

Hamilton Township Board
February 13, 2024
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 eleven guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

Jacob with the Van Buren Conservation District spoke about upcoming events including Community Dump Day which will be held on Saturday April 27, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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 January 13, 2024, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for January - Cash Balances as of 01/31/24: General Fund - \$270,357.99; Road Fund - \$55,550.09; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$7,885.67.
- c) Payment of Bills
- d) Egle Notice
- e) BOR March Dates

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – The Board received a notice from FEMA with Preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Van Buren County to review.
- b) **Open Field Project** – The Van Buren Conservation District will continue to monitor the field to determine the next steps.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,414 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 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 86th Ave** – Zoning requirements will need to be met before any new structures will be permitted on the property.
- h) **47th Street Lot Cleanup Update** – Clean-up is complete. A lien has been placed on the property.
- 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. Still a work in progress. A joint public hearing between Decatur and Hamilton Townships and the Village of Decatur is being discussed.
- j) **Infrastructure/Recycling Update** – More information will be discussed as it becomes available regarding the recycling transfer station.

7. **New Business**

- a) **Bathroom Repair** – Repairs were needed on the men’s bathroom and have been completed.
- b) **Election Inspectors Appointments** - The Election Committee meeting was held on January 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Motion by Hanson, second by Conway, to approve the appointment of Election Inspectors for the February 27, 2024, Presidential Primary election. Makay abstained. Motion carried.
- c) **Receiving Board Appointments** – Motion by Makay, second by Conway, to approve the appointment of the Receiving Board for the February 27, 2024, Presidential Primary election. Motion carried.
- d) **Election Inspector and Receiving Board Pay** – 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 for the February 27, 2024, Presidential Primary election. Makay abstained. Motion carried.
- e) **Draft Zoning for Shipping Containers & Accessory Building Limits for Residential Property** – The Board will review the draft zoning for shipping containers & accessory building limits for residential property.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – VBC Road Commission road tour scheduled for March 20, 2024; CR 352 scheduled tree removal project; Masterplan update meetings

Treasurer – Winter tax collection on February 28th and 29th 2024; 91% of taxes collected

Clerk – Election preparations for the February 27, 2024, Presidential Primary; Early voting information

Planning Commission – Citizens planning classes will be attended in March and April 2024; Planning meeting scheduled for March 11, 2024

Sherriff – 21 calls for January; Thefts continue to rise, install cameras

VBC Commissioner – **Leary** – Early Voting information; Veterans Services Dental Programs; Community Mental Health Board vacancies

Fire Board/Quick Response – New truck should arrive on schedule; QR doing a great job with calls; A big thank you to Terry Burns for all his dedicated years of service

Grange Hall – Closed up for the winter; Lighting updates; Air handler estimate

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

Assessor – BOR meetings in March; State tax increase; Homestead qualifications; Parcel reviews for 2024

Roads- Boom mowing discussion; Ditching; Tree removal projects; 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 – Material Management Plan; Infrastructure/Recycling grant; Community Dump Day; 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 7:42 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk