

Regular Board Meeting  
Blackman Charter Township  
September 20, 2021

The Blackman Charter Township Board convened at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 20, 2021 at the Township Hall, 1990 West Parnall Road, Jackson, Michigan.

**Members present:** Supervisor Jancek, Clerk Sercombe, Treasurer Preston, and Trustees: Ambs, Thomas, Pack, and Williams.

**Members absent:**

**Public Attendance:** Betty Yager, Jackie Leslie, Ray Snell, & David Elwell

#### CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS - (two-minute limit)

1. **Betty Yager, Blackman Resident**
  - a. Left turn light at W. Parnall/Lansing Ave
  - b. *Supervisor Jancek:* JCDOT should be installing that next year
2. **Ray Snell, County Commissioner**
  - a. Money release by federal government (ARPA Funds)
    - i. fixing infrastructure
    - ii. IT infrastructure
    - iii. Sheriff's department
  - b. Circuit court is looking for two juvenile probation officers
  - c. Lots of work to do on tower building --- \$150,000 worth of repairs
  - d. Health Department - Looking for health resource advocates for COVID in schools

#### ADDITIONS / DELETIONS

- None

Motion by Treasurer Preston, supported by Clerk Sercombe to approve the Board of Trustee agenda for the Regular Board Meeting held on Monday, September 20, 2021.

*Unanimously approved by voice vote*

#### MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Correction under Planning Commission:
  - a. Met Monday 8/09 for 3190 **Lansing Ave.**
2. Motion by Trustee Pack, supported by Trustee Williams to approve the amended Board of Trustee minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on Monday, August 16, 2021.

*Unanimously approved by voice vote*

#### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of payroll for the dates 8/06/21 in the amount of \$153,433.99 and for 8/20/21 in the amount of \$176,828.58.
1. Approve \$400,000.00 transfer of funds from General Fund to Public Safety Fund for the month of August 2021.
2. Receive Revenue and Expenditure Report for the month of August 2021.

Motion by Treasurer Preston, supported by Clerk Sercombe

**Roll Call:** Sercombe, Pack, Thomas, Williams, Ambs, Jancek, Preston

*Ayes – 7*

*Nays - 0*

*Motion Approved*

#### SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

1. Kudos to all the staff for helping with tax season. It is much appreciated.
2. Stone has been added around the sides of the building

#### TREASURER'S UPDATE

1. Office group did well with tax collection
  - a. We currently have collected \$15.9 million collected out of \$17 million
  - b. Lots of credit card payments
2. Hal does a wonderful job -- Thank you.
3. Working with County National for COVID relief money
  - a. Documentation on money, report due at the end of October

#### CLERK'S UPDATE

1. Waiting on county and state on redistricting
  - a. polling location lines will be changed
2. Looking to purchase new tabulator in New Business
3. The staff did a wonderful job with tax collection
4. Fall cemetery clean-up date is TBD

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

1. Director Jester was absent due to illness.
2. No activity with the committee.

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

- *No Activity*

#### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

- *No Activity*

#### PARKS & RECREATION

1. 90 park reservations
2. Playground equipment is delayed due to manufacturing until mid-October
  - a. We could collect \$300 a day past September 1.
  - b. We are not looking to enforce the clause at this time.
  - c. *Trustee Williams*: Suggestion to look into warranty extension on equipment
3. Continue to be used by multiple groups and organizations

#### TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- *No activity*
  - a. Meeting next month regarding park security cameras

#### UTILITIES COMMITTEE

- *No activity*
  - a. Bi-annual cleaning of the water tower - everything is looking good.

#### ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

1. Director Jester, Attorney Eric White, and Treasurer Preston met to discuss Chapter 55 ordinance
  - a. Due to illness, meetings were postponed to a later date

NEW BUSINESS

**RESOLUTION  
#16-2021-0920 &  
#17-2021-0920:  
STANDARD  
LIGHTING  
CONTRACT**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Clerk Sercombe to approve Resolutions #16-2021-0920 and #17-2021-0920; Consumers Energy Standard Lighting Contracts for Airport Rd. and west-bound I-94, dated 12/16/2010 and 9/01/2016.

**Roll Call:** Jancek, Preston, Pack, Thomas, Sercombe, Ambs, Williams  
*Ayes – 7                      Nays - 0                      Motion Approved*

**RESOLUTION  
#18-2021-0920:  
P/S SERVICE  
CREDIT**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Trustee Williams to approve Resolution #18-2021-0920; Request to Purchase Additional Service Credit for Public Safety Officer William Regnier.

**Roll Call:** Ambs, Jancek, Williams, Pack, Sercombe, Preston, Thomas  
*Ayes – 7                      Nays - 0                      Motion Approved*

**ELECTIONS  
VOTING  
TABULATOR**

Motion by Trustee Pack, supported by Clerk Sercombe to authorize the Clerk to purchase a new tabulator for elections, estimated at \$5,295.00.

**Roll Call:** Preston, Williams, Thomas, Ambs, Pack, Sercombe, Jancek  
*Ayes – 7                      Nays - 0                      Motion Approved*

**RESOLUTION  
#19-2021-0920:  
BUDGET  
AMENDMENT**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Clerk Sercombe to approve Resolution #19-2021-0920; Budget Amendment to the 2021 Public Safety Fund.

**Roll Call:** Thomas, Ambs, Jancek, Sercombe, Preston, Pack, Williams  
*Ayes – 7                      Nays - 0                      Motion Approved*

**RESOLUTION  
#20-2021-0920:  
POVERTY  
EXEMPTION**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Treasurer Preston to approve Resolution #20-2021-0920; Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test.

**Roll Call:** Williams, Preston, Thomas, Jancek, Ambs, Sercombe, Pack  
*Ayes – 7                      Nays - 0                      Motion Approved*

BILLS

Motion by Treasurer Preston, supported by Trustee Williams to approve payment of bills on the Board Invoice Post Audit Report dated 9/07/21 in the amount of \$3,224,261.22 and Board Invoice Report dated 9/21/21 in the amount of \$445,564.70.

**Roll Call:** Pack, Williams, Preston, Thomas, Ambs, Sercombe, Jancek  
*Ayes – 7                      Nays - 0                      Motion Approved*

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT (Three-minute limit)

1. **Betty Yager, Blackman Resident**
  - a. When are they (JCDOT) looking to fix the roads
2. **Jennifer Biddinger, Blackman Resident**
  - a. New tabulator -- red flag
  - b. Concerned about election fraud
  - c. Are Dominion products a concern??
3. **Ray Snell, County Commissioner**
  - a. Elections are ran with great integrity.
4. **Gary Schuette, Jackson County Sheriff**
  - a. We have had multiple retirements
    - i. We have 3 people in field training
    - ii. 5 people are in the academy

- b. Really hard to hire police officers right now
  - i. Benefit package is not up where it should be
  - ii. Trying to recruit from within
- c. Triple homicide in Grass Lake
  - i. Blackman-Leoni Officers did a wonderful job, went above and beyond
- d. *Supervisor Jancek*: Thank you for coming, we love to hear what is happening in the sheriff's office.
  - i. *Schuette*: I will give you one of my cards, please contact me if you need me at one of your meetings.
  - ii. *Schuette*: Goal is to make it to one board meeting a year.

OPEN DISCUSSION

*1. Treasurer Preston*

- a. Attended a luncheon at the American One Events Center
  - i. Bankruptcies are the lowest ever
  - ii. Infrastructures is over more than it has been in ten years
  - iii. Inflation will not be sky-rocketing, but will come up from the "norm"
  - iv. US will generate 4-million jobs

*The Supervisor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.*

  
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Shelly Sercombe, Township Clerk