CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD VIRTUAL TOWN BOARD MEETING May 13, 2020

Chuck Korn called the Virtual Town Board Meeting to order on May 13, 2020 at 5:04 p.m. via the *Zoom* Application.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call of Board Members - Meeting held via ZOOM

Present: Jeane Blood Law, Dan Walters, Lanie McManus, Denise Schmuckal, Steve Duell, Molly Agostinelli, and Chuck Korn

Staff Present: Planning Director John Sych

1. Public Comment (5:03)

None

2. Review and Approval of the Agenda - Conflict of Interest (6:06)

Agostinelli moved and Duell seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Yeas: Agostinelli, Duell, Schmuckal, Blood Law, Walters, McManus, Korn

Nays: None

3. Consent Calendar (5:10)

a. Minutes

April 15, 2020 Regular Meeting (Recommend Approval)

b. Bills

General Fund

\$237,161.56

(Recommend Approval)

Consideration of PD 2020-65 – Good News Automotive C-G
 Rezoning – Introduction and Schedule for Public Hearing on May 26, 2020.

(Recommend Approval)

d. Consideration of PD 2020-73 – Parkland Ordinance – Proposed Amendment – Introduction and Schedule for Public Hearing on May 26, 2020.

(Recommend Approval)

Duell moved and Agostinelli seconded to adopt the consent calendar as presented.

Yeas: Duell, Agostinelli, Schmuckal, McManus, Walters, Blood Law, Korn

Nays: None.

4. <u>Items Removed from the Consent Calendar</u>

None

5. Correspondence

a. Grand Traverse Conservation District – April 2020 Report

6. Reports

a. Sheriff's Report (5:12)

Lt. Chris Oosse reported that numbers were lower than usual and there were only 26 traffic crashes in the month of April. Calls in April were down by 433 from last year's number of 1,080. The 12-hour shift schedule put in place for the COVID-19 crisis will continue through June 7th. Board members asked for call information in a graph format and discussed a traffic intersection issue.

b. GT Metro Fire Report (5:17)

Assistant Chief Steve Apostal said there was a fatal fire recently and firefighters did everything possible to save the person who perished. He added that calls for service are picking up now and a new Engine 1 went into service. The bids for renovations at Station 11 will be going out soon and strategic planning will also begin soon.

c. County Commissioner's Report (5:21)

Commissioner Brad Jewett reported that County Commissioners have been meeting weekly and they recently voted against hazard pay at this time. There have been no layoffs at the county, and none are anticipated. County buildings are open by appointment and all millages except for the school millage will be on the November ballot. A fundraising campaign for the Senior Center is moving forward. Board members discussed scheduling of CPO's and the percentage of COVID-19 cases in the county.

d. Planning Department Monthly Report for May, PD 2020-66 (5:29)
Planner Sych said they have been meeting with applicants via phone or Zoom. He said there is renewed activity in development. Board members asked questions about developments.

e. Treasurer's Report (5:33)

Blood Law shared that the state revenue sharing is up 6.7% year to date but will most likely start going down. Because of the investments and savings, the Township will be in a good position financially despite any downward turns in the economy as a whole. She added that tax tribunals could be an issue going forward.

f. Clerk's Report (5:35)

McManus said they have been busy with absentee ballot applications.

g. Supervisor's Report (5:37)

Korn said there will be no 4th of July fireworks and the Boom Boom Club will return the township contribution. He discussed the possible re-opening of restaurants and the current zoning regulations and said that the township may need to discuss relaxing the ordinance for those different uses that may arise such as outdoor seating. He talked budgeting because of the CPO schedule switch and beginning to bring some employees back into the building on a voluntary basis with plexiglass up at work counters and employees in masks.

The MTA recommends appointing a start-up director for issues related to coming back to work after the health crisis and Korn nominated Blood Law for the position. McManus supported the nomination.

Board members discussed the details of such a position and concurred.

Korn also said that he received a proposal from a kayaking business who wants to use the YMCA site for a kayak removal site. Board members expressed concerns with the proposal because of the current parking situation at that location.

7. <u>Unfinished Business</u>

None

8. New Business

a. Consideration of PD 2020-74 – Rental Agreement Permit with Haunted Traverse – Theme Tours (5:55)

Schmuckal said that this item was heard by the parks commission and that after discussion, the Parks Commission denied the permit. Parks Steward Derek Morton said the permit was denied by the Parks Commission in part because of safety concerns, liability, and enforcement.

Schmuckal moved and Blood Law seconded to deny the proposed Rental Agreement with Haunted Traverse for the following reasons:

- 1) The proposed hours of operation for Haunted Traverse would result in people accessing the Township Parkland when it is closed to the public.
- 2) Current conditions and lighting on the trails do not allow for safe use by the public during nighttime hours.
- 3) Allowing the proposed use would present liability issues for the Township.
- 4) Allowing the proposed use would present enforcement issues since it would imply that the Parkland would be open to the public during these hours.

Yeas: Schmuckal, Blood Law, Agostinelli, Duell, Walters, McManus, Korn

Nays: None

9. Public Comment:

Tom Cash and Judy Rollins inquired about the letter sent to the Governor's office and were told that she did not respond.

10. Other Business (6:02)

Duell commented that some timbering was going on near a township owned parcel. He also asked about the parking lot at Silver Lake Park and was told the construction project had been delayed due to frost and rain.

Agostinelli asked about any potential budgeting issues or adjustments and was told that a plan will be put into place.

Blood Law expressed concerns with the Goodwill Inn, its proximity to the Boardman and the number of homeless tents that were on the property. Korn said he would continue to stress the importance of the issue with officials.

11. Adjournment

Schmuckal moved and Blood Law seconded to adjourn at 6:21pm.

Yeas: Schmuckal, Blood Law, Duell, McManus, Blood Law, Walters, Korn

Nays: None

Chuck Korn, Supervisor Charter Township of Garfield 3848 Veterans Drive Traverse City, MI 49686 Lanie McManus, Clerk Charter Township of Garfield 3848 Veterans Drive Traverse City, MI 49686