

Hope Township Board Meeting  
Hope Township Hall  
August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
7:00 pm

**Board Members present**

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

**Visitors:**

*List with Clerk's copy*

**TOWNSHIP MEETING CALL TO ORDER:**

Township meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Supervisor, Rita Goul.

Roll call of the Board Members: Dan Mieske Present, Mary Jo Letts Present, Starleen Eddy Present, Carol Coyle Present, Rita Goul Present. Quorum-Yes

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** Dan Andrick stated his reasons he would like to get a longer contract for the work he does for the Township. Supervisor Goul asked to have the information to the Board for the January meeting when new contracts are being investigated for the new year.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda with one addition under new business by Mary and supported by Dan. All in Favor 5 Opposed 0 Motion Carried

**SUPERVISORS COMMENTS:**

1. Birthdays for August- Floyd Andrick and Chuck Hudler with snacks available after the meeting.
2. Primary elections were held, and Dan and Carol will be on the ballot in November.
3. Expense/Mileage forms need to be filled out completely and turned in to Clerk in a timely manner. When turning in meeting attendance sheets, please include the title of the person signing in. For example, if you are the Chairperson, please add that to the sheet. Otherwise, people will be paid at the regular meeting rate.

Motion by Dan and supported by Mary that if the expense/mileage forms are not filled out correctly, payment will be made the following month after the corrections are made.

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED. Any incomplete forms may be picked up from Clerk at the end of the meeting.

4. All agenda items need to be to Clerk by noon the Thursday prior to the meeting. If there are copies of items that need to be reviewed, 5 copies are to be provided. The Clerk is not expected to make those copies.

**CLERK'S MINUTES:**

The minutes were distributed to all board member on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Two corrections noted. Motion to approve the July 12<sup>th</sup> minutes with the corrections by Starleen and seconded by Mary.

In Favor 5 Opposed 0 Motion to accept Clerk's minutes with corrections--carried.

Noted was a special thanks to the Election Workers that put in some very long hours to make the election a success. Also, thank you to Dennis Goul for donating a new flag and raking the front yard prior to the election. Special thanks to Dennis Goul for clearing the brush and repairing the steps at the Chapel.

**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Treasurer's financial report was presented with the ending bank balances as of July 31, 2022. Taxes are coming in slower than usual. There was an excess of cash in the Tax account in the amount of \$5522.59. This was transferred into the General Fund. The S.E.T. money (\$2485.00) has been received from the state and deposited into the General Fund. Bank balances as of July 31, 2022, was presented and that included the ARPA funds.

Motion by Mary and seconded by Rita to **accept and file the Treasurers report as presented.**

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED.

ARPA update: meeting was held on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Some projects being considered are:

1. Getting gravel for the driveway and moving the gate at the Park.
2. Slide repair at the Park and it will cost \$1,290.00 to fix the slides. Motion to approve using ARPA funds to complete the repair made by Rita and seconded by Starleen.

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED

3. Sidewalk along the hall from the new parking area to the current sidewalk was discussed with bids being presented. (Copy of the bids are in the Clerks office.) Motion to accept the bid from Coggins excavating, using ARPA funds, in the amount of \$2200.00 to install sidewalk made by Starleen and seconded by Rita.

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED

4. Work to be done where the parking area was located on the west side of the building. This will no longer be a parking area. Bid to have it leveled and new dirt brought in was provided by Coggins excavating. Two other companies were contacted and neither had the time to do the project. Also, Dennis Goul will seed, water, and place the straw. (See bid from Coggins that is on file in the Clerk's office.) Motion made by Starleen and seconded by Rita to approve using ARPA funds (\$2000.00) to complete the above work.

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED

5. Window update: Bids were provided to the Board in the packets. Discussion on which bid to select. One area that needs to be addressed is when the windows are being replaced, will the area(s) that caused failure in the previous windows be corrected at the same time? Starleen will investigate and report back. Motion by Rita and seconded by Starleen to go with Laurence Smith using \$19833.40 from the ARPA funds.

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED

6. Potential for the IT support. Starleen looking into other providers and who other townships are using for their IT support. Will report back next month.
7. Starleen asked the Board to pay her deputy, Starla Jordan, an additional amount of \$1200.00 for all the extra work she does obtaining grants and collecting taxes. Discussion among the Board and comments from the audience took place. A motion was made by Rita and seconded by Dan to table the decision until this could be investigated further.

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED.

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**OUTSTANDING BILLS:**

The bills from the General Fund, Park Fund, Fire Fund, and Solid Waste fund were distributed earlier. In addition, the complete Board packet was provided to the Township Board on Monday, August 8, 2022, by Carol (copy in the Clerk's office). Included was an expense/budget report totals as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. (Copy in the Clerk's office). Noted was the credit card fee for not being paid on time. Treasurer will make sure payment is taken in when other checks are being deposited. Motion made by Dan and seconded Mary to pay outstanding bills.

Roll call vote-Mary-- yes, Carol--yes, Starleen -- yes, Rita-- yes. Motion carried.

Midland Landfill prices have increased. The Landfill had notified the Township of this increase in the spring and adjustments were added to the Budget at that time.

The Board members had been given the Expense/Budget report. Supervisor Goul reminded everyone to look at the report to stay on track with expenditures.

Reconciliation on all accounts had been completed. Outstanding checks from June were noted.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Brian Solomon reported things are quiet for now at the Fire Department with 87 YTD runs, which is fewer than last year at this time. He will be out of town over the next two weeks so try to keep things quiet.

**PARK:** David Yahr provided the Board with a detailed report of all that was done by the Park in the last year. The report will be included with the year end financials to be reported to the State. There has been no update from the logging company on when work will begin. The Park will be changing the rental fee for next year. It will be a \$25.00 fee to rent and \$25.00 deposit to be returned if the area left clean. This is for in township residents. Out of township residents will pay a \$50.00 fee with the \$25.00 deposit that will be returned if the area is left clean. The bathrooms will remain open, and no port-a-potties will be placed at the Park. The Caretaker will be keeping a log of the hours spent at the Park in order to get additional wages for next year. The Park would like the Caretaker to be paid \$2500.00/month for the 7 months the Park is open.

**PLANNING:** Nicole Kelley was present and reported the last meeting was on 8-3-2022. The ordinances have been approved and a legal notice was placed in the newspaper. A USB flash drive was given to the Clerk prior to the meeting and these changes will be available on the website. Next meeting will be September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Work continues with the Master Plan.

**CHAPEL/CEMETERY:** Floyd Andrick said thank you to Dennis and Rita for the clean up and repair work done on the stairs at the cemetery. The sign in the Old Hope Cemetery needs some work and Floyd will take care of getting that done. Reminder there will be tours of the Old Hope Cemetery honoring the 7 of 11 vets on September 24<sup>th</sup> between 1-3 pm. There will be 7 tours and tickets are \$8.00/ticket. Tickets may be purchased through the Midland Center of the Arts. If you are a member of the Midland County Historical Society, this is a free event. Dennis Goul requested up to \$300.00 for gravel work for the cemetery. Motion by Mary and seconded by Starleen to use ARPA funds up to \$300.00 for gravel.

Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. MOTION CARRIED. The Clerk thanked Wilbur Havens for scanning documents for the cemetery that had not been done since 2015. The Clerk has entered each document and hopes to have the new print outs for each cemetery by the next board meeting.

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**TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY:** Dan was present and said there is a new Chairman, Jim Sperling for the TCA. There were the following permits issued: Plumbing-6, Mechanical-1, Water-2, Building-3, and Demolition -1. Rita requested that Dan follow through on the demolition permit to be completed. If it is not done, then the Township will have to seek bids to get it done.

**WIXOM LAKE ASSOCIATION-** Bob Kelley reported not much new going on. Waiting on the state for permits to continue the work. If anyone has standing water in their canals, report it to the County. The next meeting is August 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.

**ROAD ADVISORY COMMISSION:** Doug Shoffner offered up his resignation due to health concerns. Motion to accept the resignation by Rita and seconded by Mary. All in favor 5 Opposed 0. Motion carried. Next meeting is September 8, 2022. Dan provided a list of all the road work that has been completed YTD.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Blue Flame contracts were signed and prepayment for fuel was completed.

**NEW BUSINESS-** There have been 2 new FOIA requests recvd on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Both have to do with the Elections. The Clerk will get these taken care of this week.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Coyle