

**Melrose Township Board of Trustees draft minutes
August 9, 2022 7:00pm draft 08/12/22**

Call to order: V. Goodwin called to order at 7:00pm

Present: V. Goodwin, S. Burr, M.P. Goldich, D. Nowland, R. Hissong Berry

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as amended adding assessing contract renewal 2022-2024 and modify Lee Street demo to Township Projects .

Motion: D. Nowland 2nd S. Burr 5/0 approved

Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes of the July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2022 regular meeting as presented.

Motion: M.P. Goldich 2nd S. Burr approved 5/0

Guest – Fire Chief Dennis Howard- Department Policy and Procedure updates

Reported on Fire Department information. One area is the reimbursement for the training required for volunteer department members. The number of hours has increased so the cost to the department has increased. When an individual completes the certification requirements they can use it anywhere in the State of Michigan. A commitment to serve in our department to be reimbursed for the whole time and cost for the course is being explored. Working on updating by-laws.

The new Brush truck plans are being developed. Expect delivery is Spring of 2024.

They have ongoing issues with the radios. They are not working in most areas of the Townships. He reviewed the history and issues of the new system.

There are issues with the supply chain of products and services the department regularly purchase.

Tom's retirement gathering is set for Aug. 27, 2022 at 1:00pm in the Township Hall.

Old Business

- **Sewer Update** – 4th Street is done with connections. The Perkins building is connected to the system and has been billed for sewer tap in fees.
- **Water Update** –
The water system has given notice that water main work will be done on North Shore Drive from Lee St to the Kircher property
- **Cemetery Ordinance update**
Compiling responses from local sextans to develop proposal for ordinance changes.
- **Mettler Lawsuit update**
Attorney communication We have been notified that an appeal has been filed. New attorneys will process this phase of the case.
- **Noise in the village issue**
Attorney's comments were shared with the audience.
The proposed ordinance would be a police power ordinance. That would require law enforcement to enforce it. At a public hearing last year people went on record requesting noise management(ordinance). Char. Co. Sherriff estimated an annual cost of \$100,000. to have an ordinance enforcement officer. Also be prepared to cover the cost of prosecution with each infraction.
Any effort can not be aimed at only one kind of business in an area. It must apply to all in the area, including residences.
Perhaps the Township could start with a resolution that addresses amplified sound outside of a building. Attorney will be asked for an opinion about a resolution.
Board is asked to visit the first draft of the ordinance for September meeting and post it on the website for citizens to view. Another suggestion is that neighbors talk to the business management to work on the noise issue.
- **Smith Street Easement agreement**
Walter Breidstein presented some historical information about the McMaster house that has been in his family for decades. He asked that the township allow enough space to be used so it may be mowed and

maintained. He reminded the Board that when the Township hall was built there was some land involved to have parking room. Has not researched details yet.

The Board will seek attorney opinion about doing a simple permission statement granting use that has revocation ability.

- **Personnel Committee Report-**

Supervisor Goodwin announce that he is resigning as interim zoning administrator effective Aug. 31, 2022.

Discussion was shared.

Board decided to schedule a special board meeting to make decisions about the Zoning Administration Position.

Motion to schedule a special board meeting on August 23, 2022 at 7pm to make a decision on the zoning administrator position.

Motion: M.P. Goldich 2nd R. Hissong Berry approved 5/0

- **Bench request – reply**

B. Peck has reported there are benches in the park that need to be replaced.

Consensus is to accept donations for new benches in the park and on 4th Street road end, that are the same style as the recent new benches. Interested people will be contacted with the information.

- **Atlas Tower reply**

No response is required .

- **T. Mackie replacement**

One person has submitted interest in the position. Supervisor Goodwin will contact them.

He is seeking an accounting firm to do the governmental accounting. Put on September Agenda.

New Business

- **Election Security Grant- fire proof file cabinet**

There is grant money available for security items. At this point the only idea of need would be a fireproof file cabinet to store ballots in. The expense is much greater than the grant allowance.

- **DDA by-law amendment** table to the September meeting.

- **Lake treatment agreement EWM (Eurasian watermilfoil)**

Discussion with support stating agreement should have a time limit and require renewal evaluation.

M.P. Goldich will take to the Lake Association this concern.

- **Township major projects**

Lee Street house demolition is scheduled in late September.

Replacing the sign in front of the Township Hall.

Motion to order the new sign for the Township Hall deleting established 1900 and adding the building address at the price quoted by Wood shop.

Motion: S. Burr 2nd D. Nowland 5/0 approved

The building needs some work, garage doors, boat launch building, looking at a new truck, tractor and other equipment. More details will be coming.

- **Assessing Agreement for 2022-2023**

A new Contract has been received for providing Assessing service by the Up-North Assessing Co.

Motion to approve the new assessing contract with Up North Assessing for 2022-2024 Effective Aug. 1, 2022 with corrections as noted.

- **Eagle Nest Platform Project** A Scout is interested in the project idea of putting up an Eagle nest platform in our park. He has begun researching what this kind of project will require. In the future a presentation will be done for the Board.

- **Election Summary**

The election results were shared. All three millages passed in our Township: Renewing the Fire Op. , Fire Sinking, and one Road millage.

Financial Report

- **General fund reports**

Question about Election Wage Excess due to Char. Em reimbursement.

Motion to accept the financials as presented and pay all bills.

Motion: S. Burr 2nd D. Nowland approved 5/0

- **Sewer fund reports**

Motion to accept the sewer fund financials as presented and pay all bills.

Motion: S. Burr 2nd D. Nowland approved 5/0

Zoning Administrators Report see included report.

Assessors Report Working on the inspection of the required 20% of properties within our Township.

Employee Grounds Report none

Committee Reports

- **Planning Commission**

D. Nowland presented the included minutes. There will be a public hearing on August 22, 2022 for a rezone request.

- **Zoning Board of Appeals**

The ZBA had 2 meeting this past month. They reviewed a height variance and approved the minutes of that meeting.

- **Road Committee** Not much happening right now

- **Park Committee** The poster about the Recreation Plan Survey was distributed and people encouraged to go on line and complete the survey.

- **Fire Department**

Tim LaGasse shared the report included.

- **DDA**

Met on Aug. 3, 2022.

- **Library Board** no meeting in July.

Correspondence

Public Comment Concern with filling the zoning position.

Adjournment 9:35 pm