

Hamilton Township Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 6, 2023 Time: 6:30 PM

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

Board Members Present: Mike Iutzi, Mike Conway, Dave Wright, Mickie DUBY, Valdine Erskine Guests: 3 Residents: 8 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 DUBY; all in favor. **MC**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Barbara Lambdin stated ATT was working in the Township and asked what they were working on. 7th grade student, Sophie Timm asked about a curfew for minors and several other questions, to better understand the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: DUBY reviewed Township accounts. Iutzi offered a motion to approve, supported by Conway; all in favor **MC**

CLERK'S REPORT: March 2 meeting minutes read by Erskine. Conway moved to approve minutes, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**

Invoices over \$100 read by Erskine. Motion to approve and pay bills including incoming bills by Iutzi, 2nd by DUBY; all in favor. **MC**

GUESTS:

County Commissioner, David Hoefling reported continued work on election consolidation plan. Administrator, Lori Phelps has proposed paying for 2024 elections and reassessing the following year. A Memorandum of Understanding would take the place of an Intergovernmental Agreement; pending a vote. MMCC found funds in the budget for a School Liaison, funding passed for a new boat for the Dive Team, Commissioners passed a 2nd Amendment Resolution, to reaffirm the Constitution, the County Budget is in good shape with 61% of the budget remaining, the Bureau of Aeronautics will perform an airport assessment in April or May, to review conditions, April 23-29 is Crime Victims' Rights Week and April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. Grants/ARPA funds will be used to upgrade security cameras at the County and applications are being accepted for a Drain Commissioner, to replace the late Carl Parks.

Planning Commission Chair, Kelly Bennett stated that only Article 21, the Police Powers, and the Master Plan remain in their review. No major updates are expected. MTA Training for all Planning Commission members will be arranged by Erskine.

Zoning Administrator, Melissa Townsend submitted a report of March activity, read by Erskine. She included a warning concerning Solar Farm contracts and advised the use of an attorney.

Blight Enforcement Officer, Keith Rolph reported no new complaints. Several letters have been sent out; some already started clean up.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Mature CD at Huntington Bank- Wright moved to redeem the CD, use needed funds to pay the Fire Contract and leave the remainder in the General Fund until the Budget is reviewed. Iutzi supported; all in favor. **MC**

Mowing contract with Elm Creek- Wright moved to accept the mowing contract but eliminate mowing of the old Townhall, as it will be demolished. Support from Conway; all in favor. **MC**

Early Voting Consolidation with Clare County – Conway moved to participate in the 9 days early voting consolidation, as proposed by Clare County Clerk, Lori Mott. Iutzi supported; all in favor. **MC**

Tower site leasing – Reviewed contract language and attorney's commentary. Board decided to turn the contract language over to the attorney, as some clauses in the contract were not acceptable for a township government.

Election Inspector pay - Pay rates for other townships were reviewed. Conway made a motion to update Election Inspector pay to \$12 per hour and \$14 per hour for the Chairperson, as the Township pays under minimum wage. Support by Erskine; all in favor. **MC**

Payroll Direct Deposit – A Proforma Statement from Huntington Bank requires a change to the Township's account. The monthly service charge would be \$50.25. Although interest earned would be more, it is not guaranteed. The discussion was tabled until a better alternative can be found.

Parking lot/playground project. After a detailed review, Conway made a motion to spend ARPA funds and accept the bid of Arden Shell Trucking, to increase the parking lot and excavate for a playground, including playground sand. Iutzi supported; all in favor. **MC**

Pavilion project – After reviewing the available bids, the discussion was tabled to review available funds.

Garage door removal – A discussion concerning removal of the garage doors at the north end of the Township Hall was tabled. Heat loss and better use of the building needs to be weighed against cost of the improvement.

Work date for moving chain link fence from old Amble School property - Fencing the Township purchased several years ago from Harrison Community Schools needs to be moved. Friday, April 28 at 10 AM was chosen as a work day. Volunteers are asked to meet at the school, to help move the fence.

NOAA radios are still available; see Amy.

ADJOURNED: Conway made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m., supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**