We're at a stalemate as far as discussion. Does anybody want to say anything else?"

Vandenberg commented "I want to say something else. All I know is I'm taking Jan (Lippert) at her word. She said there was not going to be a vote on this issue this evening. That's all. I'm taking her at her word."

Lippert commented that she would prefer that this issue go into a special meeting. With your attorney, Moffat, Catherine (Kaufman). I told him that because that's how we left it when we put the agenda together.

Knowles commented "I'd rather have it be at a regular board meeting for transparency reasons."

Englerth commented that "I think I would, too. But I'd love to have a workshop, roll up the sleeves with the Water Advisory board. Everybody has a different perspective; a different way to look at it. That's where I would like to go."

Vote was taken on the Motion from pg. 6:

Motion by Knowles with support from Jansma to adopt resolution prepared by the Water Advisory Utility Board. Roll Call Vote: Englerth: No, Jansma: Yes, Vandenberg: No, Lippert: No, Knowles: Yes. Yes: 2, No: 3. MOTION FAILED.

MOTION to adopt resolution prepared by Water Adv. Utility Board – regarding Hookup fee.

Break: 8:22 p.m.

Resume: 8:33

CLERK'S REPORT: Jan Lippert, Clerk

NOTE: Meeting change of the Planning Commission to Sept. 26, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

- August 2019 PCI Report+
- YSTFD August Statistics+
- Current Invoice Register +
- Bauckham, Sparks et all August Statement

Motion by Jansma with support from VandenBerg to approve current invoice register for the amount of \$31,267.04. Roll Call: Jansma: Yes, Knowles: Yes, Lippert: Yes, Englerth: Yes, VandenBerg: Yes. Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Mark Englerth

- **Monthly Code enforcement report from Brad Williams**
- **B. Williams** commented there was nothing to report except that it's status quo regarding complaints. **B. Williams** commented that he was happy to note that the township funneling riparian law ordinances have made his job easier. Complaints have gone down considerably this year. Williams felt the meeting held earlier this year with Eric Thompson of PCI, helped inform people of what was going on with the lakes and channels. Several dock complaints and vehicles left out by houses that are questionable - may need to be addressed.

Lippert asked B. Williams about a 500 gallon gas tank on the channel near her residence.

B. Williams commented, "That gas tank was not allowed and did not go through us at all. It was placed there by the individual who owns the property and he elected to/decided to- just put it up there for himself..." B. Williams commented that the township did not receive a complaint regarding this until just recently. B. Williams commented that it was found not be in compliance "with what we would have here in our township." B. Williams commented that the State Fire Marshall ended up getting involved, "It is now being looked at through PCI, the DEQ and the Fire Marshall."

Knowles asked Williams, "When you say it doesn't comply with us, are you talking about zoning?"

Williams commented "I believe that's how Eric (Thompson, of PCI) had placed (?) it."

Lippert inquired "Who would use a 500 gallon gas tank? This is in a residential area."

B. Williams commented that it has been tagged and the individual will be allowed to empty the tank. No fuel will be allowed to be put into it.

FINAL MINUTES

Page 11 of 13
YS BOT – Regular Mtg.
9/12/19

**CLERK'S
REPORT: Jan
Lippert, Clerk**

**APPROVAL OF
CURRENT INVOICE
REGISTER**

**SUPERVISOR'S
REPORT: Mark
Englerth**

Brief discussion between Knowles and Williams took place clarifying that the State of Michigan is enforcing (the tank situation), not PCI/Yankee Springs.

- **Verbal Updates on various projects underway**

Veterans Memorial: Sprinkler system has been installed. “Kudos to Scott Havens,” noted Englerth. Englerth also noted 36 hours were donated on Sunday by volunteers at the Memorial.

Electric is buried in the ground. Decisions still have to be “on what we going to do there.”

Buoys will be out Sunday - weather permitting.

Robbins Cemetery: Reynolds Land Surveying will begin working on the cemetery on 9/15/19.

Crack Sealing: M. Englerth commented on freeze/thaw issues and noted there is no competition with the Road Commission.

Motion by Englerth with support from Jansma to proceed with crack seal work with North Star Sealing not to exceed \$2,000 for only crack sealing at Township: hall, walking path at park, and fire station. Roll Call: Jansma: Yes, Knowles: Yes, Lippert: Yes, Englerth: Yes, VandenBerg: Yes. Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION for
CRACK SEALING.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank Fiala, of Solid Waste Oversight Committee (Barry County) noted the Household Hazardous Waste Pick Up on **Saturday, Sept. 21st from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Barry County Expo (Fairgrounds)**. Items that will be accepted: Tires on the rim- for free, motor oil, antifreeze, batteries of all types- not trash. This is just for hazardous household items, not for business. They do not accept electronics at this time.

Gloria Medendorp, of Vista Point, suggested that the board get a sound system. G. Medendorp noted that everything is muffled where she is sitting (rear of hall). Also, when the fan (for furnace/air) is on, it is very difficult to hear.

Scott Havens, of Gun Lake Sprinkling, commented on sprinkler items at the Twp. park. S. Havens referred to park diagram.

Sandy Marcukaitis, regarding the YS Park, and the Gun Lake Women’s Club, commented on what has happened as of Sept. 5 meeting with Sandy, Morgan Electric and S. Havens regarding sprinkling at the park. Marcukaitis noted it was a locked system. Berms are numbered. S. Marcukaitis also distributed a diagram including berms, and township park sign. S. Marcukaitis commented on tree issues and that she will request permission in future for items to be replanted/moved. Cost of \$10,333.55 to get sprinkling system and electric to park with the repair of the grounds. This does not include electric to the gazebo.

S. Marcukaitis also mentioned a possible need for grills to be installed at the Park. Marcukaitis distributed grill pricing to board members. Englerth commented that grills will be on the agenda next month.

Yard bombs were described by S. Marcukaitis. As of **Tuesday, September 23rd** -the yard bombs will be up for about a week and a half (at the Township Park). Also little stones that have been hand painted will be there as well.

FINAL MINUTES
Page 13 of 13
YS BOT – Regular Mtg.
9/12/19

Bill Medendorp, of Vista Point, asked if the grills could be registered in case they were taken from the park.

BOARD COMMENT

BOARD COMMENT/ NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

Meeting on Sept. 16, 2019 regarding the Renovation of the Township Hall and Office.
Brief discussion occurred.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Lippert suggested advertising for a Special Meeting to have the community know about the proposed project and to have transparency.

Knowles commented that it was a good idea to have transparency. Knowles commented bidding will be affected if done in January 2020 vs. Dec. 2019.

Englerth commented that he will work with Jan and they will pick a date for a meeting regarding the Renovation of the Township Hall/Office.

**After the meeting, it was confirmed with J. Lippert that there will NOT be a meeting for the Township Hall/office renovation on Sept. 16th. J. Lippert and M. Englerth will determine the future date of the cancelled meeting.*

Jansma distributed GLASWA Meeting minutes.

Knowles commented regarding a generator for the township hall and inquired as to the amount of usage needed. Discussion occurred. A. Jansma mentioned a potential grant of \$2,500 from the insurance company. Englerth asked to do some homework on this item and to look into getting someone to spec it. Knowles handed the item off to Englerth.

ADJOURNMENT

Full audio recording of this meeting has been downloaded to the township office computer system on 9/12/19 immediately following meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Knowles with support from VandenBerg to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Approved by all. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted:
Deb Mousseau
Recording Secretary 9/12/19

Date: Oct. 10, 2019 by Board of Trustees

Approved : _____
Janice C. Lippert, Township Clerk

DATE: September 11, 2019
TO: YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP BOARD
FROM: Sandra Marcukaitis
RE: FINAL REPORT ON ELECTRIC AND SPRINKLING SYSTEM AT THE PARK

I am pleased to inform you that as of September 5, 2019 the final phase of completing the electric and underground sprinkling capability to the park berms was completed.

Chris Morgan and Scott Haven met at the park and solidified the final "hook-up" of the two entities. At this time the sprinkling of the berms will be done on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at 3:00 am and it will run for 30minutes. Timing will adjust for the summer dependent on the weather conditions, as well as, if/when there is a power outage in the area. Mr. Havens will advise the township office will he will turn the water pressure off for the winter and again in the spring. At those times he will make appropriate changes.

Of note the circuit breaker box will be locked and the key will be kept at the township office. In the breaker box, there will be a key for the Rain Dial which controls the timers. There will also be on file with park information a diagram of the sprinkle head placement.

We received a refund of \$139.00 from Consumers Power from the original quote of \$4,248.00. Morgan electrical services bill was \$1,054.00. Mr. Haven's bill for the water faucets (9-12-13) was \$2,770.00 and final hook up of sprinklers system is \$1,625.55. Reseeding and 15 yards of dirt for park grass was \$775.00. **Total cost of this electric and water sprinkling system for the park is \$ 10, 333.55.**

YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP PARK

