

Hamilton Township Board
May 14, 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 Trustee Richard Conway. Trustee Makay was excused. 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 Hanson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the April 09, 2024, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for April - Cash Balances as of 04/30/24: General Fund - \$310,686.78; Road Fund - \$117,172.94; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$11,399.84.
- c) Payment of Bills

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Classes will be offered in June 2024.
- b) **Open Field Project** – A burn on the property is not needed at this time. Trail sketches and oak pod prices will be presented to the Board soon.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,434 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. Tentative dates for self-defense classes are May 19, June 23, July 21, and August 11, 2024. If interested, please contact Jaime Stone-McEnaney at nw49045@outlook.com for more information.
- d) **Broadband Mapping & Update** – On schedule for completion in 2025.
- 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** – Nothing new to report.
- g) **Fire/Burnt House 86th Ave Update** – Zoning requirements will need to be met before any new structures will be permitted on the property. No permits have been issued at this time.
- h) **Draft Zoning for Shipping Containers & Accessory Building Limits** – Updates will be completed and then sent back to the Planning Commission for review and then back to the Board.

7. New Business

- a) **VBCD Recycling Program** – The Board reviewed the 2024 Van Buren County Resource Recovery & Recycling Program Contract.

Motion by Hanson, second by Conway, to contribute \$500.00 to the program. Motion carried.

- b) **Lawrence Senior Services - \$7,000.00** – The Board discussed continuing their partnership with Lawrence Senior Services.

Motion by Hanson, second by Conway, to continue the Townships partnership with Lawrence Senior Services in the amount of \$7,000.00. Motion carried.

- c) **County ORV Ordinance** – The Board reviewed the County wide ORV Ordinance. The Township needs to opt in or out by May 31, 2024.

Motion by Hanson, second by Conway, to opt in to the County wide ORV Ordinance with the option to change designated roads by a resolution. Motion carried.

- d) **Consumer's Energy Franchise Agreement** – The Board was given the Consumers Energy Company Gas Franchise Ordinance for review. It will be added on June's agenda for discussion.
- e) **Culvert 55th Street** – The Van Buren County Road Commission completed work on 55th Street replacing/installing a cross pipe.
- f) **Naloxone Kits** – The Township received a naloxone kit from the VBISD Emergency Management to be installed at the hall in case of an accidental drug overdose. It will be installed next to the AED.
- g) **MSU Ext Zoning Survey** – This is a survey regarding the use of open spaces. The Board discussed the options that are available to help with land preservation.
- h) **VB County Mitigation Update** – The Board discussed the email regarding the Van Buren County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Local municipalities that wish to remain eligible for hazard mitigation project funding from the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program must participate in the update of the plan. Supervisor Druskovich will respond with our acceptance of the plan and the counties rankings.

Motion by Conway, second by Hanson, to respond with our acceptance to the updated plan and the counties rankings. Motion carried.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – Land preservation work; Solar update call with the State; Property concerns on 56th ST; Haydens Woods – no trespassing and no 4 wheelers are allowed.

Treasurer – Nothing to report

Clerk – Budget prep; May 7, 2024 election

Zoning – Zoning permits issued; 55th ST property issues; CR 215 illegal structures;

Planning Commission – Citizens planning classes attended; By-Law discussion; 10-year Master Plan

Sherriff – Thefts continue to rise, install cameras

Fire Board/Quick Response – New truck has arrived, needs a little work; QR doing a great job with calls; Bids for old ambulance being taken; May 7th tornado calls; Thank you to Nettie's Cafe for opening up to feed the volunteers

Grange Hall – Rentals for 2024 scheduled

Assessor – Parcel reviews for 2024 will soon start

Commissioner – Parks and Recreation committee; Contract signed for Materials Management Plan; Van Buren Historical Museum reopening; GIS transitioning to Digital Information Specialist Department; Old plat maps added to county website

Roads- Tree removal projects; Road Millage Proposal; 5 yr. plan; Seal coating; Road side mowing; 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 – Community Dump Day; Millage Renewals; Grant for invasive species control; Tree 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 Hanson, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk