

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2023 – 7:30 pm

In Office at 1565 Jackson St. Marne, MI 49435

www.wrighttownship.com

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Schoenborn. Board members present include Supervisor Rick Schoenborn, Treasurer Sharyl Dietrich, Trustee Adam Taylor, Trustee Brad Anderson, and Clerk Theresa Frank. Meeting was held at Township Office at 1565 Jackson St. Marne, MI. 49435.
2. APPROVE AGENDA and ADDITIONS
 - a. Taylor moved to approve the agenda and Dietrich supported. Sanford House was added to new business in the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.
3. REVIEW AND APPROVE
 - a. Frank moved to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$44,697.56, and accept as information the Treasurer Report. This was supported by Taylor. All ayes, motion carried.
 - b. Dietrich moved to approve the minutes from December 14, 2022, Board Meeting and Taylor supported. All ayes, motion carried.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None
5. REPORTS
 - a. Fire Report by Dietrich.

There were 1,100 calls in 2022. In December there were 107 calls, 20 calls in 48 hours were responded to during the December snowstorm alone. The Department responded to a well involved garage fire. The fire was knocked down quickly with hard work from both the department crew as well as mutual aid partners who also responded. The Department would like to remind the public that they need good access through traffic to effectively get to these emergencies.
 - b. Senior Service report by Dietrich.

Services are going well, with a growing number of participants.
 - c. Election report by Frank.

Work is being done to find an estimate of how much the nine days for early voting is going to cost the Township.
6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Jeff Striegle and Nick Mesman were at the meeting to give an update on the Berlin Raceway, including a proposed season's race, firework, and event schedule. The schedule will be shared on the Wright Township website, and Berlin Raceway's web pages as soon as they are fully approved and set for posting. Berlin has been selected for the large Superstar Experience (SRX) race this year. This is a race that will be live on ESPN, on Thursday August 3rd, 2023. Starting at 9:00 pm, with short fireworks close to 11:00 p.m. It is going to be a sold-out show, as it is getting close to a sell out now. The following Saturday night, the raceway will be closed. Last season's race attendance was up over 30%. This was the largest attendance in two decades. Traffic control is being investigated at this time. Taylor motioned, and Anderson supported to approve the proposed Berlin Raceway schedules for the year 2023, contingent on the Wright Township Board review and approval of the Wolverine Firework

inventory and mortar size fireworks that are planned for September 16th, 2023. This will be following the Monster Truck Show. All ayes, motion is carried.

- b. At this time Jessica Murphy introduced herself. She is taking over the Coopersville Observer.
- c. Dennis Umlor reported it looks like a new company may be putting in new WI-FI in the area next year. There will be more information in the future.
- d. Farmland Lease Agreement regarding the Township's newly purchased property was discussed. Bid packets are ready for anyone interested in bidding for the lease. Packets must be picked up at the Township Hall office, and returned by February 7th, 2023, for the Steering Committee to review and pick a bid. The winner of the bid will be announced at the February 8th Board Meeting. Bids must be returned by hand to the Township Office during normal office hours or dropped in the Drop Box.
- e. The board will have a pre-budget meeting on February 16th, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. The Budget Public Hearing will be March 8th, 2023, at 6:45 p.m. just before the monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- f. Dietrich motioned to approve Kathy Lothschutz as a new member of the Historical Commission. Anderson supported, all ayes, motion carried.
- g. Frank motioned to adopted Resolution 23-01-01, regarding new costs set by the Wright Township Sexton Joe Looks. Grave openings will now be \$500.00, the burial of an oversized vault will be \$550.00, Cremation grave openings will be \$250.00, and child grave openings will be \$250.00. Anderson supported. Roll call was taken; Schoenborn aye, Taylor aye, Anderson aye, and Frank aye. Dietrich recused herself, the Sexton is a family member. Resolution 23-01-01 is declared adopted.
- h. Approval of Board of Review members was tabled until February Board meeting.
- i. The quarterly budget was reviewed by the Board Members.
- j. Adam Van Lente, Director of Facilities of Sanford House was at the meeting to give an annual update. He gave thanks to the whole Township for all the support they have received. For all Sanford House locations, they have hired 135 people, many of them here in Marne, and they are still hiring. Many non-medical people work from home. They have hired as many local people as possible. He did say just like every other medical system they are short of nurses. The owners were somewhat hesitant about picking the rural setting in Marne but are now so happy they did. It was the right decision. It has been a great year for them.

8. SUPERVISOR REPORT

- a. Schoenborn asked for a Planning Commission report. Anderson reported that there is no meeting the month of January. The Committee is still working on the Zoning Amendments regarding private drives and solar energy. The wording for the amendments is being reviewed by the Township Attorneys at this time.

9. BOARD COMMENTS

- a. Frank shared with the Board that we are hiring a new payroll company called FlexChecks. The new company is local and less expensive. The Wright Tallmadge Fire Department is currently using them and are happy with their services.

10. Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully prepared by Theresa Frank, Wright Township Clerk.

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(Any documents referenced in these minutes are on file in the Clerk's office)