

**Hamilton Township Board
December 13, 2022
7:00 p.m. - Hamilton Township Hall**

1. Call to Order/Pledge

The board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Druskovich. Also Present: Clerk Rebecca Mott, Treasurer Sandra Hanson, and Trustees Richard Conway and Karen Makay. There were ten guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

- a) Senior services presentation – Gary Schanz and Don Stull from Paw Paw Senior Services gave a presentation. The Board will review options and discuss Hamilton Township joining the Paw Paw Senior Services program.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the November 09, 2022, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for November - Cash Balances as of 11/30/22: General Fund - \$261,905.58; Road Fund - \$43,170.94; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$2,621.30.
- c) Payment of Bills
- d) Egle Notice – violation - seawall

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Supervisor Druskovich will attend an online webinar discussing basement flooding and will continue to look for any information that may concern Hamilton Township.
- b) **Open Field Project** – Tabled for the winter.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,300 members on the Facebook page. Jaime is looking for volunteers to help with upkeep of the Facebook page and meetings. Will possibly hold a meeting in February 2023. If interested, please contact Jaime Stone-McEnaney at nw49045@outlook.com for more information.
- d) **Covid relief funds – ARPA** – The Township Board is still looking into options for ways to spend the funds.
- e) **Broadband Mapping** – Mapping has been completed. Hamilton Township has 113 residents who are still in need of internet services. Funding options are being discussed. Grants may be available.
- f) **Building inspector** – Safebuilt Inspection Services will present options to the Township Board at the January meeting.
- g) **Electrical inspector** – Safebuilt Inspection Services will present options to the Township Board at the January meeting.
- h) **Savion Solar Project Update** – Southwest Michigan Solar Project PA 116 Agreement Solar Amendment was signed and will be sent back to Southwest Michigan Solar Project, LLC.

7. New Business

- a) **Midnight Farms PA116** – The Board reviewed the PA 116 application received from Midnight Farms.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to approve Midnight Farms PA 116 application. Motion carried.

- b) **Letter of Support – Park Project Village of Decatur** – The Village of Decatur is pursuing a grant opportunity through the Department of Natural Resources for improvements at Red Woolfe Park. The Board reviewed the letter of support from Supervisor Druskovich to the Village of Decatur regarding the improvements to the park.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the letter of support to the Village of Decatur for improvements to Red Woolfe Park. Motion carried.

- c) **Storage container violations – logistics** – Storage containers/units are not allowed in Hamilton Township. A notice will be published in the Decatur Republican clarifying the rules and regulations for Hamilton Township.

- d) **Maintenance amendment – snowplowing** – Kusmack Lawncare Inc supplied an amended snowplowing agreement to the Board for snow removal services at the Township Hall and cemetery.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the amended snow removal contract. Motion carried.

- e) **Township hall electrical updates** – Supervisor Druskovich met with Hi-Tech Electric Co and received a quote to provide all necessary electrical updates at the Township Hall.

Motion by Conway, second by Hanson, to approve the quote provided by Hi-Tech Electric Co for electrical updates at the Township Hall. Motion carried.

- f) **Tree removal – 54th Street** – The Board reviewed the project proposal from the Van Buren County Road Commission for a tree removal on 54th Street.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the proposal for tree removal on 54th Street. Motion carried.

- g) **Board of review appointments – 2 yr. terms**

- a. William Lawson Jr
- b. Michael Thomas
- c. Bob Pike

Motion by Hanson, second by Makay, to approve the Board of review appointments for a 2 yr. term. Motion carried.

- h) **Planning commission appointments – 3 yr. terms**

- a. William Lawson Jr
- b. David Cerven
- c. Steve Petersen

Motion by Makay, second by Conway to approve the Planning commission appointments for a 3 yr. term. Motion carried.

- i) **Zoning Board of Appeals appointments – 3 yr. terms**

- a. Michael Schultz

Motion by Conway, second by Makay to approve the Zoning Board of Appeals appointment for a 3 yr. term. Motion carried.

Supervisor Druskovich noted that we are losing a member of the ZBA and are looking for anyone that may be interested in that position.

8. Reports

Supervisor – Buoy removal; DNR & Egle Dock discussion; Possible septic system inspections in the Township; Road Commission winter programs

Treasurer – Winter tax bills sent out; 94% of summer taxes have been collected, 12% of winter taxes collected; Road Commission meeting attended

Clerk – Nothing new to report

Zoning – One demolition permit issued; Blight policy and procedures

Planning – Meeting held on December 12, 2022; Storage container discussion; Residential solar zoning reviewed

County - Commissioner Hanson gave various updates on County business; The Board thanked Commissioner Hanson for his many years of dedicated service and congratulated him on his retirement; Tina Leary introduced herself as the new Commissioner

Sheriff – 35 calls received for the month of November

Fire Board/Quick Response – New truck payment; Fire Hall damage; Special thank you to Bud Makay for his help with building repairs; Pumper truck pump test

Assessor – Board of review organizational meeting held on December 13, 2022; Tax increase

Grange Hall – The Grange Hall has been winterized and closed

Roads- CR 681 road repair project; Culvert inspections; 5-year plan projects; Tree trimming; Call dispatch at 269-674-8011 for weather related issues and downed trees or Supervisor Druskovich at 269-423-7866

Senior Services – The Board is discussing options to combine with other Townships to make a strong program for our residents

Conservation District – Kyle Mead was awarded a national award for top 40 under 40; Applying for grants; Education a top priority in 2023; Contact the Conservation District at 269-657-4030 ext. 5 for information on available programs and resources for our area

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Conway, second by Makay, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk