

IONIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Committee-of-the-Whole

August 15, 2017

3:00 p.m.

Chair Shattuck called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Hodges gave the Invocation.

Members Present: Jim Banks, Jack Shattuck, David Hodges, Larry Tiejema, Brenda Cowling-Cronk, Georgia Sharp and Scott Wirtz

Others Present: Scott DeRuischer, Judith Clark, Bob VanLente, Michelle Reger Spicer, Amy Gorham, Ken Bowen, Melissa Eldridge, Sadie Guernsey, Don Lehman and Diane Adams

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Cowling-Cronk, supported by Wirtz, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comment

Michelle Reger Spicer spoke as an advocate for Community Mental Health and the Right Door of Ionia County. She mentioned a luncheon on September 22, 2017 that is a fundraiser and also an event to raise awareness for mental health issues.

New Business

- A. Sadie Guernsey reported on the amounts of recyclable waste collected so far in 2017. Many towns in Ionia County have both spring and fall hazardous waste collections. An electronic waste collection was held in Ionia and there are plans to have another next year.
- B. Departmental Reports
 1. Don Lehman with MSU Extension reported that currently the office is fully staffed. He reported on the 4-H success at the 2017 Ionia Free Fair and the many programs and services MSU Extension offers to benefit the community. Don also announced his retirement in January of 2018.

2. Ken Bowen with the Health Department reported that September 12, 2017 is the grand opening of the dental clinic. He also commented on the WIC program and the possibility of medical marijuana dispensaries opening in the future among other things. Jim Banks mentioned the level of activity all the employees are a part of including Mr. Bowen. Larry Tiejema asked about the food safety program.
3. Scott DeRuischer reported the water heater at Commission on Aging was replaced and the A/C units at the courthouse continue to be an issue for the maintenance department. Two new employees have been hired in the maintenance department. Monthly inspections at the jail continue to happen and work out well. Steel studs are now being placed on the courthouse addition. Bertha Brock Park rentals have increased and will bring in additional revenue.
4. Judith Clark the Ionia County Treasurer reported on several items in the Treasurer's Department such as dog license sales are up, state and county tax bills will be going out, 18 parcels have been foreclosed on with the second sale being in October and she asked for the Commissions support on a Senate Bill which could change the eviction process along with a few other items.
5. The Honorable Robert S. Sykes Jr. was not present but he sent a note that his office is under budget and he is working on next year's budget.

Adjourn

Moved by Cowling-Cronk, supported by Hodges to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Jack Shattuck, Chair

Amy Gorham, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved on:
