

Hamilton Township Board
March 08, 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 nine guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

- a) Senior Services presentation – James Abshagen and Bill Lawson spoke about Senior Services of Van Buren County and are requesting an 8-year, 1 mill millage be placed on the August ballot to secure a plan to accomplish building a second facility and adding much needed additions to their programing.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Additions: Consent Agenda: e) Commercial Driveway Permit Reminder

4. Approval of Agenda

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

The Board moved items i) Snow Removal contract and j) Grounds maintenance contract up in the discussion. Supervisor Druskovich asked for nominations for a temporary chairperson.

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to open nominations and to nominate Trustee Conway as the temporary chairperson.

Motion carried.

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to close the nominations for a temporary chairperson. Motion carried.

Trustee Conway took control of the meeting at 7:17 p.m. and discussed needing more information to move forward with a decision on the snow removal and grounds maintenance contracts. Trustee Conway opened the floor for a question-and-answer discussion.

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to form a committee to review and discuss the contracts. Motion carried.

A committee was formed comprising of Trustees Makay and Conway and Treasurer Hanson to review and discuss the received contracts. They will make their recommendations to the board. These items will be tabled until the April 2022 meeting. Supervisor Druskovich took back control of the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

5. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the February 8, 2022, meeting minutes as presented.
b) Monthly Budget Report for February - Cash Balances as of 02/28/22: General Fund - \$337,266.56; Road Fund - \$58,752.71; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$14,679.97
c) Payment of Bills
d) Road Commission – Weight restrictions
e) Road Commission - Commercial Driveway Permit Reminder

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Supervisor Druskovich will attend online meetings. Supervisor Druskovich will keep the Board updated as more information is known.
b) **Grange Hall Track** – Discussions to continue.
c) **Hunting on township property** – Town hall meetings have been scheduled for March 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. and March 12, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. to discuss hunting on township property.
d) **Open Field Project** – The Conservation District will present options and prices to move forward with the open field project in April of 2022.
e) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,009 members on the Facebook page. A zoom meeting will be held on April 3, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. Contact Jaime Stone-McEnaney at littlefish664@hotmail.com for more information.
f) **County Website/Township Website** – County website address is www.vanburencountymi.gov. Township website address is www.hamiltontownshipmi.org. Zoning Administrator Bob May is requesting \$1500.00 to have the zoning manual re-written to include the amendments and to be continually updated and added to the website.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to approve the request from Zoning Administrator Bob May to spend up to \$1500.00 to complete the updates to the zoning manual. Motion carried.

- g) **Covid Relief funds - ARPA** – First half of covid funds have been received. Acceptable uses for the funds are still being discussed. Budgets need to be discussed and completed.
- h) **Sexton** – David Wiles will continue as sexton. Duties as the Sexton will be discussed, and the contract will be completed.
- i) **Snow Removal contract** – Tabled until the April 2022 meeting.
- j) **Grounds maintenance contract** – Tabled until the April 2022 meeting.
- k) **Board of Review meeting dates** – The Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times. Tuesday March 8, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – Organizational Meeting, Monday March 14, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., and Wednesday March 16, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Appointments are required.
- l) **Docks – Lake of the Woods enforcement** – Discussion on dock enforcement. Residents were reminded that only four watercraft per dock are allowed on Lake of the Woods and only one dock per fifty feet of frontage is allowed. Illegal docks are enforced by EGLE at 269-567-3609, Derek Haroldson or supervising director 269-568-2681, Kyle Alexander. Number of watercrafts is enforced by Hamilton Township Zoning Officer Bob May @ bobmay0409@gmail.com

7. **New Business**

- a) **Jay Newell resignation from the Planning Commission** – There is an open position for the Planning Commission. If interested, please contact Supervisor Druskovich by calling him at his office 269-423-7866 or stopping by his office to discuss qualifications.
- b) **Sponge moth – spray options** – There is a spray program available. Discussions will continue to determine if spraying in Hamilton Township will be completed.
- c) **Bridge 215 resolution** – The Hamilton Township Board has received a request from the Van Buren County Road Commission to support its application for Local Bridge Funding for preventative maintenance to the bridge that carries CR 215 over the Dowagiac Drain in Hamilton Township in 2025.

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to adopt the Van Buren County Road Commission CR 215 Bridge resolution. Roll Call vote: Conway – Yes; Hanson – Yes; Mott – Yes; Makay – Yes; Druskovich – Yes. Motion carried.

- d) **Van Buren County Historical Society & Museum – County Poorhouse** – The Van Buren County Historical Society & Museum is asking for donations to support the continuing work they do to preserve the history of Van Buren County. Tabled until the April 2022 meeting.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – Hunter's meetings; Cap collection to make benches; Road tour; Parks tour; Dock research with EGLE

Treasurer – Tax collections to date

Clerk - Nothing to report

County - Commissioner Hanson gave various updates on county business

Sheriff – Deputy Torres – 11 calls for February 2022

Fire Board/Quick Response – New remote control kiddie fire truck for fire safety education; Thank you to Special Lite for door replacement; Grass rig maintenance; Volunteer training and requirements; Currently 44 members

Roads- Road tour; Reviewed three handouts: 1. Hamilton Township Roads Funding and Projects 2022, 2. Adjusted 2022 Seal Coat Pricing and 3. 2022 DeBerming Pricing

Conservation District- Open field presentation scheduled for April; Call the Conservation District if you need invasive weeds identified; Food Guide for festivals; Educational school field trips; Farming for the Future meeting

Zoning – Wedding venue zoning discussion; Solar zoning ordinance for residents; Stein Property discussion

9. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Conway, second by Hanson, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk