

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 9th, 2023 – 7:30 pm

In Office at 1565 Jackson St. Marne, MI 49435

www.wrighttownshippottawami.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. Clerk Theresa Frank was absent. The Board Meeting was in Township Office at 1565 Jackson St. Marne, MI. 49435.
2. APPROVE AGENDA
 - a. Anderson moved to approve the agenda and Taylor supported. All ayes motion carried.
3. REVIEW AND APPROVE
 - a. Taylor moved to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$40,188.97, and accept as information the Treasurer Report. Dietrich supported the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
 - b. Dietrich moved to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from July 12th, 2023, and the Special Board Meeting Minutes from July 18th, 2023; Anderson supported. All ayes, motion carried.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Before Public Comment was opened, Supervisor Schoenborn made the following statement regarding the potential Marne development:

We, the Board, understand the community objections, as we have some as well. It is my understanding, Visser Builders will not present a site plan proposal to the Planning Commission until October 16th. This will allow some time to conduct various studies, including, but not limited to, roads, traffic infrastructure, feasibility, Sand Creek and wetlands, parking and runoff, floodplains, and green space. Know that we are working hard to get answers in this period of discovery. There is a plan by Visser Builders to hold a Q & A with the public soon. We will pass along information when we know something.

 - a. Several public comments were made on the new development. Most were in opposition of the development.
5. REPORTS
 - a. Fire report was given by Chief Mike Gavin. There were 93 calls last month. The major event for this month was the SRX Race. The Fire Department worked closely with the Ottawa County Sheriff and the Emergency Management Teams. For the most part, the race went well. During the race there were 40 first aid occurrences and 4 medical events. Chief Gavin will be attending an “After Action Review” for this event.
 - b. Steering Committee on Township Owed Land, Chair Steve Quirk, gave a progress report. Interviews are in the process, with the last interview being August 15. The Steering Committee would like to request a Special Board Meeting for approval of the Design/Build Team that the committee selects. Date and time will be posted on the website and the bulletin board outside of the building.
 - c. Trustee Brad Anderson gave the Planning Commission report. He reiterated Supervisor’s opening public comment and thanked the public for their support at the July 17th Planning Commission meeting.
 - d. Senior Services will start back up from summer break on Wednesday, September 6, with Bingo at the American Legion Hall. Also, lunch on September 20th, and RSVPs are now being accepted. Please contact Sharyl Dietrich at the office at 616-677-3048 or via email at treasurer@ocwrighttpw.org.
 - e. Election report is tabled until the September Board Meeting.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Joshua Gabrielse, the Township Auditor from Siegfried Crandall PC, gave the report on the Township's financial status. The annual report is included in the board meeting minutes in the office for public inspection upon request.
- b. Bids for tree removal at Marne Cemetery were received. Motion made by Dietrich and supported by Anderson to hire Lance's Climbing Service, with the bid of \$1,250. All ayes, motion carried.
- c. Discussion on Senior Services millage. Motion made by Dietrich and supported by Anderson to reduce the Senior Services millage levy from .2383 to .1192 mills for the Winter 2023 tax levy. All ayes, motion carried.

8. SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Assessing – Residential Review

- For each year of 2023, 2024, and 2025, 33% of all properties will be inspected to bring the assessment roll into compliance with "The Audit" (AMAR). Then 20% every year thereafter.
- Township must comply with the standards (AMAR) set forth by the State Tax Commission or the assessment roll can be seized by the county at the township/taxpayer's expense.
- We are not looking for revenue. We are ensuring that all taxpayers are treated equally and fairly.
- Property owners can refuse to grant access the day of inspection, or in advance by letter, email, phone, or in-person visit to the office.
- The assessment process is open and transparent. The Assessor is in the office on Thursday from 9:00 to 1:00 to answer any questions property owners have.

9. BOARD COMMENTS:

Treasurer Dietrich reported that everyone should have received a tax bill. Taxes are due Thursday, September 14th. Postmarks are not accepted. The office will be open from 9:00 to 5:00 on this date.

10. Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by Sharyl Dietrich, Wright Township Treasurer

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