



MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Meeting

8:00 AM - Monday, July 25, 2022

H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln St., Caro, MI 48723

Commissioner Bardwell called the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln St., Caro, MI 48723, on Monday, July 25, 2022, to order at 8:02 a.m. local time.

Roll Call - Chief Deputy Clerk Elenbaum

Commissioners Present In-Person: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel, Dan Grimshaw(arrived at 8:10 a.m.)

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Curtis Elenbaum, Mike Miller, John Tilt, Charles Heinlein, Judge Nancy Thane, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Linda Strasz, Nancy Cook, Karen Southgate, Andy Daniels, Gary Fritz, Pam Shook, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Debbie Babich

Also Present Virtual: Jon Ramirez, Christy Poulus, Cody Horton, Don Derryberry, Mary Drier, Matt Brown, Robert McKay, Stephen Root, Amanda Ertman, Debbie Babich, Barry Lapp, Renee Francisco, Shannon Beach, Terri Lynn Eden, Robert Baxter, Mark Haney, Kim Brinkman, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Tyler Ray

At 8:03 a.m., there were a total of 15 participants attending the meeting virtually.

County Updates

None

New Business

1. Tuscola County Victim Services Program -
Nancy Cook, Victim Services Coordinator, expressed to the board the current state of the program which Victims of Crime Acts funding will end September 30, 2022 leaving the program unfunded as of October 1, 2022. Nancy has applied for new funding but is asking for financial backing from the County in the event that a grant is unable to be obtained. The Board discussed the great importance of the program to the community. Judge Nancy Thane voiced her support for the County to bridge the gap for funding due to the detrimental effects that would result from losing the program. Matter to be added to Thursday's agenda.

2. Child Care Fund Fiscal Year 2023 -
Linda Strasz, Chief Probation Officer, reviewed the current state of the program and how it is funded while presenting the Child Care Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 to be approved. Matter to be added to Thursday's agenda.
3. Child Care Fund Projected Costs and In-Home Care Parent Education and Supervised Visitation Education Program -
Karen Southgate, Director Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), reviewed the workings of the program with the Board and the necessity of continuation of funding for it. Matter to be added to Thursday's agenda.
4. 2022-2023 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Contract with List Psychological Services -
Karen Southgate, MDHHS Director, reviewed with the Board the proposed contract continuation with List Psychological Services. Matter to be added to Thursday's Agenda.

Judge Nancy Thane echoed the needs of support for all of the needs expressed thus far and explained how the lack of facilities to house the Juveniles is problematic due to the lack of funding and support from the State. The Judge heralded all the efforts being made by all involved in Tuscola County.

5. Andy Daniels, Hills & Dales General Hospital (HDGH) CEO - (matter added)
Andy Daniels reviewed the current state of affairs and accomplishments at HDGH and echoed the difficulties that have arisen regarding transportation for Health Care Services. The Board discussed the matter.
6. Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2023-2027 -
Terri Lynn Eden, a Representative for the Parks and Recreation Committee, presented the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2023-2027 which is prepared for adoption by the County. Terri believes they should be able to secure grants from the State of Michigan for the funding of projects laid out within. Matter to be added to Thursday's agenda.
7. Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Tuscola County Update -
Clayette Zechmeister gave an update of the current status of Tuscola County's participation and benefits of being a member of Michigan Association of Counties. The Board discussed becoming more involved in the various committees and programs.
8. Proposed Resolution for the Official Ballot Language Regarding a New County Jail and Sheriff's Facility Bond Proposition -
Clayette Zechmeister presented the proposed language put together by the committee and legal counsel. A resolution will be required by the Board for submission to meet the deadline for placing the proposal on the ballot for the November 8, 2022 election. Sheriff Glen Skrent expressed to the Board the matter of operating costs of the jail and the current state of being minimally staffed and having Officers constantly on overtime. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.

9. Managed Assigned Council Administrator Appointment Update -
Clayette Zechmeister explained that Geoffrey Stuart, the candidate for appointment, was unable to attend today but can be available for the Board Meeting Thursday. Matter moved to Thursday's agenda.
10. 2023 Road Commissioner Pay and 2023 Board of Commissioner Pay -
Clayette Zechmeister explained that if the Board were to be considering wage increases for the Board of Commissioners, it would have to be completed before the conclusion of the 2022 election. The board discussed mileage compensation allowable for attendance of committee meetings versus regular board meetings. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.
11. Tuscola County Economic Development Commission (EDC) -
Gary Fritz, Co-Chair of Tuscola County EDC, expressed to the board the recent accomplishments and the positive effect made in the community by Vice-Chairman and Director Steve Erickson. The EDC is requesting bargaining power to retain him by requesting an increase of funds to their annual budget so they can increase the positions salary by \$10,000.00. EDC Board Member John Tilt also voiced his support. Matter discussed at length and to be added to Thursday's agenda.

Recessed at 10:14 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:24 a.m.

At 10:24 a.m. there were a total of 20 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Old Business

1. Region VII Area Agency on Aging's Proposed Multi-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2023-2025 -
Clayette Zechmeister presented the proposed Multi-Year Plan for Fiscal year 2023-2025 from the Region VII Area Agency on Aging. Matter to be added to the Consent Agenda.

Finance/Technology

Primary Finance/Technology

1. Tuscola County Investment Reports -
Ashley Bennett, Tuscola County Treasurer, provided a report on the County's investments. Commissioner Grimshaw requested a review of the County's investment policy.
2. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update -
Debbie Babich, Fiscal Personnel Analyst, provided reports showing the current tracking of ARPA funds utilization for Tuscola County. Commissioner Young stated the Recycling Center's request for driveway paving, Cass City's request to renovate their 40-year-old wastewater treatment plant, and Denmark Township's request for assistance in replacing failing sewer Lagoons as high priority among the extensive list. The Board reviewed the list and discussed the logistics of prioritizing and how to appropriate the funds to the proposed projects in need of assistance. Denmark Township Supervisor Charles Heinlein

addressed the Board concerning their request and shared details about how much planning has been accomplished for it. Matter to be added to Thursday's Agenda.

3. FY 2023 Crime Victims' Rights Program (CVRP) - 2023 -
Clayette Zechmeister provided information explaining the Victim Rights award to the Prosecutor's Office was approved and their new allocated amount for FY 2023 is \$99,147.00
4. FY 2023 Tuscola County Veterans Affairs -
Clayette Zechmeister provided information explaining the County Veterans Service Fund Grant Application and that it was approved for the awarded amount of \$64,052.00
5. Tuscola County Indigent Defense FY 2023 Plan Approved -
Clayette Zechmeister provided an update stating the State of Michigan approved the Indigent Defense FY 2023 Plan that was previously approved by the Board.
6. 2020 to 2021 All Funds Audited Fund Balance Comparisons -
Clayette Zechmeister discussed the report provided to the Board showing comparisons of fund balances from 2020 to 2021.
7. Tuscola County Qualifying Statement Compliance -
Clayette Zechmeister provided and reviewed the report with the Board.
8. 2022 General Fund Mid-Year Review -
Clayette Zechmeister presented and pointed out potential adjustments that will be needed.
9. 2022 Special Revenue Funds Mid-Year Review -
Clayette Zechmeister presented and pointed out potential adjustments that will be needed.

On-Going and Other Finance

None

On-Going and Other Technology

Eean Lee, Chief Information Officer, provided an update to the Board that included implementation of new software for the Treasurers' Office as well as the Tuscola County Jail. Eean also mentioned the increase in cyber security due to the rise of phishing attacks. He is also working on updating the County's Cyber Incident Response Plan.

Building and Grounds

Primary Building and Grounds

1. Tuscola County Managed Assigned Council Office Space -
Clayette Zechmeister explained the current proposal of moving the office to the space available above the current location. Eean Lee inquired about renovation costs as all of the current networking equipment and wiring at the current location was installed by his staff.

2. Information Technology and Emergency Response Office Space Update -
Mike Miller updated the Board that meetings have been held with some Architects and Department Heads. He is hopeful to have something to present at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.
3. Courthouse Cooling Tower -
Mike Miller explained the need to the Board and has received a quote for the replacement. He will get the information to Clayette to provide for Thursday's meeting in order to approve the expenditure as orders are estimated to take 18 weeks to fulfill. Matter to be added to Thursday's agenda.

On-Going and Other Building and Grounds

1. State Police Building Annexation -
Clayette Zechmeister provided an update explaining that the TISD annexation is not complete as the Almer Township resolution needs correcting. This step is needing to be completed before the State Police Building can be annexed.

Personnel

Primary Personnel

1. Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) Officer Delegation Appointment -
Clayette Zechmeister presented that Human Resources Director Shelly Lutz has been selected to be the MERS officer delegate with HR/Finance Assistant Angie House selected as the alternate. Matter to be added to the Thursday's agenda.
2. Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) Employee Delegation Appointment -
Clayette Zechmeister presented that the MERS employee delegate was selected by popular vote of employees via email. The winner to be selected was Lieutenant Brian Harris with the alternate selected to be Sergeant Detective Joshua Herman. Matter to be added to Thursday's agenda.
3. Full-Time Corrections Officer Position -
Clayette Zechmeister presented the request from Undersheriff Robert Baxter to hire Joseph Burl for the vacant full-time Corrections Officer position. Matter to be added to the Consent Agenda.
4. Full-Time Road Patrol Officer Position -
Clayette Zechmeister presented the request from Undersheriff Robert Baxter to hire Ryan Warchuck for the vacant road patrol position. Matter to be added to the Consent Agenda.
5. Animal Control Officer Appointment on Vacant Position -
Clayette Zechmeister explained the recent Director appointment created a vacancy for a full-time position that they are requesting to be filled by promoting Miranda Weigold who is currently a part-time employee. Matter to be added to the Consent Agenda.

6. Appointment to Planning Commission - Partial Term
Curtis Elenbaum presented on behalf of Clerk Fetting regarding a request from Lonnie Kester to appoint Lori Selvidge to fulfill the term held by Ann Westover that is expiring December 2022. Matter to be added to the Consent Agenda.

On-Going and Other Personnel

1. Feasibility Study for a Tuscola County Public Defenders' Office
No Update.

Other Business as Necessary

1. Animal Control Ordinance -
Clayette Zechmeister reported that the project is still in progress.
2. Opioid Settlement Distributions Update -
Clayette Zechmeister reported that there has been little new information available other than a potential distribution in August.
3. Flood Plain Information -
Commissioner Grimshaw raised concerns about the authority and responsibility of Building Codes concerning the flood plain. The board discussed. Clayette Zechmeister to reach out to Safebuilt for clarification.
4. Sheriff's Safe (matter added) -
Commissioner Bardwell presented pictures of a safe from the late 1800s that was located in the Sheriff's Department building. Sheriff Glen Skrent contacted him wondering what to do with it. The Board discussed advising to put it up for auction.

Public Comment Period

-Pam Shook voiced her concerns regarding Vanderbilt Park. Clayette Zechmeister will arrange a meeting with Building and Grounds Director and provide an update to the Board.

Adjournment

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to adjourn the meeting at 12:41 a.m. Motion Carried.

Curtis Elenbaum
Tuscola County Chief Deputy Clerk