

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, with three changes, was made by Chuck and supported by Mary. No additional discussion. All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion carried.

**SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:**

1. October Birthdays – Two Reported.
2. Committee Changes - Rita noted committees will be changing in December and the Board will be looking for people to fill the vacancies. There is a sign-up board at the hall.
3. Township Hall – Rita explained the hall painting was not up to the standards that were expected. Lori Childs presented two new quotes to have the work re-done. In addition to having the hall re-done, the new quotes would add the hallway by the restrooms and the outside of the back doors. After discussion, it was decided to table the work to allow Lori time to reach out to the contractors to have their bids reflect the same scope of work.
4. Snow Removal – The Board had received two quotes for snow removal. One from Howden's Landscaping and one from J & J Property Maintenance. After discussion, a motion to accept Howden's bid was made by Rita and supported by Mary. One additional item to note, was a suggestion to withhold \$400.00 from their final payment. The withheld amount would be to cover the cost of the water spigot repair at the Chapel from the winter 2023 damage. No additional discussion. All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion carried. Rita will contact Howden's.
5. Septic Tank – Rita will contact Burn's Septic to have the tanks at the Hall, Chapel and Park cleaned. The Hall was done in July of 2021 and there is no documentation when the Park or Chapel was last done.
6. Grants – Rita and Catherine Sias have submitted two grant applications for consideration. One was to the Strosacker Foundation. The second one was to the Gerstacker Foundation. These both are for the proposed new Fire Station. Catherine will begin looking for grants to help with the replacement of the gear for the Fire Department. Thank you to Rita and Catherine for the work they put in to writing and submitting these grants.

**CLERK'S MINUTES:** The Board packets were distributed to all board members on Monday, October 7th, 2024 (a complete copy of the Board packet is on file in Clerk's office). A motion to approve the minutes

from the September meeting 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 September 30th, 2024. Those balances were reconciled with the Bank statements that were prepared by Chuck and reviewed by Rita. Chuck noted the deficit in the Solid Waste fund that will be made up when the winter taxes are being paid. The Tax Account balance is from the summer tax collection. Summer taxes may be paid, at the Township Hall, until February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The large decrease in the Water District account was do to a loan payment being paid. 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. Tax Update – Summer taxes are still being collected with penalties.
3. Point & Pay – There were 14 Point & Pay for the month of September. Chuck stated the software company the Township uses, BS & A, is offering a new program to pay your taxes using their system. Chuck will check with BS & A to see if this is a better option for the residents.

**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. Carol noted an ACH to American Fund does not show up on the report. In addition, a bill from Midland County came in that is due before the next Board meeting. The amount of that check would be \$1,002.00 Rita made a motion, supported by Chuck, 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. The budget was reviewed with recommended changes noted. A copy is on file in the Clerk's office. A resolution to amend the budget, with the recommended changes, was made by Chuck and supported by Rita. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan, **YES**, Mary, **YES**, Chuck, **YES** Carol, **YES**, and Rita, **YES**.* Motion carried.
3. Payroll Summary and Liability reports were provided. Carol noted payroll was paid on October 9<sup>th</sup> instead of the 8<sup>th</sup> do to an error she made when entering the payroll.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Chief Brian Solomon was present and stated there were 10 calls, all medical, for the month of September. There have been several fires in the area because of the dry weather and high winds. The one at Turtle Pond, in Sanford, is contained and still burning. The Hope Fire Department will be there Friday to assist in keeping the fire contained. Brian has priced out new turnout gear. This gear has to be replaced every 10 years. The cost is estimated to be between \$80,000.00 and \$100,000.00. Catherine Sias is looking into grants for the replacement of the gear. There will be a Corn Hole Tournament on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Woodside Park. This will be a fund raiser event. Brian is hoping to get lots of participation and cash prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. The entry fee is \$50.00 per team. Please contact Brian for further details.

