

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 12th, 2025 – 7:30 P.M.

In Office at 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 494404

www.wrighttownshipottawami.gov

Approved at Regular Board Meeting April 9, 2025

Supervisor VanTimmeren called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Board members present include Supervisor VanTimmeren, Clerk Theresa Frank, Treasurer Sharyl Dietrich, Trustee Rick Schoenborn, and Trustee Brad Anderson. The meeting was held at the Township Office, 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 49404.

APPROVE AGENDA and ADDITIONS

- Motion made by Dietrich supported by Schoenborn to approve the Agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVE

- Motion made by Anderson, supported by Frank to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$53,582.23 for February 2025 expenditures, and to accept as information the Treasurer's report as written. Expenditure larger than normal is for remaining balance of office furniture, for \$11,185.36. All ayes, motion carries.
- Motion made by Dietrich, supported by Schoenborn to approve meeting minutes with the correction of the initials E.A.G.L.E. to E.G.L.E. from February, 2025. All ayes, motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mary Alt informed the Board that she was working on a grant for improvement of the Old Town Hall on Cleveland.
- Mr. Quirk asked again about the tree clean up in the Marne Cemetery, and Frank again let him know that it is scheduled to be done this Spring. He also wondered why there was monitoring of a few roads around town. Supervisor let him know that it was just a normal traffic count by the Ottawa County Road Commission. He also inquired as to why the minutes for January 2025 were not on the website. Dietrich confirmed they would be on the web tomorrow.
- Rich Houtteman from Consumers Energy was at the meeting. He commented on updates from Consumers Energy Company. Three generating units at the J.H. Campbell coal-fired plant is to be closed by May 31, 2025. He also pointed out that the company is conducting an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).

REPORTS

- Ottawa County Commissioner District 11 – Allison Miedema was not at the meeting this month.
- Fire report was not available.
- Steering Committee Report - Quirk wanted to remind the Board of the joint meeting on April 8th 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
- Senior Report - per Dietrich all is going well.
- Planning Commission Report - Anderson reported there is a public meeting on Monday March 17th, 2025, regarding the ordinance on fencing.

- Election Report - Frank reported there are Special School Elections on May 6th, 2025 for Ottawa Intermediate School District (Coopersville), and a proposal on the Ballot for a millage renewal for Sparta Schools. She also let the Board know that Early Voting is now through the Townships, not the County.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Farm Labor Housing was discussed. VanTimmeren reported that things are changing in the agricultural business. The Township Ordinance has a limit on the number of workers living in the housing and the property must be owned by a farmer, and the H2A workers living in the housing should be working on just that farm. With agricultural changes there is housing in the township that is not owned by a farmer, but by contractors, and the H2A workers' work on many different farms. VanTimmeren thought perhaps the Planning Commission might take another look at the Township Ordinance, because of the changes in how Labor Housing needs are addressed.
 - The Board discussed a proposal of legislation on bigger truck configurations. Nathan Johnson is with a non-profit organization and has asked the Board to support them in letting legislators know we do not support bigger truck configurations with a Resolution. After some discussion the Board will support this with a Resolution that will show the Boards support. A Resolution will be drawn up for the April Board meeting.
 - A discussion regarding who owns Maple Hill Cemetery was had at the meeting. Unbeknownst to the Board and the church, GIS shows that the Seventh Day Adventist Church owns the cemetery. The Church does not want it. It was agreed upon between the Township and the Church to leave things as they are rather than having the expense of lawyers and title companies to adjust the situation. Pricing of graves at all of the cemeteries will be discussed at the Public Budget Meeting.
 - Election Inspectors pay was discussed. A raise in pay will be taken into consideration at the Public Budget Meeting at 7:00 p.m., on the 24th of March.
 - Frank motioned to approve the Wright Tallmadge Fire Department Budget. Supported by Dietrich. All ayes, motion carried.
 - Final quarter of 2024 Township Budget was reviewed, along with the Compensation Schedule and the Fee Schedule.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- a. VanTimmeren reported that the Fire Department has requested to have opportunity for more input in the Township regarding new construction. Especially in agricultural zones.
- b. Supervisor discussed the Poverty Exemption Ordinance. There may be some changes made at the Public Budget Hearing.
- c. Supervisor will have an Engineer inspect the Fire Department on Jackson St. to ensure stability before there is a new roof put on it. Board has budgeted for a new roof for the Fire Department building.
- d. There has been a proposal for a new school, adult foster care, and possibly a church in the future. The location in question is at the corner of Arthur and Kenowa. This will have to be looked at by planning and zoning.

BOARD COMMENTS

- None

ADJOURN MEEETING

- Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 9:22 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)