

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 12th, 2023 – 7:30 pm

In Office at 1565 Jackson St. Marne, MI 49435

www.wrighttownshipottawami.gov

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Supervisor Schoenborn. Board members present include Supervisor Rick Schoenborn, Treasurer Sharyl Dietrich, Trustee Adam Taylor, Trustee Brad Anderson, and Clerk Theresa Frank. The Board Meeting was in Township Office at 1565 Jackson St. Marne, MI. 49435.
2. APPROVE AGENDA and ADDITIONS
 - a. Dietrich moved to approve the agenda and Taylor supported. All ayes motion carried.
3. REVIEW AND APPROVE
 - a. Anderson moved to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$82,637.73, and accept as information the Treasurer Report. Frank supported the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
 - b. Taylor moved to approve the minutes from June 14, 2023, Board Meeting and Dietrich, supported. All ayes, motion carried.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None
5. REPORTS
 - a. 11th District Commissioner Allison Miedema was at the Board meeting to share Ottawa County updates. One of the updates she reported is that none of the State's multimillion dollar Broadband grant was awarded to Ottawa County. The Board responded with the question of why not, because it is so needed in our area. Ms. Miedema agreed and explained that they were not sure as of right now why the County did not get it, but the Commissioners are investigating. If you would like to have more update and find more information on the Ottawa County Commissioners, please see <https://www.miottawa.org/departments/boc/>.
 - b. Fire report was given by Chief Mike Given. There were 93 calls last month. The major event for last month was the Berlin Fair. The Fire Department has a food operation every year for their Non-Profit Association. The Chief reported six-hundred hours of donated time from the Firefighters and their families. Sixty calls were received during fair week. Chief said none were major. Wright and Tallmadge Fire Department has newly Certified Firefighters. Three of them from Wright Township were introduced by Chief Gavin at the meeting-Kaleb Mantel, Jim Looks and Will Molewyk. Next major event for the Fire Department is August 3rd, 2023. The Berlin Raceway is having a televised SRX Event, which is one of the largest events the Raceway or Township has had. The Fire Department is preparing now for this event.
 - c. Frank gave a short Election report letting the Board know that there is still no final contract with the Ottawa County Clerk's for the nine days for early voting. It still looks like cost for the Township will be right around five thousand.
 - d. Steering Committee Chair Steve gave the progress report on the new township hall. RFP bids are being taken currently. When all bids are in the interviewing process will begin.
 - e. Trustee Brad Anderson gave the Planning Commission report. The Commission is going to decide if two ordinances, Home Occupation and Farm Labor Housing, is ready to be sent to the Board for approval. Also, DeWys Manufacturing is having a site plan review for an addition to a building.
 - f. There was no Senior report. Senior Service is on summer break.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. None

7. New Business:

- a. Quarterly budget review; After review and discussion three amendments need to be made to the budget.
 1. Under Legal Services \$7,715 of \$15,000 has been spent. Part of the expenses were for Planning Commission activities. Four new ordinances, and the reorganizing, correcting, and updating of the zoning ordinances. An amendment will be needed for this. Looking at upcoming projects the Board is going to need to raise this amount.
 2. An amendment for a new general ledger number for Assessor Salary account needs to be made.
 3. The Townships Contracted Planning has used \$2,500 of the \$5,000 budgeted. This is due to the same as the Legal Fees.

Dietrich motioned to make three amendments:

1. To increase the townships Legal budget by \$10,000.
2. To change the Assessor Salary and Assessor Contracted Services general ledger account numbers and adjust as needed.
3. To increase the townships Contracted Planning budget by \$2,500.

Anderson supports this motion. All ayes, motion carried.

8. SUPERVISOR REPORT

- a. The audit went well. The auditors will be at the August meeting to go over any questions and update the Board on their findings.
- b. The new Assessor has started. His office hours have changed from Monday to Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

9. BOARD COMMENTS

- a. Dietrich commented tax bills have gone out to all the residents.
- b. Frank commented that a resident has two graves that were purchased in 1948 by grandparents in the Marne Cemetery. They inherited the graves. It was found that a large tree has grown there covering both grave sites during the years since they were purchased. The resident requested us to look at the tree because it was in bad shape and may need to come down. After showing a picture of the tree to the Board it was decided to take bids to have it come down. Bids will come to the August meeting for a decision.

10. Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

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)