

Hamilton Township Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 5, 2023 Time: 6:30 PM

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

Board Members Present: Mike Conway, Mike Iutzi, Dave Wright, Mickie DUBY, Valdine Erskine Guests: 5 Residents: 10 Staff: 3
CALLED TO ORDER: by Wright at 6:30 P.M, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Conway, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Read by DUBY. Motion to approve report by Iutzi; 2nd by Conway; all in favor. **MC**

CLERK'S REPORT: December minutes read by DUBY. Year of rubbish contact expiration corrected from 2022 to 2023. Motion to approve minutes by Conway, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC** Invoices over \$100 read by Erskine; motion to approve and pay bills including incoming bills by Iutzi, supported by DUBY; all in favor. **MC**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Barbara Lambdin shared a letter to elected officials concerning landline phone services being discontinued and lack of internet. Wright suggested she contact ISP Internet and attend a meeting concerning internet service, hosted by Jerry Becker of Emergency Management, to be held at the Clare County ISD. Joan Cooper shared a picture of inappropriate decorations in Cedar Crest Cemetery. Iutzi will see they are removed.

GUESTS:

Ken Lind from EMC Insurance discussed an increase in cyber attacks and presented a proposal for cyber insurance.

Harrison City Manager, Justin Cavanaugh discussed the reasoning behind the extreme increase in the cost of Fire Protection and Fire Department plans to purchase new equipment. He stated insurance companies would likely cancel homeowner's insurance in the township, if we did not pay.

Road Commissioner, Bill Simpson reviewed projects for the Road Commission, shared that meetings have changed to the first and third Tuesday each month at 8 AM, and reviewed the website. The web address is ccrc@clarecrc.com and can be used for permits, to see a construction map, Road Commission meeting minutes, and to submit pictures and request service. Service requests can also be made by phone. Website requests are the fastest.

New County Commission, David Hoefling attended his first meeting and reported Commissioner meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday each month at the County Building, at 9 AM.

REPORTS:

Assessor's Report: Assessor absent

Planning Commission Chair, Kelly Bennett stated the PC started work on the mandatory 10-year Master Plan review, working thru ordinances in the order they are printed. Workshop time was adjusted to 6 PM-8 PM, every other Wednesday. A resident has been calling each member of the PC individually, to obtain a decision or commitment. Board Members are forbidden to meet ex parte with residents. Residents must either attend a meeting or submit an issue in writing so that all issues are taken up by the entire Board, not by singled out members.

Zoning Administrator, Melissa Townsend was out. She submitted a report of 62 permits for 2022, no new permits in the previous month, 2 short term rental calls, and 2 short term rental violation letters.

Blight Enforcement Officer, Keith Rolph reported 47 blight calls last year; only 11 became complaints. Many for blight were not actual blight by township definition. Rolph also shared 3 form letters to be used, to show a documented progression of blight complaints, citations, and fines.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Guest, Chris Pechacek spoke about the desire to open a private school in the old Mennonite church. The group she represents is interested in renting or leasing. They are not ready but want to be kept apprised, as we decide how to spend ARPA funds and possibly update the building to be a source of income for the township.

Payroll direct deposit for township employees was discussed, as it would save the township money. Wright moved to use direct deposit if we could obtain 100% participation, supported by DUBY; all in favor. **MC**

The annual Poverty Exemption Resolution was offered by Wright, supported by Iutzi. Roll call vote: 5 "ayes", 0 "nays".

The Hamilton Township Resolution adopted the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.

The Dodge Lake Road project presented in December was reviewed. Wright made a motion to spend up to \$97,500 to widen and upgrade 3 miles of Dodge Lake Road, from the corner of Townline Lake Road to the corner of M-61, as presented by the Clare County Road Commission. The motion was supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**

A Budget Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

ADJOURNED: Conway made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**