

**West Bloomfield Town Board**  
**May 12, 2021**

Present: Supervisor Campbell, Councilmembers Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis  
Also Present: Town Clerk Mary Grundman, Highway Superintendent Jeff Ball, Residents and guests

Supervisor Campbell opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and asked for a moment of silence for the recent passing of former Town Justice Richard Hyland.

**RESOLUTION #54**

Minutes

Councilman DeSanctis made the resolution to approve the April minutes, seconded by Councilman Harman.

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

Resolves that the April minutes are accepted as presented.

**RESOLUTION #55**

Highway Report

The Highway Report for April was distributed and discussed. Councilman Travis made the resolution to accept the Highway report, seconded by Councilman Carey.

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

Resolves that the April Highway report is accepted as presented.

Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer's Report

The April Code Enforcement Officer's report will be discussed at the May 26th workshop.

**RESOLUTION #56**

Supervisor's Report

The Supervisor's Report was distributed and discussed. Councilman Travis made the resolution to approve the Supervisor's report, seconded by Councilman DeSanctis.

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

Resolves that the Supervisor's report is accepted as presented.

**RESOLUTION #57**

Memorial Fund

Supervisor Campbell asked the Board if they would like to use the Memorial Fund created for use at the park to replace the roof on the pavilion, a memorial plaque to be placed in the park, and a new sign for the park and Town Hall. The Board agreed and Superintendent Ball asked for approval to purchase the shingles for the pavilion at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00. Councilman Travis made the resolution to approve the purchase of the shingles at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00, seconded by Councilman Carey.

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

Resolves that the Highway Superintendent is authorized to purchase shingles for the pavilion roof at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00.

RESOLUTION #58

Justice Report

Supervisor Campbell asked for a resolution to approve the April Justice report. Councilman Harman made the resolution to approve, seconded by Councilman DeSanctis.

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

Resolves that the April Justice report is accepted as presented.

RESOLUTION #59

Payment of Bills

Supervisor Campbell asked for a resolution to approve the payment of bills. Councilman Carey made the resolution to approve, seconded by Councilman Harman.

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

Resolves that the payment of bills is approved.

Supervisor Campbell asked if there were any questions.

Frank Prouty asked the Board if, since the land purchase between him and the Town was delayed, the Blodgett Brothers Farm could still work the parcel the Town purchased or be reimbursed for the seed and fertilizer they purchased. Supervisor Campbell explained that the Town Attorney has prepared a referendum which would allow the Farm to continue to work the property per the original lease with Mr. Prouty which runs through 2022. Mr Prouty informed the Board that he replaced a field tile next to Daylight Drive because the General Contractor for the Town Hall dug one up putting in the water line and created drainage problems. Supervisor Campbell asked Mr. Prouty to give him the cost of replacing the tile and Supervisor Campbell will ask the Town Attorney about it.

RESOLUTION #60

**RESOLUTION TO LEASE TO BLODGETT BROTHERS FARM, INC. CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE TOWN LOCATED AT ROUTES 5 & 20 IN THE TOWN AND BEING PART OF TAX ACCOUNT NO. 65.00-1-86.112.**

Councilman Travis made the following resolution, seconded by Councilman Harman

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

WHEREAS, the Town of West Bloomfield recently acquired and is now the owner of certain real property located at Routes 5 & 20 in the Town and being part of tax account no. 65.00-1-86.112 (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Property is not dedicated parkland and the Town does not presently have need for the Property for Town purposes; and

WHEREAS, at the time of the Town’s acquisition a portion of the Property, specifically, Farm Service Agency tract number 3456, was being leased by Blodgett Brothers Farm, Inc. and

actively being farmed by it, and at the time of acquisition it had already made preparations and invested substantial resources into farming the land in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of West Bloomfield has determined that it would fair and equitable and in the best interest of the Town to enter into a new lease with Blodgett Brothers Farm, Inc. to allow it to continue to lease that same portion of the Property for the same farming purposes and along substantially the same lease and rental terms as set forth in his lease for the Property with the Town's predecessor in interest and that such lease with the Town shall expire at the end of 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Town Attorney to prepare a lease agreement with Blodgett Brothers Farm, Inc. to allow for the continuation of farming at the Property, with said lease to be substantially similar to Blodgett Brothers Farm's existing lease and rental terms, to expire at the end of 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of Town Law Section 64(2) and Article 7, this Resolution shall not become operative or effective unless and until thirty days have elapsed after its adoption and no petition protesting against this resolution signed and authenticated as required by law has been filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of West Bloomfield, or if such petition is so filed, a proposition for approval of this Resolution has been submitted at the next general election or a special election for that purpose pursuant to said section and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the voters voting thereon; and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon the expiration of the period allowed for permissive referendum, or if a permissive referendum petition be filed and this Resolution be approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the voters voting thereon, the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute the aforementioned lease with Blodgett Brothers Farm, Inc. and any other documents reasonably necessary to effectuate the same.

Supervisor Campbell asked if there were any more questions.

Robert Stein asked if there were any decisions made on any of the committees or Board positions. Supervisor Campbell explained that there are applicants but no decisions yet and asked Mr. Stein to send in a letter of interest. Mr. Stein asked about the Community Focus newsletter. Supervisor Campbell asked him to speak with Mr. Borgeest because he is looking at how to get it going again. Mr. Stein advised the Board that the Town web site looks out of date. Supervisor Campbell asked him to let him know what needed to be updated and he would pass the information along.

Ruth Cahn asked if the Board knew how much the Town might get from the American Rescue Act. Supervisor Campbell explained that the amount could be around \$270,000.00 but that the criteria and guidelines for use are still changing.

Councilman Carey asked if the sidewalks on State Routes 5 & 20 are town owned? Highway Superintendent Ball will ask the State for clarification.

Councilman Travis asked if there is going to be a summer recreation program this year. Supervisor Campbell said the committee is meeting and he will try and find out.

RESOLUTION #61

Close Meeting

At 7:46 pm, Councilman Travis made the resolution to close the meeting, seconded by Councilman Carey.

Adopted: Ayes – Campbell, Carey, DeSanctis, Harman, Travis Nays – None

Resolves that the meeting is closed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Grundman, Town Clerk