

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2024 Approved Pat MacLachlan, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Portage Township Board was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Supervisor Reed.

Board members present: Holbrook, McKeage, Reed, Abram and MacLachlan.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion McKeage; second Holbrook to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes

Motion McKeage; second Reed to approve the minutes of the 4/9/24 regular meeting. All ayes

Motion McKeage; support Holbrook to approve the bills as presented. EMS payroll \$17817.75, Library payroll \$2650.00, Township payroll \$11,147.99, General \$47563.92, Fire \$9.34, EMS \$21,295.41, Library \$3,649.13, All ayes

Reports

Treasurer- Written report given to board. **Motion Holbrook, second McKeage to approve and sign the AT&T Metro Fund Permit extension.** All ayes

Trustee Holbrook- Concerns about the school furnace. No update on church property.

Supervisor- Big Lake Dam Authority at large members have been selected. Committee members are: Brandon Wheeler, Corina Clark, Don Reed, Nick Wheeler, Ross Abraham, Kevin Orłowski and Becky Brockman. As of June 1, Recycle will accept household batteries.

EMS- 8 calls. Few applicants from Bay College Job Fair event.

Fire- 1 brush fire. Fire Dept. received an \$8,000 donation from the Kim Bushey estate.

**Motion Holbrook, second MacLachlan to hire Robert Osterhout as a firefighter.**

All ayes.

Library- Grand Opening is next week.

Assessor-2024 tax rolls sent to the state.

Park & Rec- Committee met and would like to contract with EUP Regional Planning to do a survey for the Recreation Plan, cost will be about \$1,500.

Planning-Attending the MSU Citizen Planner class.

Building/Zoning-Building permits are coming in as there is interest in our area.

May 14, 2024

Page 2

### **Action items**

#### **New Business-**

- 1. Motion McKeage, second Abram to hold the 2024 Truth in Taxation/Budget Workshop Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. and the public comment on June 11, 2024 at 6:30 prior to the Township meeting. All ayes**
- 2. Motion Reed, second Holbrook to approve the 2023/24 budget adjustment #3. Includes 3 furnace replacements, new stove and repairs to well. All ayes**
- 3. Motion Reed, second McKeage to rehire Lori Troyer for summer maintenance help, 20 hours per week for 10 weeks. All ayes.**
- 4. Motion Reed; second McKeage to contract with Wilkinson for summer 2024 dust control. All ayes**
- 5. Steve Anabal shared information about a proposal to improve the tennis /pickle ball court area, creating 5 pickle ball courts. Discussion**
- 6. Township Recreation committee recommends the proposed Pickle ball/tennis court improvements. Also, would like to have Regional Planning assist committee with public input survey.**
- 7. Motion Reed; second Abram to buyback 20 cemetery plots from the Strefkirk family. All ayes**
- 8. Motion Reed; second McKeage to hire Kate Allen, Destiny Handrich and Steven Burton as EMT staff. All ayes. Two other EMT applications will be reviewed and acted upon at the June 4 meeting.**
- 9. Reed spoke to Mike Gillett and Dennis will follow up regarding sale of parcels on Wild Leek Lane, which are in Luce and Mackinac County.**

#### **Public Comment-**

-Parking of trailers at Watts Stamper Park is an issue due to ditching.

-Mowing should be done at the "North Road" property. Better lighting is needed at the ballfields

-Garbage cans should be out at the boat launches and ballfield.

Motion Holbrook/McKeage to adjourn 8:43 p.m.