

**REGULAR MEETING
COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Via Zoom
February 15, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Columbia Township Board of Trustees was held (via Zoom meetings format) on Monday, February 15, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Elrod called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Beamish, Tackett, Marsh, Calhoun, Trout, Deland and Elrod.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There was public comment from property owner Carl Tews and Lenawee County resident Lee Andre.

Treasurer Calhoun made a motion to add action item 9g (Appointment of Township representative to the River Raisin Watershed council). The motion was seconded by Clerk Marsh. Ayes all. Motion carried. A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. Ayes all. Motion carried. Agenda approved.

A motion was made by Trustee Deland to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. Ayes all. Motion carried. Consent Agenda was approved.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Motion to approve accounts payables totaling the amount of \$1,097,284.89 was made by Treasurer Calhoun. The motion was seconded by Trustee Beamish. Ayes all. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS: Action was taken on the following items: A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to give a Conditional Approval of a Special Land Use Permit Application for Large Solar Energy System S-Power / Cement City Solar (as presented on page 40 of the Board packet). The motion was seconded by Trustee Trout. On a roll call vote: Ayes – Trout, Deland, Calhoun, Marsh, Tackett, Beamish and Elrod. Motion carried. A motion was made by Trustee Tackett to approve the Cement City Solar (Hawley) PA 116 Application. The motion was seconded by Trustee Beamish. Ayes all. Motion carried. A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to adopt a Resolution to Allow Resident Taxpayers to Protest at March Board of Review. The motion was seconded by Trustee Deland. On a roll call vote: Ayes – Calhoun, Marsh, Tackett, Deland, Trout, Beamish and Elrod. Motion carried. Resolution adopted. A motion was made by Trustee Trout to adopt a Resolution for Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. On a roll call vote: Ayes – Trout, Beamish, Calhoun, Marsh, Deland, Tackett and Elrod. Motion carried. Resolution adopted. A motion was made by Trustee Beamish to hire Jay Niles as the New Columbia Township Chief of Police. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. On a roll call vote:

Ayes – Calhoun, Tackett, Trout, Marsh and Beamish. Nays – Deland and Elrod. Motion carried. A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to go into closed session with Township Legal Counsel to discuss ongoing litigation whereas doing so in an open session would have a detrimental financial effect on the trial or settlement position. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. On a roll call vote: Ayes – Deland, Trout, Tackett, Calhoun, Beamish, Marsh and Elrod. The Board went into closed session at 8:35pm. A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to return from Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. Ayes all. The Board returned to open session at 9:14pm. A motion was made by Trustee Deland to appoint Treasurer Calhoun as the Township Representative to the River Raisin Watershed Council. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. Ayes all. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There was no additional public comment.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Treasurer Calhoun. The motion was seconded by Clerk Marsh. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Marsh, Columbia Township Clerk