

Hamilton Township Board
November 14, 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

None.

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 October 10, 2023, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for October - Cash Balances as of 10/31/23: General Fund - \$274,408.59; Road Fund - \$54,646.23; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$185.53.
- c) Payment of Bills
- d) Indiana-Michigan Power Meeting November 16, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Nothing new 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. The field has been verified with the MAEAP program with the Conservation District.
- 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 new 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 and Vote** – Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve Ordinance No. 01/11-14-23, 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) **Bids 47th Street Lot Clean up** – Bids will be obtained for the clean up of a lot located on 47th Street.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay to allow Supervisor Druskovich to approve a bid to clean up the 47th Street lot up to \$12,000.00. Motion carried.

- b) **December BOR Meeting** – The Board of Review will convene at the Township Office on December 12, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to correct any clerical error or mutual mistake of fact relative to the 2022 & 2023

Assessment roll. The BOR will also have authority to act upon qualified Agricultural, Veteran's Exemptions and Poverty Exemption Affidavits.

c) **Paw Paw Senior Services Contract** – The contract with Paw Paw Senior Services is up for renewal.

Motion by Makay, second by Conway to approve the Paw Paw Senior Services Contract renewal for 2024 in the amount of \$7000.00. Motion carried.

d) **Repair – Water System at the Township Hall** – The water system needs some upgrades and repairs. Field Plumbing and Heating Inc. has provided the Board with an estimated cost.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay to approve the estimate received by Field Plumbing and Heating Inc. up to \$3000.00. Motion carried.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – 86th Ave property issues; VBCD tree grant; Road issue on CR 215 S & 92nd Ave, will possibly have warning signs installed; VBC Road Commission road study

Treasurer – Winter Tax bills to go out in December

Clerk – Special School Election turnout discussed

Planning Commission – Nothing to report

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

Sherriff – 21 calls for October; Concerns with speeding on CR 352; Thefts continue to rise, install cameras

VBC Commissioner – Leary – Veterans Day Celebration hosted by MSU Ext; Veterans Services program year end report

Fire Board/Quick Response – New truck should arrive on schedule; QR doing a great job with calls; Old pumper truck being donated to VBISD; Fire Board officers up for re-election in July 2024

Grange Hall – Rentals; Good turn out for the dances

Roads- Fog sealing; Chip sealing; Dust control; New roof on salt buildings; Annual meeting was 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 – Approval for six new grants; Two full time invasive species specialists on staff; MAEAP Program; 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 7:50 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk