

Hamilton Township Board
January 10, 2023
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 thirteen guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

- a) Safebuilt presentation – Kellie Lindsey and Ted Hanson from Safebuilt presented options for building and electrical inspection services.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to start the process with Safebuilt for building and electrical inspection services. Motion carried.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the December 13, 2022, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for December - Cash Balances as of 12/31/22: General Fund - \$270,589.44; Road Fund - \$43,172.71; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$1,928.40.
- c) Payment of Bills
- d) Egle Notice – violation - seawall

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Supervisor Druskovich reviewed paperwork regarding flood plain insurance.
- b) **Open Field Project** – Tabled for the winter.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,267 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 April 2023. If interested, please contact Jaime Stone-McEnaney at nw49045@outlook.com for more information.
- d) **Covid relief funds – ARPA** – Options for spending the money are being discussed and a budget is being made.
- e) **Broadband Mapping** – Mapping has been completed. Hamilton Township has 59 houses that are still in need of internet services. Funding options are being discussed. Grants may be available.
- f) **Building inspector** – Safebuilt Inspection Services presented options to the Township Board.
- g) **Electrical inspector** – Safebuilt Inspection Services presented options to the Township Board.
- h) **Savion Solar Project Update** – Southwest Michigan Solar Project PA 116 Agreement Solar Amendment was signed and sent back to Southwest Michigan Solar Project, LLC. Special Use paperwork will be signed and sent back to Southwest Michigan Solar Project LLC.
- i) **Electrical updates** - New indoor and outdoor lighting is in the process of being installed.
- j) **Senior Services** – Gary Schanz from Paw Paw Senior Services presented options for Hamilton Township and their residents to join their senior services program.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve Hamilton Township joining the Paw Paw Senior Services Program. Motion carried.

7. New Business

- a) **FOIA update** – The Townships attorney has updated the Townships FOIA policy.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the Townships updated FOIA policy. Motion carried.

- b) **Road Millage** – 1.0 mill was assessed on the winter taxes instead of the approved 2.0 mills. The county approved the assessment of the remaining 1.0 mill on the summer taxes.
- c) **HVAC updates** – Field Plumbing and Heating inspected the hall and gave an estimate to get the Township Halls heating and cooling system working correctly and effectively. Supervisor Druskovich presented the options to the Board.

Motion by Hanson, second by Makay, to approve the estimate up to \$28,000 from Field Plumbing and Heating for the needed upgrades and repairs at the Township Hall. Motion carried.

- d) **Road Allocations** – The formula that the Van Buren County Road Commission uses to determine the Townships revenue sharing has changed slightly.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to approve the new Van Buren County Road allotment schedule. Motion carried.

- e) **Assessor Review** – The Board reviewed a policy from the Assessor's office regarding personal property tax review and small business tax exemption and a proposal from Appraisals Plus Group LLC. for a parcel review schedule.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the policy from the Assessor's office regarding personal property tax review and small business tax exemption. Motion carried.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the parcel review schedule from Appraisals Plus Group LLC. for Hamilton Township at 20% per year for the next five years. Motion carried.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – Thank you to the Road Commission for blizzard clean up, please stay off the roads in bad weather; Road allocations; Road millage; Safebuilt considerations; Township Hall electrical updates; Furnace updates

Treasurer – 95% of summer taxes have been collected, 35% of winter taxes collected

Clerk – FOIA completed

Zoning – Storage container discussion, please see notice in paper for clarification

Planning – Nothing to report

County – Commissioner Leary was absent but sent an email for the Board to review; Organizational meeting will be held to select chair and vice chair and get committee assignments; Room named after Commissioner Hanson

Sheriff – 29 calls received for the month of December

Fire Board/Quick Response – New QR vehicle; Calls for assistance during the blizzard; Truck payment due; QR building repairs

Grange Hall – The Grange Hall has been winterized and closed; Rental scheduled for April 2023

Roads - Call dispatch at 269-674-8011 for weather related issues and downed trees or Supervisor Druskovich at 269-423-7866

Senior Services – Hamilton Township will partner with the Paw Paw Senior Services Program

Conservation District – Training; Applying for grants; Looking for more building space; 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 8:15 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk