



# Liv.Co UPDATE

Monthly News from the  
Livingston County Commissioners



March 2021

## Livingston County Board of Commissioners

District 1 - Kate Lawrence

District 2 - Carol Sue Reader

District 3 - Wes Nakagiri  
*(Board Chairman)*

District 4 - Douglas G. Helzerman

District 5 - Jay R. Drick

District 6 - Mitchell Zajac

District 7 - Carol S. Griffith  
*(Board Vice-Chairwoman)*

District 8 - Jerome Gross

District 9 - Brenda Plank

*"The mission of Livingston County is to be an effective and efficient steward in delivering quality services within the constraints of sound fiscal policy. Our priority is to provide mandated services which may be enhanced and supplemented to improve the quality of life for all who work, reside, and recreate in Livingston County."*

## Health Department Removes Food Service License Fees For 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many of our local businesses to struggle during the past year due to mandated closures and capacity restrictions. None have been more adversely affected than our food service establishments. Our local restaurants have gone through periods of closure and indoor dining restrictions and many are struggling financially during this time. In an effort to alleviate some of the financial burden of our local restaurants, the Health Department has eliminated the collection of food licensing fees for existing facilities for 2021. During normal years, the Health Department relies on the revenue generated from the food licensing fee (\$335,000), along with their annual Essential Local Public Health Services contract funding (\$137,749), to support food safety operations that include routine onsite inspections, education, reviewing plans for new construction, remodels, change of ownership, and the investigation of complaints and foodborne illness. Due to many Environmental Health staff working in and being reassigned COVID specific roles and responsibilities, the Health Department is able to offset some of the operational costs with supplemental State and Federal COVID funding.

## Monthly Meetings

All meetings will be held via Zoom.  
The public may attend:

- Via Zoom (on-line meetings):  
<https://zoom.us/j/3997000062?pwd=SUdLYVFFcmozWnFxbm0vcHRjWkVlZz09>
- Via the Zoom app - **join a meeting**,  
meeting number: **399 700 0062**  
Enter the password: **LCBOC**  
(ensure there are no spaces before or after the password)
- Dial by your location: +1 929 205 6099  
Meeting ID: **399 700 0062**  
Password: **886752**

3/22/2021 - Full Board Meeting at  
5:30 PM

4/5/2021 - General Government &  
Health & Human Services  
Meeting at 5:30 PM

4/7/2021 - Finance Committee at  
7:30 AM

4/13/2021 - Full Board Meeting at  
5:30 PM

4/19/2021 - Infrastructure &  
Development & Public Safety  
Meeting at 5:30 PM

## County Participation In Statewide Tornado Drill On March 24



Livingston County offices will take part in the Statewide Tornado Drill scheduled for Wednesday, March 24 at 1:00 PM. During the drill, there will be a tornado siren test, an initial warning from the Livingston County Public Alerting System (LCPAS) to the public and County buildings, and an "all clear" message sent out via LCPAS after 20 minutes. The drill is a proactive effort to enable our residents and County employees to become more resilient during severe weather or tornado emergencies by practicing and discussing emergency communication and emergency sheltering. Residents and local businesses and organizations are encouraged to take part in the drill to practice their severe weather and tornado procedures. "It is important to review emergency plans with family and co-workers," says Livingston County Emergency Manager, Therese Cremonte. "Emergencies, such as a tornado, can happen with little or no warning. If the required safety actions are discussed and practiced before an emergency, the actions will be almost automatic during the emergency, when time to react may be limited."

## Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners

- The 44th Circuit Court's Juvenile Division has authorized agreements with 13 attorneys and firms to provide Court Appointed Legal Counsel to minor children and parents in child protective proceedings and respondent children in juvenile delinquency proceedings.
- The Board passed a resolution calling upon the Governor and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to retract their SVI Social Factor Based Plan and replace it with a scientific medical factor based plan that results in a pro-rata uniform distribution to Michigan's most medically vulnerable population.
- An amendment has been approved for the existing lease agreement with The Regents of The University of Michigan for building and hangar space at the Livingston County public safety complex. The amendment simplifies the process of reporting operational costs and rent increases.
- LETS will purchase and replace six small buses that are eligible for replacement based on age and/ or mileage. Funding for the buses is available from various state and federal transit capital programs. The new buses will have a useful life of seven years or 200,000 miles.
- The Board has authorized LETS to apply for state financial assistance for fiscal year 2022 for their local transportation program and to name LETS Director, Greg Kellogg, as the Transportation Coordinator for all public transportation matters.
- 911 / Central Dispatch will file their concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning the plans to eliminate the diversion of 911 fees for items it deems not directly related to the 911 process. Central Dispatch supports a broader use and interpretation of the FCC's phrase "directly related to the 911 process", to maintain Michigan's ability to determine the definition of allowable costs for 911 fees; and support local decision making and local control utilization of 911 fees.
- Arthur McCleer, Michael Arens, and Terry Wilson have been appointed to the Board of Public Works with terms expiring on December 31, 2022.
- The Board approved a budget amendment to carry forward approved 2020 projects into the fiscal year 2021 budget. This amendment recognizes projects that were approved and had a purchase order created in 2020, but goods or services weren't received before the end of the year. These projects will be reissued as 2021 purchase orders.
- The Car Pool department will purchase a leased Sheriff's Vehicle from Enterprise Fleet Management for transfer to MMRMA Insurance. The purchase of the totaled leased vehicle will allow the County to transfer the title to MMRMA, which will sell the vehicle to a high salvage bidder. The funds will be applied to the insurance settlement.

## Resolutions For Consideration

- The Board will consider authorizing an additional payment in the amount of \$1.7 million to be made to MERS to fund the overall County pension liability. Eliminating or reducing long term liabilities by making additional payments is a priority of the County as it affects both the financial health and sustainability of the County.
- The Board will consider a Local Declaration of Emergency for Livingston County in order to protect the safety, health, and wellbeing of the public and government officials while conducting business utilizing an electronic / virtual platform to hold public meetings, and meet the requirements of the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

# Village of Pinckney Street & Sidewalk Committee Wednesday, March 10, 2021 2:00pm Minutes

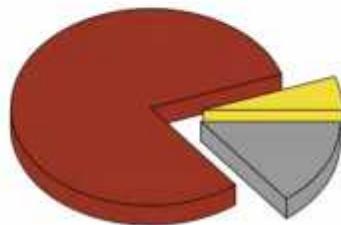
Present: S. Mills, M. Hughes (DPW) L. Lavey, E. Kauserud (Trustees), J. White (engineer)

Agenda: 1) Streets  
2) Sidewalks

Lavey asked about priorities for street work. Mills outlined current concerns:

- Surface repair (crack fill) of current streets badly needed, DPW has been working with a firm that specializes in this, the same one that gave estimates before. The recommendation is not to patch the worst streets, but to be diligent in maintaining the better roads, then work backwards toward full repair of the worst ones. This company has a daily rate of \$7500 for crack sealing, and square yard rates based on crack severity and how many pounds of sealant are needed.
- Budget questions exist. S&S asks for clarification on what is available to spend for subcontracting, grant matches, what can be spent from what funds. The ten-year budget presented at the Council meeting is causing some confusion.
- When the planned reconstruction of “phase three” of Mann Street & Depot might be completed was discussed.
- A new PASER rating, delayed by COVID but expected soon (April) will help rank and prioritize street repair projects. White pointed out that overall street health includes storm & sanitary running underneath

Fair (Rating 5-7)	0.918	5.34%
Poor (Rating 1-4)	13.778	80.17%
Unrated	2.491	14.49%
<b>Total Miles:</b>	<b>17.187</b>	



■ Good (Rating 8+), 0.000 (0.0%)  
■ Fair (Rating 5-7), 0.918 (5.3%)  
■ Poor (Rating 1-4), 13.778 (80.2%)  
■ Unrated, 2.491 (14.5%)

2015 PASER summary excerpt

- DPW asks about responsibility for prioritizing street work. Lavey indicated it should be DPW. In this case, DPW still has questions on budget.
- An amount (\$50K) had been approved for crack fill work. DPW will endeavor to schedule this work before end of fiscal year if possible. DPW would like this figure to be larger in the next year's budget.
- On the grant application for N. Howell that failed, our ranking was affected by a high per capita income locally. Pluses were infrastructure work and being an all-local project. Adding a preventative maintenance plan would strengthen the application. White suggested adding this element to score higher.

For sidewalks:

- Lavey introduced some basic research done on sidewalk programs in other municipalities. Many have defined sidewalk zones. Lavey presented a map and produced 11 zones of neighborhoods or sections. Several large areas currently have few or no sidewalks and could be divided based on future developments.
- Act 51 money may be able to be used for this, but the Village only gets a small amount
- Areas without sidewalks, new builds will want waivers. Hughes indicated a house will be built in Fairwood that will want one because that sub has no sidewalks. Waivers running with the land allow for requiring sidewalks later. The argument for this is that when sidewalks are eventually installed, this piece will be old and need to be replaced already. White concurred and added that patchwork sidewalks tend to get broken or weather damaged faster and then need replacement. A nicer system is produced with waiting. Mills feels strongly that they all should be done, but acknowledges that 120 Livingston just got a waiver. Lavey noted that maybe it's time for that neighborhood to have them built, all properties. Hughes suggested that it would make sense to wait until the street was rebuilt, then add them. Lavey agreed that that sounds like the start of a sidewalk policy. This may evolve into an actual sidewalk ordinance.
- Hughes noted that ADA ramps probably need to be part of this policy. White noted most communities have held off; those that have been sued have replaced them. Hughes thought having an ADA ramp plan would prevent lawsuits.
- RoadSoft has a sidewalk module, which the Village could use to inventory and rate sidewalks by segments, record history
- The "leveling" work. Per Mills some of the caulk is showing some wear, but the system seems to work.
- Lavey asked about soliciting information on needed repairs from residents, using newsletter notices, the website, or social media. Hughes described a "citizen reporter program," but not sure how it would work; also does it create liability for the Village if someone sends in a repair request? Lavey thought a response should be made to every report, but instant repairs are not offered. Hughes thought that would be a legal question.

In closing, Lavey will produce minutes, work on producing some text for a sidewalk policy but will leave that to Council at a future meeting. Hughes will work with Ritter to produce a map of where sidewalks are and are not.

White asked about the Category B grant, would like some guidance. Council will need to authorize signing the application, and preventative maintenance will need to be budgeted and included. This grant is due May 3.

Plans to meet again after the PASER review is done, so April or May. DPW would also like some Committee help on budget work before formal Budget meetings.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- **DPW will schedule some crack & fill work for this fiscal year**
- **Lavey will work on early draft of policy**
- **The Committee requests approval from Council for the Category B grant application**
- **The Committee recommends GRANTING the sidewalk waiver for 327 S. Howell.**

Adjourned: ~3:30 pm

**Staff Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 17, 2021**  
**Minutes**

Present: Jill Chapman (Clerk), Rebecca Foster (President), Scott Mills (DPW), Jeff Newton (Police) and Ashley Sloat (Secretary)

PRESIDENT

Had a meeting with Woodhill this morning. Talked about budgets, specifically the general fund, and went over what will be discussed Monday.

Will be declaring a state of emergency so we can continue to meet remotely.

Community garden is launching. Still need to do a video.

Next Wednesday is the workshop for the marijuana application process. It will be run by Lucie Fortin and Rebecca.

Will be re-posting for treasurer/finance manager. Had an informal conversation with Julie Durkin, who applied for the treasurer position, about zoning. Still hiring County Planning. Zoning will continue to work alongside the police department on blight issues.

Had a conversation with the land bank guy regarding lots on Pumpkin Lane. He needs new site plans because the old stuff is no longer valid. Checking to see if the old master deed needs to be amended. We haven't taken the streets yet. They have to make improvements before we will take them.

DPW

Meeting at new pump station regarding flanges. Village purchased them and Reliance will install them. Starting date looks to be by or before the first week in April. Also need to discuss step options.

McDonald's has submitted a plan. There is a problem with a portion of their sidewalk. We're waiting on their proposal to change. They could probably ask for a waiver.

Not much happening with Blau at this time.

Karl Burg needs a plot plan for his ramp.

Drywell may be an issue at 774 Vincent.

337 S. Howell is in the final stages.

#### POLICE

Jack Hall is gone. CJ is halfway through his training. Hoping to make him full-time by the end of April. Garrison is in his last week of training.

Car has been ordered. Should be on the lot by May or June. Will pick it up 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

#### CLERK

Utility billing has started for the first quarter. So far so good.

Michelle is no longer working for us. She is happy to take calls if anyone has questions, but she is no longer using her Village email.

TENTATIVE DATE NEXT MEETING: April 21, 2021