

Hamilton Township Board
October 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 Karen Makay and Richard Conway. There were ten guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

Jim Raffae commented on the growing number of marijuana businesses in Decatur.
Senior Services Presentation by Paw Paw Senior Services.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

New Business c) Appointment of Election Inspectors d) Appointment of Receiving Board e) Election Inspector and Receiving Board Wages

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 September 12, 2023, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for September - Cash Balances as of 09/30/23: General Fund - \$266,921.93; Road Fund - \$52,875.01; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$185.52.
- c) Payment of Bills

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Nothing to report.
- b) **Open Field Project** – Everything is looking good and will continue to be monitored for what needs to be done in the future.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,400 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) **Broadband Mapping & Update** – Nothing to report.
- e) **Safe Built Update** – The Townships Attorney will continue working with Safe Built to ensure everything is completed correctly and timely. This project could take another six to nine months to complete.
- f) **Small Solar Ordinance** – Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve Ordinance No. 01/10-11-23, An Ordinance to add additional definitions related to solar energy; to add small solar energy facility as either an accessory or principal use in certain zoning classifications; to establish whether such use is a permitted use or a special land use; to establish parameters of accessory use and primary use small scale solar energy facilities; to set forth parameters for consideration by the planning commission; to provide for an effective date of the amendment; and to repeal all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict therewith. Roll Call: Conway – Yes, Hanson – Yes, Mott – Yes, Makay – Yes, Druskovich – Yes. Motion carried. (A copy of the ordinance is attached and made a part of these minutes.) The ordinance will become effective thirty days from the date of publication in the Decatur Republican.
- g) **Fire/Burnt House 86th Ave** – Nothing new to report.

7. New Business

- a) **Fire Truck Donation Van Buren ISD Program** – Decatur Hamilton Fire Department has offered to donate an old pumper truck to the Van Buren ISD Tech program.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay, to donate the old pumper truck to the Van Buren ISD Tech program. Motion carried.

- b) **Masterplan Update** – The Board discussed the 5-year Masterplan update contract from Marcy Hamilton of the SWMPC. Motion by Hanson, second by Makay, to approve the 5-year Masterplan update contract from SWMPC. Motion carried.

c) **Appointment of Election Inspectors** – The Election Committee meeting was held at 6:45 p.m. before the regular scheduled meeting.

Motion by Hanson, second by Conway, to approve the appointment of Election Inspectors for the November 7, 2023, special election. Motion carried.

d) **Appointment of Receiving Board** –

Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the appointment of the Receiving Board for the November 7, 2023, special election. Motion carried.

e) **Election Inspector and Receiving Board Wages** –

Motion by Hanson, second by Conway to approve the Election Inspector and Receiving Board wages at \$16.00/hr. and \$17.00/hr. for the Chair. Motion carried.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – House Bills 5120, 5121, 5122, and 5123, which would eliminate local control over siting and permitting for utility-scale renewable energy facilities were discussed; Road issues with CR 215 at the bridge; Fog sealing; Fire Truck donation; Road Commission meeting

Treasurer – 92% of summer taxes collected so far

Clerk – Election preparations

Planning Commission – Nothing to report

Zoning – 47th St trailer discussed; 86th Ave pole barn discussed; 4 permits issued

Fire Board/Quick Response – New truck should arrive on schedule; QR doing a great job with calls

Grange Hall – Rentals; Dances will be held on October 07, 2023, and November 4, 2023; Air handler update; Electrical work needed

Roads- Fog sealing; Annual meeting will be held on Wednesday October 18, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.; 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; Having a good turnout for dinners and activities; Visit <https://hamiltontownshipmi.org> for more information.

Conservation District – Emily Hickmott spoke about invasive species control; Recycle Roundup will be held on Saturday October 14, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Conference Center in Lawrence; Collections discussions; 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 Hanson, second by Conway, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk