

**Hamilton Township Board**  
**December 12, 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: c) Hamilton Township Road Millage Renewal

**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 November 14, 2023, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for November - Cash Balances as of 11/30/23: General Fund - \$251,275.78; Road Fund - \$55,919.41; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$185.54.
- c) Payment of Bills

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

**6. Old Business**

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Online meetings being held in January and February 2024.
- b) **Open Field Project** – Nothing new for the rest of the winter. Will be revisited in the spring. The VBCD will continue to monitor to see how best to move forward.
- 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](mailto:nw49045@outlook.com) for more information.
- d) **Broadband Mapping & Update** – Work has begun on this project. A completion date has not been determined.
- e) **Safe Built Update** – The Townships Attorney will continue to work with Safe Built to ensure everything is completed correctly and timely. This project will continue to be reviewed by the Board in the coming months at which point the Township might need to look at different options.
- f) **Solar Update** – Supervisor Druskovich has been receiving information and guidance from the Michigan Township Association as to how to move forward now that the state has gained control. The Townships Attorney will review the Townships ordinances to ensure the Township has a compatible renewable energy ordinance with the state. More information will be discussed as it becomes available.
- g) **Fire/Burnt House 86<sup>th</sup> Ave** – A dumpster is on the property. A citation will be issued and there will be so many days for the clean up to be completed.
- h) **47<sup>th</sup> Street Lot Cleanup Update** - Kusmack Excavating has begun cleanup and should be completed within a few days.
- i) **Master Plan Update** – The Master Plan is a guidance tool for what ifs in the future. The Master Plan will be reviewed and updated as needed. Maps will be updated.

**7. New Business**

- a) **AED Disposal – DHFD & QR** – The DHFD & QR will be receiving new AED devices. They would like to donate the retired AED devices to the Village of Decatur to be placed where they deem necessary.

Motion by Conway, second by Makay to donate the retired AED devices to the Village of Decatur. Motion carried.

- b) **Update for Infrastructure/Recycling Grant** – Hamilton Township, Village of Decatur and Decatur Township have been awarded the 2023 Recycling Infrastructure Grant for a new transfer station through the Van Buren Conservation District. The VBCD has received signed contracts from EGLE and the work can now begin.

- c) **Hamilton Township Road Millage Renewal** – The Township has a road millage that will expire at the end of 2023. This road millage will be placed on the August 2024 ballot.

## 8. **Reports**

**Supervisor** – MTA discussion: State control of solar and wind; Road meeting attended; CR 215 bridge issues; Veterans fundraiser attended

**Treasurer** – Winter tax collection on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

**Clerk** – Nothing to report

**Planning Commission** – Master Plan updates; Discussions on size restrictions for pole barns; Storage container discussions

**Zoning** – 47<sup>th</sup> St trailer discussed; 2 demo permits issued

**Sherriff** – 37 calls for November; Thefts continue to rise, install cameras

**VBC Commissioner – Leary** – The Van Buren County Legal Self-Help Center Network has partnered with 11 local libraries to offer help to residents. The Michigan Legal Help website contains free, easy to understand information on common legal issues. . The website can be found under MichiganLegalHelp.org or AyudaLegaldeMichigan.org

**Fire Board/Quick Response** – New truck should arrive on schedule; QR doing a great job with calls; Thank you to the DHFD and QR with their fast response to the recent bomb threats at the school

**Grange Hall** – Closed up for the winter

**Sexton** – The cemetery grounds are harder to maintain in the winter. Please have patience with ground maintenance being completed as warmer weather allows.

**Assessor** – Annual roll review is 20% complete, will continue in 2024; Tax raise expected from the State

**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 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** – Grant work continues; Invasive species discussion; Wast management plan; Millage renewal; 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 7:54 p.m.

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Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk