

January 10, 2024

Liberty Township

7478 North 41 Road, Manton, MI 49663

Regular Board Meeting, January, 10, 2024, 6:30 pm

The meeting was **called to order** at 6:31 pm by Supervisor Monroe. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

Roll Call: Present were Supervisor, Beverly Monroe; Treasurer, Cynthia Deibert; Trustee, Jim Heady; Trustee and FOIA Coordinator, Joseph Hurlburt. Clerk, Amanda Kimbel-Sparks, was not present and her Deputy, Tanya McCane-Clark also was not present.

Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Trustee Hurlburt, seconded by Trustee Heady, all voted in favor.

Public Comment: Resident, Bill Bogart, inquired about lawn equipment that the township had for sale. It has been sold.

Minutes: Treasurer Deibert pointed out one correction under Correspondence, last sentence. ~~Need to be~~ changed to ARE BEING. Motion to approve the minutes with that correction made by Trustee Heady, seconded by Trustee Hurlburt and approved unanimously.

FOIA Report: One request which was similar to a previous request was sent the same legal opinion.

Review and Approval of Bills: Checks #6459 for Network Butler in the amount of \$2985 and check #6459 in the amount of \$34.50 from December were approved via a motion and amendment to the motion made by Supervisor Monroe, seconded by Treasurer Deibert. Roll call vote: Treasurer Deibert "yes", Trustee Heady "yes", Supervisor Monroe "yes", Trustee Hurlburt "yes." Bills for checks #6460 through #6469 and outstanding bills for Tyler O'Dell (plowing and installation of lock) and Treasurer Deibert (stamps) were approved by motion by Trustee Hurlburt and seconded by Trustee Heady. Roll call vote: Trustee Heady "yes", Trustee Hurlburt "yes", Supervisor Monroe "yes", Treasurer Deibert "yes". Check #6470 in the amount of \$371 was held for more information.

Clerk's Report: Clerk was not present to give a report. Items requested to be on the Agenda had been added to the Agenda.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer read the report. Report was approved via motion by Trustee Hurlburt, seconded by Trustee Heady, unanimously approved. Treasurer reiterated her cash payment procedure. All cash revenues will have a receipt initialed by the payee and a copy will go to the Clerk.

Hall Manager's Report: Kitchen sink not draining properly has been addressed and is working well now. Evidence of mice in the building has been reported and traps placed in the cupboards. The smaller cleaning closet in the foyer has been emptied and is now available for the surveillance monitor installation. A key will be given to the Clerk. Hutchinson's has been contacted for an estimate to connect the drain and septic properly.

Sexton's Report: The cemetery needs to be locked for the winter. The lock and chains need to be attached.

Correspondence: WJPC regular meeting on January 22, 2024 at 6:30 pm will start the first hour with a presentation about zoning ordinances vs police power via township ordinance. This information should be helpful in understanding blight control and short-term rental issues. The signed liquor license application and minutes will be sent out.

BOR: Resolutions must be in place for Board of Review and have been presented to the Board. Motion to approve the Resolution Establishing Poverty Guidelines made by Trustee Hurlburt, second by Trustee Heady, approved by voice vote. Resolution to Allow Residents to Protest in Writing approved via motion by Trustee Hurlburt, second by Trustee Heady, approved by voice. Hurlburt and second by Trustee Heady. Motion to approve the Exempt Property Policy made by Trustee Hurlburt and seconded by Trustee Heady approved. Motion to approve Board of Review Training in the amount of \$225.00 made by Trustee Hurlburt, seconded by Trustee Heady and approved by roll call vote: Treasurer Deibert "yes", Trustee Heady "yes", Trustee Hurlburt "yes", Supervisor Monroe "yes". Attendees are Mabel Barnes, Judy Heady, Linda Stewart, Diane Waite and Beverly Monroe.

Unfinished Business: The lawn mowers are sold. The CWPL plans to put Wi-Fi in the township by the end of January and locations were discussed. Township Goals/Projects list was presented by Supervisor Monroe and discussed by the Board. Supervisor Monroe presented a draft of the 2024/25 Revenue Budget.

Election: Election training will be January 23, 2024 at 10:00 am, 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm at the Wexford County Courthouse. The following have committed to attending: Joseph Hurlburt, Mabel Barnes, Cynthia Deibert, Ralph Deibert, James Heady and Beverly Monroe. A motion was made by Supervisor Monroe, seconded by Trustee Hurlburt, that, if there is a charge for this training, the Township will pay up to \$350. Motion approved by roll call vote: Treasurer Deibert "yes", Trustee Hurlburt "yes", Trustee Heady "yes".

The IRS mileage rate is at \$0.67 per mile as of January 1, 2024. Township Expense Reimbursement Policy provides for this change to apply to Township reimbursements.

Public Comment: Resident Bill Bogart said there is a matching offer at the Credit Union that may benefit the Township. He also suggested documentation of leaving the key for the small closet in the foyer.

Minutes were prepared by Supervisor Monroe

Clerk, Amanda Kimbel-Sparks, was not present and her Deputy, Tanya McCane-Clark also was not present.