

Hope Township Board Meeting
Hope Township Hall
January 10, 2023
7:00 pm

Board Members present

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

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 led by Supervisor, Rita Goul.

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

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Darcie Shelagowski, CPA from Berthiaume and Company CPA's was present and gave the audit report covering July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022. Overall, "the audit went well and the township is in good shape". With the purchase of the BS&A software program, the information sent to the auditor was more organized and complete. Darcie recognized the work put in by the Deputy Clerk, Clerk and Treasurer. Noted was the water payment of \$420,000.00 against the principal for a lifetime savings of approximately \$314,000.00.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda with no additions by Dan and supported by Starleen. All in Favor 4 Opposed 0 Motion Carried.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: Rita presented the three bids for lawn care at the Township Hall, Fire Hall and both cemeteries. Discussion of the pros and cons from each bid. After discussion, motion to accept the bid from Dan Andrick Lawn Care as the provider by Mary and supported by Starleen. Prior to the vote, a request was made for a 2-3 year contract. Rita suggested just a 2 year in case the administration changes in 2024 and not locking in the next administration. Roll Call Vote-Mary Yes, Starleen Yes, Carol Yes and Rita Yes. **MOTION CARRIED TO USE DAN ANDRICK FOR 2 YEARS.**

CLERK'S MINUTES: The Board packets were distributed to all board members by Monday, January 9th, 2023, (complete copy of the Board packet on file in Clerk's office). Motion to accept the minutes as written by Mary and supported by Rita. All in Favor 4 Opposed 0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT: Winter taxes are coming in. A state revenue check has been received. The December Financials were presented with the end of month balance in each account outlined. (copy in Clerk's office)

There was one point and pay for December.

Motion by Mary and seconded by Rita **to accept and file the Treasurer's report as presented.**

Roll Call Vote-Mary Yes, Starleen Yes, Carol Yes and Rita Yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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Bank reconciliations were presented and outstanding checks noted.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: The bills from the General Fund, Park Fund, Fire Fund, and Solid waste were distributed earlier. One additional bill was presented that was not on the list. The check was to the attorney for various projects in the amount of \$1200.00.

Motion to approve payment of the bills by Mary and supported by Starleen. Roll call vote: Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, Rita Yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Board members had been given the Expense/Budget report and there were no questions at this time.

The Board members had been given a copy of the 'detailed payroll and liability reports. No questions at this time.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Brian Solomon reported things are quiet for now at the Fire Department and the year-end total was 140 with about 10% reduction from last year. Brian and Carol had met about the AED purchase. Brian made contact with the Phillips company rep and has not heard back from the company. Will wait a couple more days and then go ahead with the purchase from the original company approved at the December meeting.

PARK COMMISSION: David presented with the Park closed, nothing to report. Question raised about road repair at the cemetery David has not heard back from Billsby and will make a call to them this week. David requested a board member be present with him to do the walk through with Billsby so expectations would be covered. No report from the police department about the damages to the Park. Question on year-end report that was to be filed. Not completed. David said this was presented to the board in July and should have been done then. Carol stated it is the responsibility of the Park commission to do this report. Will follow up on this issue. Nicole Kelley asked if there were any plans to have the park be utilized for other projects like movie night, pickle ball, farmers market and those types of things. David invited her to attend the March meeting with her suggestions.

PLANNING: Nicole Kelley was present and at the January 4th 2023 meeting, the Master Plan was reviewed with no changes at this time. Asked the Township Board to approve the Master Plan as written. Mary asked if there were changes in the future would those come in front of the board? Nicole said they would present possible changes prior to implementing those changes. Motion to accept the Master Plan as presented made by Rita and supported by Starleen. All in Favor 4 Opposed 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Nicole stated the Planning Committee would like to help the Fire Department in the pursuit of the new fire station. Rita stated she has been in contact with Representative Schuette and he would like to get involved in helping the township achieve this goal. Rita will continue to keep in touch with Lansing and Mr. Schuette to keep the project going.

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CHAPEL/CEMETERY: Floyd stated that on December 13th, 2022, Dan was able to get the trees taken care and then on December 28th, 2022, Dan got the brush pile burned and cleaned up. Thank you to Dan for getting the toilet leak and door knob fixed at the chapel. Waiting to hear back from Billsby Lumber. Resident Bob Kelley asked what it would take to get the name changed at the Old Hope Cemetery. Rita will look into what would need to be done to make this happen.

TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY: Rita was present and gave there were 8 total permits for December. 1 Building, 2 Plumbing, 3 Mechanical and 2 Electrical. Next meeting is January 26, 2023.

WIXOM LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD: No one was present.

ROAD ADVISORY COMMISSION: Rita gave the report from the January 5, 2023 meeting. Road projects as listed were discussed. Bob Kelley noted the primary concern for this year would be to correct drainage issues. Jay Brown met with Mr. Sova, the Drain Commissioner, about the concerns with the drainage. Mr. Sova will look into getting the Drain Commission to take care of the culvert/drainage on th Saiko from 5 mile to Middle Road. Project 1-Drainage work on Saiko Road from Meridian Road to Five Mile Road at an estimated cost of \$19,638.50. Motion to accept this bid by Starleen and supported by Mary. Roll call vote: Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, Rita Yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Project 2-Drainage work on Stark Road from Baker Rd to the North. Estimated cost is \$6510.00. Motion to accept this bid by Starleen and supported by Rita. Roll call vote: Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, Rita Yes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Project 3-Chip and Fog Seal Hull Road from Wendt Road to Stark Road and Stark Rod from Shaffer Road to Hull Road. Estimated cost of \$31,500.00. Motion to accept this bid by Starleen and supported by Rita. Roll call vote: Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, Rita Yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**- Project 4-Gravel and road prep on Saiko from Five Mile to Middle Road. Estimated cost is \$75,277.82. Motion to accept this bid by Starleen and supported by Rita. Roll call vote: Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, Rita Yes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Estimated total for projects is \$132,926.32, The Township will receive\$89,470.09 in matching funds from Midland County Road Commission. The Township will be responsible for the balance of \$43,456.23. Next road meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2023.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: ARPA has not met since November. Will plan a meeting for the end of this month to discuss camera request and other items. Updated on the grant to the insurance company did not go forward as the amount for the camera project was higher than the available funds. David Yahr noted the snow fence at the park, “that was mandated by the township board, was not effective and very expensive.” Rita and Starleen both stated the township board did not tell the park to do the fence and so the expense will be to the park.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Motion to adjourn by Mary and supported by Starleen at 7:52pm. All in Favor 4 Opposed 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Coyle

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