

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR & PUBLIC HEARING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 13th, 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 Clerk Frank. Board members present include Treasurer Sharyl Dietrich, Trustee Adam Taylor, Trustee Brad Anderson, Clerk Theresa Frank. Supervisor Rick Schoenborn was absent. The Board Meeting was in Township Office at 1565 Jackson St. Marne, MI. 49435.
2. APPROVE AGENDA
 - a. Dietrich moved to approve the agenda as is, and Taylor supported. All ayes motion carried.
3. REVIEW AND APPROVE
 - a. Anderson moved to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$72,651.42, 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 for August 09th and Special Board Meeting for August 17th. Taylor supported motion carried.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS;
 - a. Mr. Dennis Umlor commented in support of property owners having the right to do what they want with their property, including selling it to whoever they want to.
 - b. Mr. King took open comment time to relay how unhappy he was with the way he and Mr. Visser have been treated regarding the sale of his property. He said obstacles were put up for Mr. Visser, (city water). Mr. King said garbage has been thrown in his yard, and bad comments have been made to him about selling his property. He also said the rumor that the area schools could not handle the amount of children that one hundred and sixty-six apartments would produce is not true.
 - c. Dave, a representative for a Facebook page called Ottawa Objects was at the meeting. He is organizing people to build District 11 groups that will campaign to select candidates who will restore what they think is now a lack of government at the County Commissioner level.
 - d. Jayme Bush commented that Mr. King has been very rude and threatening to the 18th Avenue residents. Ms. Bush talked about the schools being overwhelmed. The towns surrounding Marne, like Walker and Coopersville, are planning more large complexes of apartments that will be using the same schools as Marne residents. She feels there will be a development, but asked if it could please be less than one hundred sixty-six apartments!
5. REPORTS
 - a. Fire report was given by Deputy Chief Jon Alkema. There were 104 calls last month. The Department was left a very generous donation by a member of the community, for which they are very appreciative. They have decided to purchase a drone with the donation. There are many benefits with this piece of equipment. It makes them able to get on top of the fire to see where the hot spots are, especially for fires in large building. It will also be of great use for finding children lost in the corn this time of year.
 - b. Senior Services Report was given by Sharyl Dietrich. She reported the services are back in full swing after the summer break. Senior lunch on Wednesday the 20th of September. She is asking for more seniors to become involved in the program. The services are for seniors aged 55 and up. Bingo is still on the first Wednesdays of the month, and lunches are the 3rd Wednesday of the month. For more information, please contact Sharyl at 616.677.3048 ext. 3, or visit our website.
 - c. No Steering Committee on Township owned land Report.

- d. Anderson gave the Planning Commission report from August 21st, 2023, P.C. Meeting. He reported that the meeting was mostly comments about the developments, and there were discussions on the new private solar ordinance, but it was tabled until September meeting so more information could be gathered.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Public Hearing portion of the meeting opened to approve Resolution No. 2023-09-01, a resolution to consider an application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for InterSpace H.C. an industrial company. No comments were made, and this portion of the meeting was closed. Anderson made a motion to approve the adoption of Resolution 2023-09-01, Taylor supported. Roll call was taken; Dietrich aye, Taylor aye, Anderson aye, and Frank aye. Resolution was declared adopted.
- b. Dietrich motioned to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-08-02, a revision of Building Permits Fee Schedule. Taylor supported and roll call was taken; Taylor aye, Anderson aye, Dietrich aye, and Frank aye. Resolution was declared adopted.
- c. Dietrich motioned to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-08-03, a revision of Electrical Permit Fee Schedule. Taylor supported and roll call was taken; Frank aye, Anderson aye, Dietrich aye, and Taylor aye. Resolution was declared adopted.
- d. Anderson motioned to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-08-04, a revision of Plumbing Permit Fee Schedule. Taylor supported and roll call was taken; Dietrich aye, Anderson aye, Taylor aye, and Frank aye. Resolution was declared adopted.
- e. Taylor motioned to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-08-05, a revision of Mechanical Permit Fee Schedule. Dietrich supported and roll call was taken; Taylor aye, Frank aye, Anderson aye, Dietrich aye. Resolution was declared adopted.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. The Board is being asked to approve an agreement with the Ottawa County Clerk's Office to run the nine days of early voting, along with the Township Clerk. The early voting is a result of the passage of Proposition 2 in the November 2022 Election. The Clerk explained that to do the early voting at Wright Township would be very expensive, so the County has offered to have four (4) locations for Ottawa County to do the early voting for 2024. The price is approximately \$5,000 for two election years. It would cost the Township well over \$10,000 to run the early voting. The Township would have to have the Elections at St. Mary's Hall. We can not use the same equipment for early voting that is used on Election Day, so new machines would be the biggest expense. The Board and the Township Attorney have studied the Agreement, the Township would save a lot of money by early voting with Ottawa County. Dietrich motioned to have the Supervisor and the Clerk to sign the agreement. Taylor supported, and roll call was taken; Frank aye, Dietrich aye, Taylor aye, and Anderson aye. The motion to sign the agreement with Ottawa County Clerk's Office was carried.

8. SUPERVISOR REPORT: None

9. BOARD COMMENTS:

Anderson was asking if the Steering Committee for the new township hall has decided what to do with the old township hall on Cleveland St. Dietrich said it was not the responsibility of the Committee to decide that. It was decided that we need to find out how residents of the township feel about keeping it or tearing it down.

10. Clerk Frank adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.