

Hope Township Board Meeting
Hope Township Hall
November 9, 2021
7:00 pm

Board Members:

Rita Goul, Supervisor
Carol Coyle, Clerk
Starleen Eddy, Treasurer
Mary Jo Letts, Trustee
Dan Mieske, Trustee

Visitors:

List with Clerk's copy

TOWNSHIP MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

Township meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor, Rita Goul. Those present were led by the Supervisor in the pledge to the flag.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Darcie K. Shelagowski, CPA -Berthiaume & Company CPA presented the findings from the Audit that was completed the end of October for fiscal year 2020-2021. A copy of the findings is available for viewing in the Clerk's office. Resident Lori Childs asked to have lighting added to the parking lot at the Township Hall for safety and security reasons. Treasurer will look into getting pricing on installation of a light. Lori also requested a door lock inside the hall be changed. Resident Elgin Childs asked about the current economic growth of the Township to offset the cost of the Water Bond. Treasurer responded there were 10 new builds in the Township in the last year that had the water benefit fee attached.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Snow/Ice removal bids: Three bids presented and reviewed. Motion made by Dan and seconded by Mary to accept the bid from Lang's Home Services (LHS).
Roll Call Vote. Mary Yes Starleen Yes Dan Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion Carried
2. ARPA funds: Discussion on how to use some of the funds.
 - A. Generac Bid: The Supervisor presented the need to have a Generac back up generator installed. The Township Hall is a Red Cross safety facility. The Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer has applied for a Grant through the insurance company. If approved, the Grant would be for \$5000.00. The Supervisor has recvd 3 bids for the installation of the Generac. The Supervisor will check to see if the ARPA monies will cover the difference between the Grant and total cost. The Supervisor asked the Board to pay for the difference if the ARPA money does not cover the cost. After discussion from the Board, the Generac installation is on hold for now.
 - B. Security for the Hall. Tabled to look into other options as Veterans Alarm seemed very high on initial bid.
 - C. Build out for the Treasurer's office. Three bids recvd to relocate the window/wall to expand the Treasurer's office for health safety reasons. Motion to accept the bid from LHS for build out in the amount of \$2300.00 made by Mary and second by Dan.

Roll Call Vote. Mary Yes Starleen Yes Dan Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion carried

- D. New computers for the Clerk's office. Current desktop is outdated and not able to handle current workload. A new computer needs to be ordered for the Clerk. In addition, there is not a workstation for the Deputy Clerk. The specific needs to handle the current accounting system was sent to out SAMSA, the IT support team. A quote for two workstations was recvd. Motion made by Starleen and seconded by Rita for \$4866.26 to be used from the ARPA funds to purchase the workstations. The Clerk noted these prices are good for 30 days and subject to availability.

Roll Call Vote. Mary Yes Starleen Yes Dan Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion carried

3. Santa Parade is scheduled for December 4th from 2-4 at the United Methodist Church on Hope Road. Meet Santa through the car window and leave a wish list in the drop box.
4. A request for volunteers to sit on a committee with the Treasurer to see how to best utilize the ARPA funds to benefit the community. Let any Board member know if interested.

CLERK'S MINUTES:

The complete Board packet was delivered to all board members on Monday, November 8, 2021 for review. There was one correction to be made. Motion by Starleen and supported by Mary to accept the October minutes with the one correction. Roll call vote:

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes

Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT:

Treasurer reported a "principle only" payment in the sum of \$421,000.00 was made. Winter taxes will be mailed at the end of the month. Included in the taxes will be a survey. Please take time to fill it out and return it with your tax payment. Resident Floyd Andrick asked about the Chapel/Cemetery fund. Starleen explained the money is in the "pooled account" but still earmarked for the Chapel/Cemetery.

Motion to **accept and file** the Treasurer's Financial Report was made by Dan and seconded by Mary.

Roll call vote Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes

Motion Carried.

OUTSTANDING BILLS:

The bills from the General Fund, Park Fund, Fire Fund and Solid Waste fund were distributed earlier. It was moved by Rita and supported by Starleen to approve the payment of the outstanding bills. A roll call vote was called-

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion Carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Brian Solomon reported he had been out of town and didn't have the final numbers other than the dept has been very busy. 5 calls in one day and that was a record. The air packs

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have arrived and the resp. fit test has been done. There is a need for 2 additional masks and will cost around \$700.00. The old masks/equipment can no longer be refurbished and will be looked into donating somewhere. Reminder that everyone needs a **burn permit** to burn brush, leaves etc. No household items are to be burned. The permit is obtained online. The Fire Dept is accepting applications for fire personnel.

PARK: David Yahr gave the report. New lighting along the drive and buildings will be installed. Cost will be \$2400.00 and this will be from the Grant monies. There is approximately \$70.00 left. Trunk-n-Treat was successful and leftover food was donated to the Shelterhouse. The tax-exempt status at LOWES has expired and David had to purchase an item that was hard to locate and was not able to use the tax exempt status. The fence between the Park and Cemetery needs to be fixed. The Disc golf and tree clearing had much discussion. Bilsby Lumber will be paying \$28,000.00 to be able to select cut on the 20 acres and have given a 10% down check. Brian Solomon asked if this was “income” and how was it to be handled. After much discussion, the Clerk advised the Park Commission to NOT cash the check until the Supervisor could check with the Attny and the Clerk to check with the Auditor to see if and how this transaction should take place.

PLANNING: Nicole Kelley reported that Jenny from Spicer’s will be coming on November 16th to answer questions. Spicer’s bid to clean up the ordinances, Master Plan and attend meetings will be between \$3,000.00-\$5000.00. Unable to get additional quotes from other companies.

Motion made by Starleen and seconded by Rita to get Spicer’s Engineering in to do the work.

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion Carried.

CHAPEL/CEMETERY: Floyd Andrick was present and said the fall clean up has been completed in both cemeteries. It was noted in the Old Hope Cemetery that black dirt is needed to fill in some holes and flattened areas. Motion made by Rita and seconded by Dan to get Novak’s trucking to bring in the dirt for about \$200.00

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion Carried.

Floyd asked to have the furnace preventative maintenance done. Ok to do as it is under \$200.00. Floyd reported the Edenville Civil War re-enactment was a success. 4 tours have been done in the County and all have been sold out. There are 16 cemeteries in Midland County that have Civil War Veterans interred and all 358 monuments have been cleaned and standing upright.

TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY:

Dan Mieske gave the following report from the TCA meeting. Mechanical permits 4---Water1—Electrical 5 and the next meeting is November 18th. The TCA has agreed to allow the members to be elected/appointed on the board. On 4-1-2022 any new Townships that join the TCA will be required to have an elected official and the representative.

WIXOM LAKE AUTHORITY- Bob Kelley reported lots of work being done and to view the drone footage to watch the work being completed.

ROAD ADVISORY COMMISSION: Next meeting is December 2, 2021 at 7:00pm. The Lakeshore, Richmond Drive, Grace Court and Bombay projects have been completed.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 941's - The Clerk will have to go on a search for the 2015 third quarter report that was never filed. (still in process). Fees and Fines for the 4th quarter of 2018 has been rcvd and paid. Failure to pay penalty was \$354.01 and the interest penalty was \$265.90 for a total to date is \$1,043.42.
- BS & A software training took place. Brian was able to attend a portion and is now able to view the Fire Dept invoices to approve payment.

FOIA information updated on the web site. A fourth request came through and was able to deny it based on lack of proper address. The first FOIA about elections was never acted upon by the requestor and has now expired. Number two (GFL) has expired with no action by requestor. Number three about how the Election Grant money was spent has been paid for and Dori Allen will come in the end of this week to complete. The check has been recvd to pay her for the work.

NEW BUSINESS-

- Grant Resolution Policy: On file in Clerk's office.

Motion made by Mary and seconded by Dan to accept the Grant Resolution Policy

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion Carried.

- Republic will be giving us a credit of \$8640.60 for missed pick-ups in May and June

The Midland County Township Officials Association Holiday Dinner Meeting will be on December 9th.

Motion made by Rita and seconded by Mary for the Township to pay for the board member that may want to attend. The spouse or significant other will be the responsibility of the individual and not the Township

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion Carried.

- The Auditing Firm sent the Engagement Letter to have the Township stay with the current firm. The price will be Year End June 30,2022-----\$8500.00. Year End June 30,2023---\$8700.00 and the Year End June 30, 2024----\$8900.00. Motion made by Rita and seconded by Starleen to accept the Engagement Letter.

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion Carried

Motion to adjourn at 9:10 pm by Starleen and seconded by Mary

Dan Yes Mary Yes Starleen Yes Carol Yes Rita Yes Motion

Respectfully submitted

Carol Coyle, Clerk