

Hamilton Township Board
December 10, 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 Conway. Also Present: Clerk Rebecca Mott, Treasurer Sandra Hanson, and Trustees Karen Makay and Justin Klein. There were eight guests present.

2. Limited Public Comments

Bob May commented on snow plowing concerns.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Deletion: New Business c) Celery Center Rezone

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 November 12, 2024, meeting minutes as presented.
- b) Monthly Budget Report for November - Cash Balances as of 011/30/24: General Fund - \$262,633.28; Road Fund - \$87,164.58; Lake of the Woods Weed Fund - \$39.81.
- c) Payment of Bills

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

6. Old Business

- a) **NFPI – FEMA - Notice** – Nothing new to report.
- 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) **Solar Update** – Nothing new to report.
- f) **Fire/Burnt House 86th Ave Update** – Demo permit issued for foundation removal.
- g) **Blight Property 55th & CR 352** – The Township will be getting an estimate from True's Towing for removal of all blight on the property.
- h) **M 51 Property – Blight – Failure to Comply** – The lights on the property will be removed and True's Towing will be removing the cars. This project will take time to complete.
- i) **Master Plan Update** – A meeting will be held with the Village of Decatur, Decatur Township and Hamilton Township on January 16, 2025, to finalize.
- j) **Joint Recreation Plan Update** – A meeting will be held with the Village of Decatur, Decatur Township and Hamilton Township on January 16, 2025, to finalize.
- k) **Short Term Rentals** – The Board is waiting on direction from the Townships lawyer on how to proceed.
- l) **Officer Time Increase** – Nothing new to report.
- m) **Zoning Conflict - Celery Center** – A public hearing with the Planning Commission will be held on January 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

7. New Business

- a) **Senior Services Paw Paw \$7,000.00** –

Motion by Makay, second by Hanson, to approve a partnership with Paw Paw Senior Services in the amount of \$7,000.00. Motion carried.

- b) **BOR – ZBA** – There are two open seats for the Board of Review and possibly three open seats for ZBA. These positions will need to be filled. If interested please email hamtwpclerk@gmail.com for more information.

c) **PA 116 Application – Dale Frank** – This application was forwarded to the County and to the Van Buren Conservation District for review and comment and they had no concerns. It will now be sent to the State.
Motion by Mott, second by Hanson, to approve the PA 116 application. Motion carried.

8. Reports

Supervisor – Safe Built discussion

Treasurer – Winter tax bills have been mailed out

Zoning – New cell tower; Amendment for safety pool covers; Zoning map changes

Planning – Short term rentals; Zoning map changes

Sherriff – 18 calls for November; Thefts continue to rise, install cameras; Phone scams on the rise

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

Grange Hall – Rentals for 2025 scheduled

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

Assessor – BOR organizational meeting to be held on December 12, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

Roads- Plowing and tree trimming; Paint a plow contest winner was Gobles Public Schools; 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 – Informational flyers will be included in tax bills; 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 7:52 p.m.

Rebecca Mott, Hamilton Township Clerk