

TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP
3546 S STRAITS HWY, INDIAN RIVER, MI 49749
APRIL 2, 2024 at 7:00 pm
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance by Supervisor Kramer at 7:00 pm.

ITEM 2: The supervisor led the board and public in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 3: ROLL CALL

Present – Supervisor Kramer, Clerk Reidsma, Treasurer Dillaha

Absent -- Trustee Pearson, Trustee Vance

Staff Present: Ron Odenwald

Quorum present – yes

ITEM 4: BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

No conflict of interest offered.

ITEM 5: PUBLIC HEARING ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

S. Snyder – West Burt Lake Boat Launch comments

ITEM 6: APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Approve the Meeting Agenda with addition of Nabanois (9c), removal of Treasurers Report from Consent agenda to meeting agenda(9d), and removal of Sewer Project Bids, phase 1 SAD (10d). Moved by Kramer, seconded by Dillaha.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

Discussion: Dillaha requested to move the Treasurer's report to main agenda as Item 9d.

ITEM 7: PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The floor was open for public comment at 7:05 pm. Closed at 7:05 pm.

No public comments.

ITEM 8: APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items include – Bills Report, Treasurer Report, Minutes, budget adjustments, and reports by: Police, Parks.

MOTION: Move to approve consent agenda as amended (less Treasurers report).

Moved by Kramer, seconded by Dillaha.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote.

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ITEM 9: OLD BUSINESS

ITEM 9a: PROPERTY SALE -- GLOW

MOTION: Move to approve that the Supervisor be assigned to sign-off on all closing documents for the Glow property sale on behalf of the Township.

Moved by Kramer, seconded by Dillaha.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

ITEM 9b: COMMERCIAL REHAB DISTRICT – NORTH STAR

INFORMATION: Jeff Jakeway addressed the Board regarding the establishment of a Commercial Rehabilitation district for his project to rehabilitate property owned by his company adjacent to the North Star Gardens (South of) and the Sturgeon River (North of). He provided an update on timing and estimates that all financials will be available within a couple of weeks for review. He is seeking gap funding from the MEDC for the project to be a sustainable risk. Jeff is requesting the Township to create a Rehabilitation district. This would enable Tax Abatements (if agreed to by the Township), for businesses within the district. The MEDC is requiring tax abatements to grant the gap funding. Jeff estimates the project will bring 27-32 additional jobs to the Township once completed. See board packets and past Meeting Minutes for additional information regarding this proposal. No motions were made at the meeting.

ITEM 9c: NABANOIS SAD

MOTION: Move to proceed with a public hearing to establish a SAD for Nabanois paving project, which had quotes/bids exceeding the original estimate.

Moved by Dillaha, seconded by Reidsma.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: The intention to proceed will enable the Board to engage the affected residents in the decision-making process of proceeding or dropping the project due to the higher costs.

ITEM 9D: TREASURERS REPORT

INFORMATION: Committed to getting reports out on time, whether good, bad, or ugly. Board meetings, like the April 2, 2024, require packets to be sent on Friday (3-29-24), which does not allow time to have Month ending financials complete. Other months, such as May, will not be a problem. In addition, she highlighted an item from the “seven habits of effective controllers” authored by Mr. Bragg. The item, avoiding clean-up work, by following the seven habits is essential because the “clean-up” requires an inordinate amount of time by your most talented people to research the issue, define the problem, it’s cause, and the appropriate accounting solution to reflect reality. Several examples were noted, such as penal fines, cash over & short on tax accounts, eagles nest accounts receivable (\$70-80k on the books without receivables in bank accounts to validate) just to name a few. She noted that trial balances can provide a more complete picture of financial conditions, but one must first validate the data in all of the accounts. The trial balance for Tuscarora, for example, was five pages.

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ITEM 10: NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM 10a: MGD COMMERCE PARK RESOLUTION

MOTION: Move to approve the Resolution to acknowledge Board support for the MGD Commerce Park LLC project.

Moved by Reidsma, seconded by Dillaha.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote from Dillaha, Kramer, & Reidsma.

Discussion: Resolution will be forwarded to the Cheboygan County Planning and Zoning committee to communicate the Board's support for this project within Tuscarora Township's Commerce Park.

ITEM 10b: TOWNSHIP CREDIT CARD

MOTION: Move to have Board approval to evaluate other Credit Card companies compared to Elan with the intentions to change.

Moved by Reidsma, seconded by Dillaha.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

Discussion: Reidsma and Dillaha commented on the most recent problems in paying our Credit Card invoice on-time despite efforts on our part to allow for sufficient processing time and mailing time. Lack of customer service from CNB bank and Elan credit card company requires that we evaluate alternatives.

ITEM 10c: PAY SETTING

MOTION: Move to approve Board of Review (BOR) compensation of \$20/hour.

Moved by Kramer, seconded by Dillaha.

MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

Discussion: The Board meets 2-3 times a year and budgets will accommodate this compensation.

MOTION: Move to approve an hourly compensation for Dennis Reanoud as a Parks employee at \$18/hr.

Moved by Dillaha, seconded by Reidsma.

MOTION CARRIED by a unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: This is an exception to a previous March Board action setting pay range for Parks part-time / seasonal employees at \$16-16.50. Per Doug, Dennis brings experience and is highly recommended.

ITEM 10: PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment began at 7:53 pm. Comments end 8:00 pm.

P. McGinnis – West Burt Lake Boat Launch CIP comments

R. Grandy – Comments on politics in Indian River comparison to National

D. Webb – Sturgeon statue grounds improvements

P. Murdock – Comments on MEDC Grants and Tax Abatement information.

R. Odenwald – Sams.gov completion for DDA

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ITEM 11: BOARD COMMENTS

Three board members commented.

ITEM 12: MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jay Reidsma, Tuscarora Township Clerk