

Hamilton Township Board
November 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 Supervisor Druskovich. Also Present: Clerk Rebecca Mott, Treasurer Sandra Hanson, and Trustee Karen Makay. Trustee Richard Conway was excused. There were fourteen guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

James Raffae commended Supervisor Druskovich on his many years of service to Hamilton Township.
Lyn Boitnott commented on a property issue on M-51.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the October 08, 2024, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for October - Cash Balances as of 010/31/24: General Fund - \$283,490.28; Road Fund - \$87,161.12; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$39.81.
- 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 - Notice** – Trustee Conway attended a meeting and he will have a discussion at the next meeting if there are any items of interest.
- b) **Open Field Project** – Nothing new to report.
- c) **Neighborhood Watch** – Currently 1.5k 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** – On schedule for completion in 2025.
- e) **BOR Date Change** – The BOR will meet on December 12, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
- f) **Solar Update** – Nothing new to report.
- g) **Fire/Burnt House 86th Ave Update** – The foundation is still on the property. The Townships attorney will be sending out a final notice to the property owner to comply.
- h) **Master Plan Update** – Still out for comment.
- i) **Joint Recreation Plan Update** – Still out for comment.
- j) **Short Term Rental** – According to the information received from the State, STRs are not allowed. The Township will consult our attorney and Michigan Township Association on how to move forward.
- k) **Officer Time Increase** – Nothing new to report.
- l) **Blight Property 55th & CR 352** – There is still a camper located on the property. The Townships attorney will be contacted on how best to move forward.
- m) **M-51 Property – Blight – Failure to Comply** – The Townships attorney will be contacted on how best to move forward.

7. New Business

- a) **Planning Commission Appointments** – The Planning Commission appointments will be on the agenda for December for review.
- b) **Grande Hall – Painting** – A bid to paint the outside of the Grange Hall has been received. This item will be on the agenda for December for discussion.

- c) **Zoning Conflict – Celery Center** – The Board reviewed an email from the Townships attorney with location maps and recommendations on how to move forward and a letter from the property owners. This area needs to be re-zoned to the correct district. This item will need to go before the Planning Commission and have a public hearing held. The Townships attorney will continue to work on this matter to ensure everything is completed timely.

8. **Reports**

Supervisor – This is Supervisor Druskovich's last meeting as Supervisor for Hamilton Twp. and we as the Board wish him all the best and want to thank him for his many years of service. He will be missed.

Treasurer – Winter tax bills will be going out soon

Clerk – Audits completed; November Election

Zoning – 2 permits issued; \$250.00 fee for zoning violations is in effect

Sherriff – 22 calls for October; Thefts continue to rise, install cameras

Commissioner – County – Leary – County wide turn-out for the November is election was 70%; MSU Ext. Governing Essentials program; Carla Tackett - Public Defenders Office; Grant rec'd for Paw Paw River water trail access, will be ADA compliant

Fire Board/Quick Response – New truck is close to being completed; QR is doing a great job

Grange Hall – Rentals for 2024 scheduled; Good turnout for the November 2, 2024 dance; WIFI installed; Air conditioning installed

Sexton – Plowing in the cemetery is not allowed, the Township has a contractor to do it.

Assessor – Parcel reviews for 2024 nearing completion

Roads- 3rd round of road side mowing; Paint a plow contest; Reminder: when snow plowing, it is illegal to leave snow in the right of way and across the road; Call 911 or dispatch at 269-674-8011 for weather related issues and downed trees

Senior Services – Hamilton Township partners 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 – Great productive year at the VBCD; 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 7:41 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk