



Park Township

From the Desk of Howard Fink,

Township Manager

2/5/2021

Hi Everyone. Attached is this week's management report. As always, please let me know if there is anything I have missed.

Staff Meeting

This week Wednesday we held a Township wide staff meeting. It was a productive conversation, which each Township department updating others on current events / issues they are addressing. There was consensus on having a quarterly staff meeting to help keep strong communication in the office.

Short Term Rentals

At the staff meeting, the question of short-term rentals was broached. I updated staff on the issue and that following a meeting with Mr. Jeff Pfost, Mr. Jim Gerard, Greg Ransford and Mr. Martin; that I expected the Planning Commission would take up the issue at its next meeting. Front desk staff commented they had seen an uptick in questions / concerns, etc. on the topic. I have asked staff to note how many calls we receive on the topic so the board has a sense on the overall reach of the issue.

Lisa and Steve Turkstra

A follow up meeting was held with Mr. and Ms. Turkstra, myself and Ken Bosma. We have all agreed to review the issue in the spring time when weather permits us to evaluate the topography, drainage, etc. At this time, Ken Bosma and the Turkstras are not in agreement over what impacts the Bike Path has had on their property and why flooding / ponding is occurring. I have assured Mr. and Ms. Turkstra that we would review this in the spring and have authorized Ken to review the design of the bike path

and check to see if there may have been an oversight. Hopefully we can arrive at a solution in the spring.

Community Service Contracts

Some of you may be aware of the Community Service's program from the previous board. The program has since been dissolved, as it closely mirrored a grant program operated by the Township, which is not lawful. Moving forward, the Township board must decide if they wish to enter into a contract with various non-profits for a value for value exchange of services. On the budget meeting is three such contracts that the board needs to discuss; Holland Symphony, Holland Museum and HOBBS museum. While every one of these organizations is worthy, the board should stay focused on if there is a value for value exchange of services and if the board feels it appropriate to spend tax payer resources for the service. These are difficult policy decisions. I and or Dan Martin are available to assist in explaining how the program came to be, the previous board's actions, and how we should handle issues moving forward.

Covenant / Reserves at Lake Macatawa

As you know, the Reserves at Lake Macatawa boat dock application is on the agenda for the upcoming meeting. As my memo and correspondence indicated, staff has been reviewing the issue. I have spoken with Mr. Dave Caldon this afternoon, representative for Covenant Development. I indicated that communication should go through Mr. Martin's office. He requested that I inform the Board of Trustees of their position. I politely declined and indicated that they need to communicate their position in writing and send that to the board. I further indicated the issue would be on the agenda for this upcoming board meeting.

Budget

Quite a bit of time has gone into getting the budget documents ready for your review. Connie and I have been working on these efforts for quite a while. Let's all give Connie a big thank you for her work. Connie spends considerable time making sure our books are clean and that the board has the necessary information to make informed decisions. During the budget meeting, we will go over our capital improvements projects for the upcoming year and present an overview of our financial picture in each fund. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Resident Concerns on OBR / Waukazoo

I am in conversation with residents on their concerns regarding the safety issues created with Ottawa Beach Road and Waukazoo drive coming together. Residents initially requested that the road be a cul-de-sac / dead end. The road commission would have a number of concerns with this approach in addition to cost. The residents have also requested we look at additional safety measures. I will be working to set up a meeting with the residents and Road Commission to see if there are any solutions for the residents' safety concerns.