

# TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Michael Bremer, *Supervisor* / Debra K Buckowing, *Treasurer* / Cindy A. Willshire, *Clerk*  
 Curt Campbell, *Trustee* / Ross DeMaagd, *Trustee* / Jake Jelsema, *Trustee* / Sandra Rairigh, *Trustee*



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## REGULAR MEETING TELECONFERENCE September 14, 2020

1. INVOCATION - Supervisor Bremer
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

**TIME: 7:02 P.M.**

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Present Present Present Present	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Present Present Present
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	Eric Schaefer, Matt & Tracy Schmader (6050 Arrowhead Trail,) County Commissioner Dan Parker, Catherine Getty, Fire Chief Randy Eaton, Deana Kooiman (8100 W GarbowRd;) Jim Dull Barry County Drain Commissioner, Chad Mencarelli, and Paul VanOoy			

### 4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Campbell- Motion to approve the printed agenda.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Rairigh
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
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### 5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Buckowing- Motion to approve the consent agenda as printed.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Campbell
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
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### 6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

**7. COUNTY REPORT:**

<b>County Commissioner Dan Parker:</b>	Parker stated the County Commission board had given their support for the village of Middleville to move forward in the process of a new waste water treatment plant. Also, the board has flyers regarding the bond proposal that will be on the November ballot for the County Jail. If you would like to have some to share at meetings, please contact him. Third, the Park Committee is going to have a feasibility study done on the establishment of a campground located at Charlton Park.
<b>Board Response:</b>	Bremer thanked Parker for the information and asked if the campground would include a rustic camping area. Schaefer asked if they would be considering the impact on private campgrounds located near Charlton Park. Parker clarified this would be a county campground and that he did not know yet whether there would be rustic camping but thought it was likely in keeping with the theme of Charlton Park.

**8. RESERVED TIME:** Jim Dull, Barry County Drain Commissioner and Chad Mencarelli, Land Resources Engineering: Came to discuss an issue of high water levels and flooding impacting a few homes and Garbow Rd. near the corner of Arrowhead Trail. Dull stated the Barry County Road Commission had already raised the road and allowed more water onto Bryan Finkbeiner's property in exchange for installing a raised driveway. Homeowners having taken actions such as building berms and running water pumps to carry water onto another neighbor's property.

Dull discussed the need for a board of determination to study the situation and offer recommendations as to the least expensive solution. Some possible solutions include: a pump station and retention pond be installed to handle the water, a drain to carry water as far away as the Thornapple river, the road commission raising the road again and installing a culvert under the road, the road commission taking out part of the road and installing two cul-de-sacs rather than a throughway.

Nothing has been determined but, wanted to give the township board time to consider the issue and decide if additional financial support may be available from the township beyond what the township might be assessed for if an action is taken to remediate an issue. Bremer asked if support was needed to get the board of determination going? Dull responded that the Barry County Road Commission had covered that step.

Matt & Tracy Schmader talked about running pumps continually and the risk to the public especially in the Winter for those who travel the flooded road when it turns to ice. Dull admitted that if homeowners weren't pumping the water, it would likely be over the road. Campbell asked for a rough estimate on the cost of the fix. Mencarelli stated it could be \$100,000 to \$150,000. Bremer asked how many properties would be part of a special assessment? Dull stated about 33, but some are properties owned by the state and could not be assessed. Buckowing questioned this and suggested further investigation on that point. Bremer asked what Dull needed from the township? Dull asked the township to consider what they could invest into a long-term solution.

Buckowing stated that the board should consider other flooding situations that have arisen in the township and that they look at treating everyone fairly. The board should be consistent with these types of situations. Deana Kooiman asked why the original owners were allowed to build there and what the cost of a retention pond would be. Dull stated that legislation has now changed, and the developer would be required to study the run off and install drainage as necessary. Paul VanOoy stated that they are asking for help and have been pumping the water continually for a while now. He is currently working from home but will soon be returning to the office to work and won't be able to monitor the pumps throughout the day.

**9. CLERK'S REPORT:** None.

**10. TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**11. PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT:** None.

**12. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT:**

- A.** Stryker quote for monitors, lift-assists and cot – Eaton stated Stryker is offering a buy 1, get one on the monitors and feels it is a good time to purchase them. The power cot is also on the quote. Eaton reminded the board that the new ambulance included the cost of installation, but it hadn't been decided yet what equipment was to be chosen. Stryker is offering 0% financing for 3 years. Buckowing cautioned Eaton that it may affect their ability to receive funding from the state and would need to be verified if the board could accept the financing. Bremer suggested a motion be made contingent on the state allowing the 0% financing. Buckowing asked how long the lifepaks last? Eaton and Rairigh said 10 years. The current units have a computer chip that cannot be replaced as they are too old to get a part or to be serviced any longer. He said the monitors could stop at any time and they wouldn't have the working equipment needed. He recommends making the replacement purchase now. Willshire made the motion to accept the quote on the 2 lifepaks separately. DeMaagd questioned why she'd made the motion for just the lifepaks. Willshire said the cots could be decided at a later time. Buckowing responded that there are a lot of items on the EMS purchase list and it would be helpful to take some time to consider the purchases. DeMaagd asked how soon Kodiak needed to know what equipment was chosen for being installed on the new ambulance. Eaton said he didn't know but thought 30 days more wouldn't be an issue. He would check into that deadline. Bremer asked if anyone would like to make a motion regarding the purchase of the power load cots. No one made a motion and Bremer asked to move to the next item.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Willshire- Motion to accept quote from Stryker for two lifepak monitors for \$36,730.00.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Buckowing
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

**B.** Motion to approve the hiring of three additional paid-on-call staff - Eaton stated they have three people they'd like to hire and are waiting for the physical report on one of them.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Jelsema- Motion to approve the hiring of three new paid-on-call staff (pending any pre-employment physicals.)
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	DeMaagd
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

**C.** Summary – Eaton reminded the board of the bad smell they were dealing with a few weeks ago. Explained that the smell came from a battery on one of the emergency vehicles. The on-board charger was over charging the battery and causing damage. The warranty on the battery had expired and the repair cost would be \$500.00, but the replacement with warranty would be \$700.00. On another topic, Eaton received the results of an EMS service survey which polled patients, staff and residents as regarding the services offered by TTES. Information was sent to board members and more is to be discussed in the future.

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A.** Motion to amend the resolution number assigned to the Township Master Plan adoption from resolution 11-2020 to resolution 13-2020.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Jelsema – motion to amend the resolution number assigned to the Township Master Plan adoption from resolution 11-2020 to resolution 13-2020.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Buckowing
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

- B. Server update/installation schedule - Bremer stated Aanalytics was keeping office staff informed via email as to the timeline and steps to change over to the new server.
- C. Broadband/internet update – Rairigh had received a door hanger from Great Lakes Energy regarding internet service. True Stream would be offered in 2021. Bremer stated high speed cable would be available. Rairigh commented that they are first going to do a feasibility study to see if it is a possibility.

**14. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Budget - Time for department heads to begin planning for 2021/20200 FY  
 Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 7:30 am
- B. Ordinances – Township ordinances were with Municode for a long time. Bremer asked for an update from Rairigh on them. Rairigh explained those were the Zoning ordinances. Willshire confirmed with Rairigh that the Ordinance Committee was Jelsema, Willshire and Rairigh. Jelsema stated that he thought they could finish up the review/updates within 2 hours.
- C. Appraisal bids for DNRTF Land Acquisitions – Bremer put out a bid to 3 appraisers and one said they were too busy, the second one came in at \$18,000.00 and the third one came in from Soper for \$8,000.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Rairigh – Motion to accept the quote from Soper for \$8,000.00 with a 6-week delivery of land appraisals for the DNRTF land acquisitions.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Buckowing
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

- D. Motion to approve resolution 14-2020 regarding the annexation of NTA Development properties into the village of Middleville for the purpose of utility service.

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Willshire – Motion to approve resolution 14-2020 the annexation of NTA development property into the village of Middleville for the purpose of utility service.
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Rairigh
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no votes.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

**E. Duncan Lake Sewer update – Hook-up fee adjustment and feasibility study –** Bremer stated the sewer authority asked Progressive Architect to do a study to see if additional homes could be added to the system. Next month, they will likely ask for a feasibility study. Campbell asked about the fee changes that had been discussed at the last sewer authority meeting. Bremer stated that he would like to wait until the next board meeting as a resolution would need to be drafted first. Jelsema suggested attaching the resolution number to the fee schedule but Buckowing recommended reviewing existing ordinances first and make sure all necessary steps are taken.

**F. TAPRC representative resignation/vacancy –** Bremer thanked Jared Nichols for his service to the community of Thornapple Township and received his resignation from the TAPRC board due to other commitments. An ad to fill the vacancy is being placed in the Sun & News regarding the vacant position of representative on the board for TAPRC to finish out the next 3-years of a 4-year term.

## **15. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Administration (Bremer, Buckowing, Willshire)**

**B. Cemetery (Willshire, DeMaagd, Rairigh)** Bremer installed a new flag at the Veteran’s Memorial yesterday.

**C. Elections (Willshire, Buckowing, Bremer) –** 1700 AV applications have been received so far for the November 3, 2020 election. It will make for a busy time of mailing out ballots.

**D. Emergency Services (Demaagd, Bremer, Rairigh)**

**E. Finance (Buckowing, Willshire, DeMaagd)**

**F. Parks and Recreation Representative (Bremer) –** Bremer stated that the minutes had been added to the packet.

**G. Personnel – Compensation (Willshire, Campbell, Bremer)**

**H. Property and Public Utilities (Jelsema, DeMaagd, Campbell)**

**I. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Jelsema)** Bremer requested they meet and discuss an upcoming millage request. Several across the state had passed in the August election and felt Thornapple Township should also consider doing so at this time.

## **16. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None.**

## **17. POLL OF MEMBERS:**

**Jake Jelsema (Trustee) –** It turned out that the state was able to back fill the revenue sharing dollars with CARES Act funds so local governments did not see a decrease in funding. However, he cautioned the

board to consider further cuts because he expects to see more foreclosures in the coming year. He also mentioned that that the forbearances will be ending and will likely see issues with student loans, car loans and credit-card loans.

**Sandy Rairigh (Trustee)** – Requested information regarding the difference between AV applications and ballots be listed on the website as some residents are confusing the two and think they’ve received multiple ballots.

**Ross DeMaagd (Trustee)** – Asked why we can’t have board meeting sin person at the fire station? Bremer and Willshire explained that under the governor’s executive order inside meetings are limited to 10 people. With everyone from the board, the chief, the zoning administrator and the minute taker we are already at 10 people. This would not allow for any other residents or persons to join the meeting. They could call in on the phone, but Getty stated the Planning Commission had tried this and it was hard for the public calling in to hear the board members and for the board members to hear the public who were speaking through the phone.

**Curt Campbell (Trustee)** – none.

**Deb Buckowing (Treasurer)** – Encouraged the board to use the residents’ money wisely. She had heard that many times from people stopping in with their tax payments.

**Cindy Willshire (Clerk)** – none.

**Mike Bremer (Supervisor)** – Thornapple Enrichment Foundation has a zoom meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:30 am. Bremer hopes they will be able to continue to use the board room after he has finished his term and meetings return to in-person.

**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

**TIME:9:24 P.M.**

<b>MOTION STATED:</b>	Buckowing – Move to adjourn
<b>MOTION SUPPORTED:</b>	Campbell
<b>MOTION STATUS:</b>	Approved with 7 yes voice votes.

Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved\_\_\_\_\_/2020\_\_