

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, Present, Rita Goul, Present, Carol Coyle, Present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda, was made by Rita and supported by Chuck. No additional discussion. All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion carried.

**SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:**

1. June Birthdays – No June birthdays were reported.
2. Blight Update – Rita explained in order to proceed with the current blight complaint, she needed to order a packet of Civil Infraction Citation and a packet of Civil Infraction Notice of Violation. The total cost for both packets is \$325.00. Chuck made a motion that was supported by Dan, to approve the purchase of both packets for \$325.00. Rita called MTA to see if blight needed to be part of the Township Ordinances. It does not, however, if it is, then the ordinance needs to be enforced. Rita questioned how far do we take the complaints. To date, the Township has spent \$1224.00 on one case and the cost is expected to rise if the case goes to court. There were many questions about the success rate of blight abatement over the years. Currently, the Township is receiving payments from one person that took place years ago. Rita noted the place was cleaned up then and now the blight is back. Chuck asked if there is a way to go case by case. Carol suggested we look at what is in place and see if the township needs to tweak the current ordinance. The Township does not want to discriminate against anyone.
3. Town Hall Grant – Rita applied for a Town Hall Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00. The goal was to offset the cost of the wallpaper removal and painting of the Township Hall. She will hear in a couple of weeks if the grant was approved. The work is scheduled to begin July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**CLERK'S MINUTES:** The Board packets were distributed to all board members on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (a complete copy of the Board packet is on file in Clerk's office). A motion to approve the minutes from the May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as written, was made by Rita and supported by Mary. No additional discussion. All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion Carried

**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT:**

1. Chuck presented the Bank and Investment Balances as of May 31, 2024. The balances were reconciled with the Bank statements and reviewed by Rita. 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, Chuck, YES, Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried.

2. Resolution 2024 – 06 – 11 – A. Chuck explained when the M-30 water project was paid off last year, it created a deficit in the M-30 water fund. The State Treasury Department requires a “Deficit Elimination Plan” to be implemented. This purpose is to ensure the Township Board was aware of the deficit. A preliminary plan was submitted for preview prior to the final plan being submitted. *Resolution 2024 - 06 – 11 – A* was read aloud by the Clerk. A motion to adopt Resolution 2024 – 06 – 11 – A was made by Rita and supported by Dan. No additional discussion from the board. Roll call vote: *Dan, YES, Mary, YES, Chuck, YES, Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried. Chuck will file the report with the State Treasury Department.

#### **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. Rita made a motion, supported by Mary, to pay the bills. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan, YES, Mary, YES, Chuck, YES, Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried.
2. Budget vs. Expense report was provided to all members. Rita reminded everyone there is only one month left in the current budget and be sure you are NOT overspending.
3. Payroll Summary and Liability reports for both the Fire Department and Township were provided. No questions at this time.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** In Chief Brian's absence, Assistant Chief Mike Coston, reported 5 runs in May. Four were medical and one was a deer/car accident. The tire drive was successful and there may be an additional drive in the fall. Rita pointed out the picture of the proposed Fire Station posted on the wall.

**PARK COMMISSION:** Amy Ginter wanted to THANK both Dennis Goul and Bob Kelley for all the work they have been doing at the Park. They have painted, replaced chains on the swings, sharpened the lawnmower blades just to name a few things. The Park Commission is thankful for all their work. Fencing bids for the Pickleball Court are being received. The Farmer's Market has begun on Thursdays. The annual picnic will be July 20<sup>th</sup>. Three sections of cement at the Pickleball Courts have been poured. Carol reported the fourth one would be done Wednesday. At that time, the cement will need to “cure” for two weeks prior to the staining/painting of the courts. Bob Kelley would like to see a 5-year plan developed to keep up with the routine maintenance of the Park. The cement has been removed from the Disc Golf baskets and the baskets will be try to be sold. There are parking pavers that will be removed and put up for sale. The weather station has been installed. Pat S. is cleaning up the area around the Woodside Park Sign.

1. **PLANNING:** Nicole Kelley reported there was a planning meeting on June 5th. It was discovered the Township is in compliance with the Right to Farm Act. Reminded everyone to keep their chickens in their own yard. The property at the corner of Stark and Shaffer (the former Parrish Communications site) had been zoned commercial as it benefited the Township as a whole. Now that Parrish is no longer a business in Hope, the Planning Committee requested to remove the

commercial label and return the property to forestry. Motion to remove the commercial label and return to forestry was made by Rita and supported by Chuck. No additional discussion from the board. Roll call vote: *Dan, YES, Mary, YES, Chuck, YES Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried.

**CHAPEL/CEMETERY:** No one to report on Chapel/Cemetery.

**TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY:** Dan reported there were 2 mechanical permits and 1 electrical permit for May. Next meeting is June 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

**WIXOM LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD:** Bob Kelley had nothing new to report. The WLIB and WLA are in discussions about funding. The State of Michigan needs to clarify if additional trees may be removed.

**ROAD ADVISORY COMMISSION:** Dan reported Saiko Road paving had been completed. Hull Road work has been completed. Drainage work on Curtiss Road is in process. The chip and fog seal projects will be done this year. The next meeting will be September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

**UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Survey – The survey has begun and not sure when it will be completed. The proposed Fire Hall was staked out.
2. Insurance Bids – There were two companies looking at the insurance for the next year. One company withdrew in order to spend more time evaluating the desired coverage.
3. Power Washing and Windows – There were three bids to clean the Chapel. Rita made a motion and supported by Mary, to use Dan Andrick, with a bid of \$300.00, to do the work. No additional discussion from the board. Roll call vote: *Dan, YES, Mary, YES, Chuck, YES Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried.
4. Power washing and cleaning of the windows for the Township Hall were presented. A motion was made by Rita and supported by Chuck to use SHINE in the amount of \$567.00, to complete the work. Work to be done after the painting project had been completed. No additional discussion from the board. Roll call vote: *Dan, YES, Mary, YES, Chuck, YES Carol, YES, and Rita, YES*. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. USDA Report – The annual report to the USDA has been completed and filed prior to the due date. The report was accepted by the USDA as being completed and correctly.
2. IRS Notification – The Township received an IRS notification about payroll taxes. Carol contacted ADP as they handle the taxes. The payment has been cleared up and the IRS was satisfied.
3. Cemetery Letters – Carol notified the Board there are letters going out to families of the deceased, to remove trees/shrub/plantings that are in violation of the Cemetery Ordinance. The ordinance has been in place for over 25 years and never enforced. As a result, there are headstones/foundations being damaged. The Sexton is having a hard time maintaining the Cemetery. In addition, the extra items make it difficult to bury other family members when the need arises. This will be a timely process. Carol wanted the Board to be aware this process has begun. Carol asked if the family doesn't comply, should the family be billed for the clean-up? Dan

charges \$50.00/hour for clean-up. A resident asked to have it included with the summer tax bills. This will need to be followed up on.

4. FOIA – Carol received a FOIA request from a waste removal company that is interested in picking up Hope Township when the current contract expires.
5. Meet the Candidates – At the July Board meeting, each candidate running for an office will have an opportunity to introduce themselves and give a brief statement of why they are running for office. Each person will have 2 minutes.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

1. There was a question about the Pickleball fencing and why that wasn't considered at the time the courts were being installed. Chuck explained at the time of the discussion, the Township felt it was best to put in two courts and worry about fencing at a later date. Another question was about the mowing in the Park and how the Park caretaker is paid. An explanation was given the Park caretaker is paid a monthly salary. The person in question was no longer working for the Park. A second resident asked about getting a copy of the contract from the cutting down of the trees. A copy will be sent via email to him. He wanted to know what legal action could be done if the survey revealed trees were removed from his property. The next steps to be taken will be discussed when the survey has been completed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm was made by Rita and supported by Mary. No additional discussion. All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 8:35 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Carol Coyle, Clerk