

Hamilton Township Board
June 13, 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 Karen Makay and Richard Conway. There were nine guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

None.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

New Business: i) L-4029 – Tax Rate Request

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 May 09, 2023, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for May - Cash Balances as of 05/31/23: General Fund - \$324,260.87; Road Fund - \$5,747.00; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$18,631.15.
- c) Payment of Bills

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Nothing to report.
- b) **Open Field Project** – The field has been mowed.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,368 members on the Facebook page. The Facebook page can be found under: Van Buren County Neighborhood Watch-Decatur/Hamilton Twp. Jaime is looking for volunteers to help with upkeep of the Facebook page and meetings. If interested, please contact Jaime Stone-McEnaney at nw49045@outlook.com for more information.
- d) **Covid relief funds – ARPA** – Nothing to report.
- e) **Broadband Mapping & Update** – Looking into grant options. It's a possibility to have all homes that want broadband completed by next year.
- f) **Safe Built Update** – The Townships Attorney will continue working with Safe Built to ensure everything is completed correctly and timely. This project could possibly take another six to nine months to complete.
- g) **Budget** – The Townships budget meeting and public hearing will be held on June 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hamilton Township Hall.
- h) **Storage Containers** – The Board discussed the ordinance on portable storage containers and determined more research will need to be completed and the Townships Attorney will be need to be consulted on how best to move forward. The Planning Commission will follow up.

7. New Business

- a) **Budget Hearing** – The Townships budget meeting and public hearing will be held on June 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hamilton Township Hall.

- b) **MTA dues** – The Michigan Township Associations membership renewal for the Township is due.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to renew the MTA membership for another year. Motion carried.

- c) **Buoys stipend** – Highs Marine has installed buoys on Lake of the Woods.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to approve payment to Highs Marine for the installation of buoys on Lake of the Woods. Motion carried.

- d) **Fireworks** – The Township will make its annual donation to the Village of Decatur for the 4th of July fireworks show.

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to approve the donation to the Village of Decatur 4th of July fireworks show. Motion carried.

- e) **Fire Dept & QR Budgets** – There will be a public hearing scheduled to discuss the Special Assessment District Fire Dept and QR Budgets.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the Fire Dept and QR Budgets as presented. Motion carried.

- f) **47th Street easement** – The public easement at the end of 47th street has been blocked by a firepit. The residents in that area will be notified that is a public easement and is not to be blocked by anything.
- g) **Comcast Franchise Agreement** – The Board reviewed the Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement from Comcast.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement from Comcast. Roll Call: Hanson – Yes, Mott – Yes, Makay – Yes, Conway – Yes, Druskovich – Yes. Motion carried.

- h) **Weed Control Issue LOW** – Supervisor Druskovich received complaints regarding a weed treatment completed by PLM Lake and Land Management Corp that resulted in dead fish and weeds washing ashore and creating issues on certain lake channels. Supervisor Druskovich has been in contact with PLM and will continue to investigate why this occurred.
- i) **L-4029 – Tax Rate Request** – The Board reviewed Hamilton Townships tax rate request. It will be signed and sent back to the County.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – Territorial Road paving updates; Wetlands violation; Dust control applications; Road Commission Annual Report is available online for review; Open field mowing

Treasurer – Summer tax bills will be mailed out in July

Clerk – Township budget

Sheriff – 25 calls for May

Zoning – Three zoning permits issued; Three pending permits; Zoning issues on M-51, 47th St, and 55th St; Blight issues

Planning – Shipping Container discussion; Residential Solar plan approved and will be reviewed by the Board at the next meeting

County Commissioner – Tina Leary – New County Administrator; The court received a grant to train library employees on how to assist residents with online forms and to field any questions that may come up

Fire Board/Quick Response – Full time QR employee working out well; Fire truck to be completed by the end of the year; Please get burning permits and no burning during the no burn times; Budget hearing for tax levies

Grange Hall – Dances will be held on October 07, 2023, and November 4, 2023; Looking into air conditioning; Electrical repairs and updates; Wedding scheduled for 2024

Sexton – Thefts of property; Trash left; Please don't leave trash behind and please be respectful of peoples loved ones and property; The cemetery will be patrolled more frequently by the VBCO sheriff's office

Assessor – The parcel review for the Township will begin in July; letters have been mailed to residents

Roads- Territorial Road project nearing completion; Red Arrow Hwy road work; Call dispatch at 269-674-8011 for weather related issues and downed trees or Supervisor Druskovich at 269-423-7866

Senior Services – Hamilton Township has partnered with the Paw Paw and Lawrence Townships Senior Citizen Programs; Visit <https://hamiltontownshipmi.org> for more information.

Conservation District – Annual Meeting being held on July 26th, 2023 starting at 5:30 at the Michigan Flywheelers Museum; Summer education Programs; Millage; 16 grants awarded; Hazardous waste collections; Contact the Conservation District at 269-657-4030 ext. 5 or visit their Facebook page at: Van Buren Conservation District 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 7:53 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk