

Lake Township-Roscommon County
Special Meeting
June 23, 2020 @ 6pm

The Lake Township Board met on Tuesday June 23, 2020 for a special board meeting. Dave Emmons called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America was recited.

Present: Dave Emmons - Supervisor, Tonya Clare-Clerk, Harry Trier-Treasurer, Chris Lukatch-Trustee, and Anthony Farhat-Trustee.

Emmons welcomed everyone to the meeting. Clare added item "hall rental" to the agenda per MCL 41.72a.

Dangerous Buildings

Resident at Henry Street demolished at their own expense. The Township will not utilize bids received. Aqua Street bid from North Country Contracting was verified, through Emmons, and although the bid was not complete they will honor the original bid at \$4,752.00. **Motion:** Emmons to move forward with bid from North Country Contracting for demolition of Aqua Street in the amount of \$4,752.00. **Second:** Trier. **All in favor.**

Board discussion of procedures/steps to handle dangerous buildings.

Hall Rental

Board discussion of hall rental. **Motion:** Clare to opt out of renting township hall until further notice due to Covid-19. **Second:** Farhat. **All in favor.**

Short Term Rental

Emmons stated a draft ordinance was sent to the board and adjacent townships for review. The draft ordinance contains information on how township can regulate STR rentals, require agents for the STR, and a fine system. Lukatch suggested the Board needs to make a decision on whether or not the township should have a STR ordinance. As a board that decision has not yet been made. Clare stated she reviewed prior meeting minutes and the Board has not made a motion either way in regard to STR. Trier questioned is there a current ordinance in place. Clare, Emmons and Lukatch concurred there is a current ordinance, ordinance 9 that does not allow STR, based on definition of R1 single family dwelling. Clare stated the township has a municipal infraction procedure. Sending violation letters, including fines, to violators.

The Board and meeting attendees had a lengthy exchange of comments and ideas expressing opinions for and against STR ordinance.

The Board had a discussion following the exchange. Trier stated a two step thought process, the township has a ordinance in place that would allow fines for violations. Trier also stated if there is a court case, the fines are squat based on what they are charging for the rentals. Trier continued second train of thought would be to change the

ordinance and write some rules. Trier in favor of allowing them and writing rules, so I'm torn at this point. Farhat spoke of court cases in favor of STR. Farhat also expressed being torn at this point. Farhat spoke of families renting in order to have two households and suggested having rules limiting number of weeks renting, maybe not back to back weekends. Lukatch stated personally as far as having a STR in a residential district I'm kinda against that, because it is a business. I am all for it in a commercial zone. Clare stated she is in favor of doing nothing. Clare continued if Kevin receives a complaint let it go through the process. Emmons spoke of some of the items in the draft ordinance. Emmons continued Township needs to think about both sides of the fence, do we allow it with some parameters so people can enjoy the lake and their property.

Additional exchange took place between the Board and meeting attendees.

Emmons stated STR will be tabled so Board members can digest the pros and cons brought forward and bring it up again at the next board meeting.

Public Comment

Resident made comment summing up overall exchanges of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Surprenant, Lake Township Deputy Clerk

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Approved at Lake Township Regular Meeting 7/14/20