

**Hamilton Township Board**  
**June 11, 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 Trustee Conway. Also Present: Clerk Rebecca Mott, Treasurer Sandra Hanson, and Trustee Karen Makay. Supervisor Druskovich was excused. There were 25 guests present.

**2. Limited Public Comments**

The following residents of Hamilton Township commented on their concerns about vacation rentals/Airbnb's in the area. Sharon Burke, John Burke, Dave Dvorak, John Bakker, Danielle Smith, Diane Kreykes, Ruth Matkaitis, George Kreykes, and Deana Cousineau. James Raffe commented on the burnt house on 86<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

Addition: g) L-4029 Tax Rate Request

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**5. Consent Agenda**

- a) Approval of the May 14, 2024, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for May - Cash Balances as of 05/31/24: General Fund - \$293,406.66; Road Fund - \$117,177.92; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$11,400.32.
- c) Payment of Bills

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

**6. Old Business**

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - meetings** – Nothing new.
- b) **Open Field Project** – Noting new.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1,444 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 June 23, July 21, and August 11, 2024. If interested, please contact Jaime Stone-McEnaney at [nw49045@outlook.com](mailto: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.
- g) **Fire/Burnt House 86<sup>th</sup> Ave Update** – Time has elapsed for the issue to be resolved and the Townships lawyer will be contacted for the next steps needed.
- h) **Draft Zoning for Shipping Containers & Accessory Building Limits** – There will be a public hearing held on July 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
- i) **Consumer's Energy Franchise Agreement** – The Board will review the agreement and discuss it further at the July 2024 regular meeting.

**7. New Business**

- a) **2024-2025 Budget** – The public budget hearing is scheduled for June 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
- b) **VB County Road Commission Resolution** – The Board reviewed the Van Buren County County wide road millage renewal resolution for Hamilton Township.

Motion by Hanson, second by Makay to sign the resolution and show our support for the County wide road millage renewal. Motion carried.

- c) **QR & FD Budget Approvals** – The Board reviewed the QR & FD budgets.

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to approve the proposed budgets as presented. Motion carried.

- d) **QR & FD Annual Meeting and Public Budget Hearing** – The QR & FD's annual meeting and public budget hearing will be held on June 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the fire hall.
- e) **MTA Dues** – The Board reviewed the annual membership renewal for the Michigan Township Association.  
Motion by Makay, second by Hanson to renew the annual membership with the Michigan Township Association. Motion carried.
- f) **Joint Recreation Plan Update Proposal** – The Board reviewed the Decatur Village and Township, Hamilton Township Recreation Plan Update Proposal from the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission.
- g) **2024 Tax Rate Request** – The Board reviewed the 2024 Tax Rate Request received from the County. It will be on the budget meeting agenda to be held on June 25, 2024.

## 8. **Reports**

**Supervisor** – Mowing and deberming concerns; Culvert on 55<sup>th</sup> ST working well; CR 215 bridge concerns; Burnt house on 86<sup>th</sup> Ave

**Treasurer** – Summer tax bills going out

**Clerk** – Budget prep; August 06, 2024, election

**Zoning** – Zoning issues; CR 215 illegal structures;

**Planning Commission** – Storage container discussions; Cell tower to be installed on M-51; Short term rentals

**Sherriff** – 32 calls last month; Thefts continue to rise, install cameras

**Fire Board/Quick Response** – New truck updates needed; QR doing a great job with calls; Proposed budget hearing

**Grange Hall** – Rentals for 2024 scheduled

**Assessor** – Parcel reviews for 2024 have started

**Commissioner** – August ballot millage renewals; MSU ext. moving to the Human Services building in Hartford; Early Voting for the August Election; Veterans Services grant money increased for dental program

**Roads**- Road Millage Proposal public meetings to be held on June 20, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Conference Center in Lawrence; Chip sealing; Roadside 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** – Recycle Roundup scheduled for June 15, 2024, in Paw Paw; 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 Makay, second by Hanson, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk