

Ionia County Board of Commissioners
August 20, 2019
Committee-of-the-Whole
3:00 p.m.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and led with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation.

Members present: Chris Bredice, Scott Wirtz, Georgia Sharp, Larry Tiejema, Jack Shattuck, Jim Banks and David Hodges

Others present: Deb Thalison, Lori Kirkhoff, Kyle Butler, Tutt Gorman, Carly Quinn, Elisabeth Walden, Evan Sasiela, Bill Hendrian, Rod Steele, Judy Clark, Stephanie Fox and Janae Cooper

Approval of Agenda

The Chair noted the following changes to the Agenda: Add Closed Session. Moved by Tiejema, supported by Sharp. Motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

- A. Tutt Gorman, Portland City Manager came before the Board with an update on reconsideration of Section 19 Emergency Funding submitted to Governor Gretchen Whitmer (copies of the letters are on file in the Clerk's Office). Gorman fielded questions from the commissioners. Gorman is not aware of the time frame in which this matter may be resolved.
- B. Kyle Butler, Vice President of the IM SAFE CAC and Lori Kirkhoff, Director of the IM SAFE CAC did a PowerPoint presentation regarding the child advocacy center and distributed two handouts (on file in the Clerk's Office). This is a non-profit organization that is funded by grants, fundraisers and donations. Butler and Kirkhoff fielded questions from the Board.
- C. Department Reports
 1. Buildings and Grounds Manager Rod Steele gave a detailed report regarding various offices in the County and the work he and his staff have performed. (Report on file in the Clerk's Office)
 2. Judy Clark, Treasurer, gave a quarterly report on the general fund, taxes, investments, interest rates and other financial details in the Treasurer's Office. (Report on file in the Clerk's Office). Clark and her staff balance all of the accounts daily versus weekly or monthly. The auction for foreclosed properties will be at Steel Street Hall on September 11th. Of the 30+ properties that are being sold at auction, 11 properties that are foreclosed upon are in the Covered Village Mall in Belding. Michigan Land Bank is now called the State Land Bank Authority. Clark reports that the County will be taking a loss on the foreclosed properties.
 3. Bill Hendrian, MSU Extension Director gave the Ionia County MSU Extension 2019 Semi-Annual report. Hendrian reports that from January through July

2019 that there were over 2,700 contacts either by calls, e-mails or walk-ins. Hendrian discussed Innovation Counselors, water programs and agriculture. (a full report is on file in the Clerk's Office).

4. Deb Thalison, gave the Public Health report on behalf of Ken Bowen. Thalison reported on activities and events done by the Health Department and grants that have been approved for the Health Department. Birthing classes will be reevaluated at the end of the year. (a full report is on file in the Clerk's Office).
5. Carly Quinn, Animal Shelter Manager discussed improvements to the cat room. Quinn reported an increase in volunteers. Since the beginning of the year just the shelter has taken in just shy of 900 animals. Quinn reported participating in several events. (a full report is on file in the Clerk's Office).

Administrator's Report

County Administrator, Stephanie Fox presented the Board with a Resolution that the Ionia Community Library passed. Fox will attend the Library Board meeting tomorrow. Fox stated that the Personnel Committee meeting will meet on August 27th at 5:00 p.m. Several topics will be on the Agenda. Fox also advised the Board that the Budget Meetings are scheduled for September 10th from 1-3 p.m. and on September 16th from 6-9 p.m.

The Chair called for a brief recess at 5:09 p.m.

Moved by Tiejema, supported by Sharp to move into Closed Session at 5:09 p.m. to discuss an attorney/client privilege letter from Cohl, Stoker & Toskey, P.C. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: yes-all.

Moved by Banks, supported by Wirtz to move out of Closed Session at 5:32 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Adjournment

Moved by Banks, supported by Bredice, to adjourn the meeting at 5:32 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

David Hodges, Chair

Janae K. Cooper, County Clerk

Minutes Approved on:
