

Rita Goul, Supervisor
Carol Coyle, Clerk
Chuck Hudler, Treasurer
Mary 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 led by Supervisor, Rita Goul.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Dan Mieske Present, Mary Letts, Present, Chuck Hudler, via phone to give report and not vote on any matters, Rita Goul, Present, Carol Coyle, Present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda with one addition was made by Rita and supported by Mary. No additional discussion. All in favor 4. Opposed 0. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Easement – FOIA – Rita asked Brian Solomon if he could verify if the fire and rescue equipment could get through the easement between Richmond Drive and Lakeshore Drive. If so, great and if not, the Township will need to decide what needs to be done to clear the area.
2. ARPA – Update – There was not ARPA meeting and Rita will get with Chuck to determine the remaining balance in the ARPA grant.
3. Floyd's Presentation – The presentation was November 5th on the Dionne Quintuplets. Rita said it was wonderful.
4. Committee Appointments – Rita reminded everyone committee appointments will take place at the December 12th Board meeting. Residents in the crowd spoke up and expressed interest in some committees. Lisa Pomranky would like to be considered for Planning. Amy Ginter would like to be considered for the Board of Review and Zoning Board of Appeals. Lori Childs volunteered Elgin Childs for the Road Committee. Additional committee requests have been sent via email and those will be brought to the Board in December.
5. MCTOA – The Midland County Township Official Association dinner is scheduled for December 7th. The Township will pay for the Board member to attend. Any cost for a guest will be the Board member's responsibility.
6. Park Responsibilities – See attached document. Rita read the legal opinion from the Township attorney. "In a nutshell, everything needs to go through the Township Board".

CLERK'S MINUTES: The Board packets were distributed to all board members on Monday, November 13, 2023. (a complete copy of the Board packet on file in Clerk's office). A motion to approve the minutes as written by Rita and supported by Mary. No additional discussion. All in favor 4. Opposed 0. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT:

1. Chuck presented the Bank and Investment Balances. He noted the negative balance in the Solid Waste Fund. Solid Waste Taxes are paid on the winter bill and once those come in, the balance in the account will change. Chuck noted there has been an increase in the interest earned for the Fire Department and Chapel/Cemetery Funds. Chuck has been in contact with Dave Rothman, representative for the Lakeshore Funds. Dave indicated there are no immediate plans for the money and Chuck will see if there might be a

possibility to pay down on the loan agreement. The hope is to decrease the shortfall on the loan. A motion to **accept and file the Treasurer's report** was made by Rita and supported by Mary. No additional discussion from the board. Roll call vote: *Dan, YES, Mary, YES, Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried.

2. There was 1 point-n-pay in October. Summer taxes are still coming and Winter taxes will be out December 1st. Be on the lookout for information about the February election that will be mailed with the tax bill.
3. The Bank Reconciliations were addressed and had been reviewed by Rita. The balances matched what was reported in the cash report.

OUTSTANDING BILLS:

1. Payment of Bills: In the Board packet was a copy of the bills from the General Fund, Fire Fund, Road Fund, Tax Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Water Fund and Lakeshore Fund. Motion to pay the bills by Chuck and supported by Rita. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan, YES, Mary, YES, Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried.
2. Budget vs. Expense report was provided. Rita reminded everyone to watch their budget. No additional questions from Board members. A copy was also given to the Park Supervisor and Fire Department.
3. Payroll Summary and Liability report for the Township was provided. No questions from Board members.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Brian Solomon was present and to thank all service personnel for Veterans Day. There were 12 calls in October. 9 general calls, 1 unattended fire and 2 car accidents. Waiting for grant writers to help with the new Fire Hall that will be located on the corner of Shearer and Middle Roads.

PARK COMMISSION: Darlene Thompson was the only member present and she had nothing to report.

PLANNING: The next meeting will March 6, 2024. Chuck asked if there was an ordinance in place that addresses local control of energy resources. This was based on the State of Michigan's recent changes. The changes will be addressed at the March meeting.

CHAPEL/CEMETERY: Floyd stated the fall clean-up at both cemeteries was completed. Carey Plumbing and Heating completed the work on the furnace and a gas valve was changed by Blue Flame. November 5th was the presentation on the Dionne Quintuplets. Floyd thanked Rita and Dennis Goul for setting up for the gathering. The next presentation will be April, 2024. Carol thanked Dan Andrick for setting the headstone of a Veteran prior to Veterans' Day.

TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY: Dan reported there were 4 Electrical, 4 Mechanical and 2 plumbing permits in October.

WIXOM LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD: Bob Kelley was present and things are pretty quiet. Waiting for frost so mowing may resume.

ROAD ADVISORY COMMISSION: Dan reported all road work has been completed and the bill has been paid. Bob Kelley will continue to work with the Road Commission on concerns expressed by the residents. The County Road Commission meetings are held on certain Thursdays at 9:00 am. Please refer to the schedule on the Road Commissions' web site. The public is welcome to attend.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Cemetery Ordinance – The Cemetery Ordinances were sent via email to the Board. No changes or suggestions from the Board. A motion to approve the Ordinances by Mary and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. All in favor 4. Opposed 0. Motion Carried.

Hope Township Board Meeting

Hope Township Hall

November 14, 2023 7:00 pm

2. Water Update – Rita explained the questions raised earlier about the Water Project have not been forgotten and will be worked on when Chuck gets caught up in his new role.
3. Lakeshore update – Covered earlier.
4. Election Reimbursement – Still have not received reimbursement from the State. Another email was sent and the reimbursement “is in the works”.
5. A-V equipment – Nothing has been done to look at live streaming the Board meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Junkyard Fees – Discussion on Junkyard Fees and what they are. Currently, the Township receives a fee from 2 junkyards with the Township. One of those businesses has closed and discussion to leave the fees as they are.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

1. A resident from Baker Road inquired about the ordinances and was confused about what was current versus old. Several residents from Baker Road were present and wondered what the Township was going to do about the blight and health concerns at a home on Baker Road. There was discussion from the floor and the Board. Rita reassured the residents that what the Township is able to do, is being done, and the health department has been involved, also. Rita will speak with the Township attorney and the Health Department to determine what else can be done. She will be sending a certified letter to the address where the complaints are registered against. More on this at the December meeting.
2. Dave Haskins from the Santa House in Sanford was present and talked about what the Santa House in Sanford has to offer. He has requested funds to help with the running the Santa House. At this time, the Township is not able to assist but will re-evaluate in January after budget adjustments are complete. The Santa House will be open on December 5th, 6th, 12th and 13th from 3:30-7:30. There is no charge for admission and open to everyone.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 was made by Rita and supported by Mary. No additional discussion. All in favor 4. Opposed 0. Motion Carried.

Adjourned at 8:37 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Carol Coyle, Clerk