

**HAMILTON TOWNSHIP**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**

Unofficial until  
April 2022 Board  
Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 10, 2022 Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Hamilton Township Hall, 3042 N Rodgers, Harrison, MI 48625

Board Members Present: Mickie Duby, Mike Iutzi, Dave Wright, Valdine Erskine; absent: Mike Conway Guests: 1 Residents: 7

**CALLED TO ORDER:** by Wright at 6:30 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Erskine; supported by Duby; all in favor. **MC**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Read by Duby. Motion to approve by Iutzi, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Erskine; all in favor. **MC**

**CLERK'S REPORT:** February minutes read by Erskine. Motion to approve minutes by Iutzi; supported by Wright; all in favor. **MC**

Invoices over \$100 read by Erskine; motion to approve and pay bills including incoming bills by Duby; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**GUEST: Sherriff, John Wilson** gave a statistical overview of the 2021 incidences in Hamilton Township, compared to previous year and the county. Total incidents for the Township in 2021 were 1491. Sherriff Wilson stated that the number of calls was not remarkable different than the previous year, with no major crime. He commented on Commissioner Bristol's support of the department and invited others to visit and learn more about the department. Sherriff Wilson compared the department's compensation package, to what is paid in neighboring counties and noted how far behind Clare County is, in pay and the ability to hire and retain staff. Staffing for the department, including dispatch is a challenge, still hiring and training.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT:** not present

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Chair, Kelly Bennett** explained the March meeting was canceled due to lack of activity. An April meeting may be scheduled. Wright noted a pending request for a tiny house and discussed the possible need for an ordinance. When submitted, it will be the second request for a tiny house. Bennett will relay the discussion to Planning Commission.

**ZONING ADMIN REPORT: Melissa Townsend** absent but submitted a report of permits issued in February. Activity has picked up for short term rental permits.

**ZONING & BLIGHT ENFORCEMENT: Keith Rolph** has been working on 2 complaints for the month; one concerning illegal dumping and another concerning abandoned cars. A question from a resident concerned a business with parked vehicles. Rolph explained that the business is licensed and all of the vehicles in question are titled. Although the resident did not like the look of the business, everything on the property is within the business owner's right. When asked about fencing, the current ordinance was discussed and determined that fencing was not currently required.

**OLD BUSINESS: ARPA (COVID money)** Final Rule allows a wider variety of projects to be undertaken. The first report is due in April. Several ideas were discussed, including demolition and clean up of the old town hall and improvements to make parking and water more accessible, possible improvements at the current town hall that would provide a park setting with pavilions, possible improvements to the old Mennonite Church, to be used as a wedding venue that would generate rental revenue for the township. **Duby** announced the plaque given by American Red Cross, recognizing the town hall as an emergency use facility.

A question from a resident concerned road brining. **Wright** explained that our current budget does not have funds for brining but some property owners have expressed an interest in paying for brining on the roads near their home. Wright gave the current estimates and some expressed interest in paying for brining near their property. Wright explained the "claw back" of state revenue, due to declining population in the township and the claw back to be from April funds.

**NEW BUSINESS: Interviewed ZBA applicant, Shawn Anderson.** Shawn is a lifelong resident, returning from 6+ years of military service. He wishes to serve his community. Erskine made a motion to appoint Shawn to the ZBA, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC** Anderson was sworn in to fill the final opening on the ZBA, for the current term.

**Wright introduced a resolution** to place a question on the August Primary Ballot, for road millage. A lengthy discussion concerning the need for and use of the funds included the fact that Hamilton is the only township in the county that does not have a millage for roads. Iutzi stated that maintenance is needed to avoid further deterioration. Possible projects include 2 brines per year, seeking county matching funds to pave 1 mile of Springwood Lake Rd, ditching and culvert on the north side of the golf course, culverts and guardrail on Cranberry, to the east, near the river. Millage would be used strictly for roads. Resolution 2022-3-10-1 was proposed by Iutzi and supported by Wright to request 1 mil for 3 years. Roll call vote: Wright-yes; Iutzi-yes; Erskine-yes; Duby-yes. **Resolution passed.**

**Board of Review organizational meeting** was held on March 8. The state requires a **BOR Resolution** to adopt Rules of Procedure and Poverty Exemption and Income Guidelines. Erskine read the lengthy verbiage as required by the state, to be included in the Resolution. Iutzi made a motion to adopt the resolution, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Duby. Roll call vote: Wright- yes; Iutzi- yes; Erskine- yes; Duby- yes. Resolution 2022-3-10<sup>2</sup> was adopted.

**REMINDERS:** Siren is still out. Board of Review dates and times are March 14; 3PM-9PM and March 17; 9AM-3PM.

**ADJOURN:** Iutzi made a motion to adjourn at 7: 35 PM, supported by Erskine; all in favor. **MC**

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