

Clearwater Township Annual Meeting  
March 30, 2019

The Annual Meeting of Clearwater Township was called to order at 9:00 AM at the Clearwater Township Community Center.

Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Supervisor Mike Gaylord, Clerk Kathy Eldridge

Also present, Tom Backers, Carol Backers, Grace Beland, Charise Spink and Greg Hanlin

Clerk Eldridge read the minutes from the Annual Meeting held on March 31, 2018

Supervisor Gaylord reviewed with the attendees what topics can be addressed at an Annual Meeting.

**End of Fiscal Year Report:**

1. Heritage Park – replaced batting cage netting and supplies; installed 4 security cameras
2. Freedom Park – removed dead trees; cleared trails; added new chips
3. Lake Access Sites – new street signs; added “swim at own risk” signs
  - a. Birch Street - removed trees (lake & park side)
  - b. Cedar Street – removed trees
  - c. Pine Street – removed tree
4. Cemetery – added electric service; light at flagpole
5. Township Hall – refinished gym floor; added pickle ball lines; added security cameras inside gym; converted to LED lighting in gym
6. Community Center – stained both decks
7. Road Improvements – Valley Rd from Rapid City Rd to Walker Rd; a small part of Kellogg Rd
8. Fire Department – added security cameras at Fire Station; EMS housing, New Fire Chief, Cadet Program
9. Township – Needs Assessment for Township Hall and Fire Station initiated

**Public Comments:**

Discussion of plans for road repairs for the upcoming years; plans for spending money in the future. Public expressed that the Board could have a plan beforehand. Concerns were expressed about the baseball parks to handle tournaments, especially parking and the need for a concession stand.

Beland proposed several ideas to the group which were voted on. Supervisor Gaylord reminded everyone that all of these votes are non-binding.

Beland proposed that the Fire Chief meet once a month with the Clearwater Township Supervisor; seconded by Carol Backers.

Discussion held which amended the above to have the meeting once a month with Fire Chief/Department and Clearwater Township Supervisor at the Fire Station. This was restated by Beland and seconded by Carol Backer. All agreed.

Beland proposed an annual Clean-Up day service at the curb side; it is hard to get items hauled into Kalkaska. Clerk Eldridge informed all of the estimated cost of doing this as an annual event; this would minimally cost twice the amount. The group additionally discussed putting a millage on the ballot to provide for curb side trash pickup. It was also mentioned doing another clean up in the Fall each year.

Beland suggested that the township newsletter should be mailed out with property tax statements to save the township money; seconded by Spink. All agreed.

Beland suggested that the township should make the annual meeting mandatory and could only be terminated without putting it on the ballot; seconded by Carol Backers.  
Vote: 5-yes, 2-no.

Beland suggested that the township survey and place signage at the Glade Valley Iron Bridge for public usage be done within 4 months; seconded by Tom Backers.  
Vote: 3-yes, 2-no, 2-abstain.

Beland suggested to allow the 3 minute comment period at the township board meetings to be shared by no more than 5 people, not to exceed 15 minutes; seconded by Carol Backers.  
Vote: 4-yes, 3-no.

Beland suggested that all employees complete a DOT physical, including Fire Department; seconded by Spink.  
Vote: 3-yes, 4-no.

Beland suggested the township abolish \$25.00 land use permit fee; seconded by Spink.  
Vote: 3-yes, 3-no, 1-abstain.

Beland suggested the township freeze the pay of all township employees, not to include the Fire Department, for 2 years, seconded by Carol Backers.  
Vote: 3-yes, 3-no, 1-abstain.

Beland suggested the township hire local kids to help Leo during the summer instead of Seeds or private groups. Discussion mentioned that high school requires community service hours.

Beland suggested no pay increases for township board members for 2 years, seconded by Spink.  
Vote: 3-yes, 2-no, 2-abstain

Beland suggested the township divide the township into sections and review one section for zoning once a year. Also rewrite the job description for Zoning Administrator

and how he processes complaints, seconded by Spink.  
Vote: 5-yes, 2-no.

Supervisor Gaylord asked Planning Commission Chair Backers to have the Planning Commission look at creating a more complete Zoning Administrator job description.

Tom Backers asked about the status of the Noise Ordinance. Supervisor Gaylord provided an update.

Greg Hanlin spoke on communication tower concerns.

**New Business:**

No salary increases approved for the 2019 -2020 Fiscal Year. Supervisor Mike Gaylord read the Salary Resolutions approved by the board.

**Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn made by Tom Backers, seconded by Beland. Meeting adjourned at 10:39 AM.

Respectively submitted, Kathy Eldridge