**PARK COMMISSION:** Bob Kelley presented the report as Amy Ginter wasn't able to speak. There was an article in the Detroit Free Press featuring Hope Township and Woodside Park. Bob Kelley, Rod Hawkins, and Dennis Goul are working on a maintenance schedule for all the equipment at the Park. Trunk and Treat will be October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Park, from 2:00-4:00 pm. There are some items the Park Commission would like to sell. There is an edger, a walk behind weed whip, and some miscellaneous parts from equipment that isn't working. Rita made a motion and supported by Dan to sell the equipment with prices that were set by the Commission. No additional discussion. All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion carried. Pavilion rental has increased to \$100.00 for in township residents and \$150.00 for out of township residents. The security deposit has been removed. The Park Commission will decide on those people that have already reserved for next year.

**PLANNING:** Nicole Kelley said the last planning meeting was held on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Brian Johnson proposed the site plans at the corner of Stark and Shaffer Road for Tri-Valley Electric. The site plans were approved, by the Planning Committee, after discussion on the size of the sign and the placement of the sign. In addition, the building must be completed within one year. Next year meeting dates have been set.

**CHAPEL/CEMETERY:** Floyd Andrick commented on the Chapel Fund growing nicely because of Chuck's wise investing with Michigan Class. A Fundraiser for the proposed new Fire Hall will be on November 10<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 3:00 pm at the Township Hall. Floyd will do a presentation on the History of Hope. Then, Brian Solomon will do a brief presentation on the proposed new Fire Hall. When Brian is done, there will be soup, salad, beverages and desserts served by the Township Board and Fire Department. Donation forms will be provided during the meal. After the meal and fellowship has been enjoyed, Floyd will do a presentation on the building of the Midland Hospital. This event is free to the public. Please contact Floyd at 989-837-0870 or by email at [hfandrick@aol.com](mailto:hfandrick@aol.com) to reserve your spot. Act quickly, as space will be limited.

**TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY:** Dan Mieske reported the following permits were issued, Building, 0; Electrical, 2; Mechanical, 4; Plumbing, 1, and Water, 0. Dan brought up information from the TCA about the paying of the inspectors. After discussion, Rita made a motion and supported by Chuck to continue the payment to the Inspectors **after** the work is completed. In addition, the Code Authority needs to establish a checks and balances, within the department, to enforce inspections to be completed. No additional discussion. **All in favor 5. Opposed 0**. Motion carried. It was noted the property at 1686 E. Baker has been cleaned up and there has been a lot of hard work to get it completed.

**WIXOM LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD:** Bob Kelley reported there was only \$6,000.00 left of the funds allocated to the mowing of the lakebed. Some of the canal areas are treacherous and will need to have a freeze in order to get into those areas. One area that is being sprayed, will be the Heron Cove Canal. Residents will be notified prior to spraying. The next meeting is October 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at the Billings Township Hall.

**ROAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Next meeting will be October 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. This is a public hearing to discuss the letters sent out covering the proposed changes in how the allocation of the funds will be distributed. Five Mile, north of Schearer, has had a great deal of work done to remove some of the high sides of the road. This was done to help with drainage.

**UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Water update –Nothing new to report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Hope Township Board Meeting  
Hope Township Hall  
October 8th, 2024 7:00 pm

1. Election Workers – Carol asked the Board to approve the six people that worked the August election to work the November election. A motion was made by Rita and supported by Dan to approve the list presented. No additional discussion. **All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion carried.**
2. Audit – Carol stated the information has been sent to the Auditor for the 2023-2024 budget year. The report should come back soon.
3. Consumers Update – Carol shared a letter from Consumers on the removal/trimming of the trees/brush within the Township (a copy of the letter is on file with the Clerk).
4. Lawn Sprinkler Clean out – The sprinkler system will be winterized on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Goul will be present for this service work.
5. Toys for Tots – The drop-box is in the Hall for any donations. The box will be picked up on December 11<sup>th</sup>.
6. Windows 10/Samsa – Carol shared a letter from Samsa, the IT provider, on the changes coming and their willingness to assist us through the transition.
7. Carol noted the siding and windows have been washed. Dan also cleaned up the brush on the east side of the building.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** Lori Childs asked about the Hall Rental Agreement no longer showing up on the website. (Carol contacted Samsa on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 and it is back on the opening page).

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 pm was made by Rita and supported by Chuck. No additional discussion. **All in favor 5. Opposed 0. Motion carried.**

Adjourned at 8:56 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Carol Coyle, Clerk