

Montcalm Township Board Meeting Minutes
1880 S. Greenville Rd Greenville MI 48838
June 8 , 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Blomstrong Supervisor, Rosemary Hyde Treasurer, Edward Hansen Trustee and Brian Cousineau Trustee.

MEMBER ABSENT: Jessica Shearer Clerk

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor, Brian Blomstrong

Pledge to the Flag

- **Approval of Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Hyde to approve the agenda with changes to date of the minutes and New business for Mutual Aid agreement and MTA workshop and payment of classes, Hansen second **Motion Carried.**

May 23, 2022 minutes were tabled to be approved at the July 13, 2022 meeting.

- **Guest Presentation: MML- Diane Jones- Work Comp and Property Liability Policies**

Diane Jones gave a presentation about work comp and property liability policies. Diane Jones explained what work comp and property liability policies are and how they work.

- **Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2022**

- **Treasurer's Report:** The report was distributed to the audience and Board Members

A **Motion** was made by Hansen to approve the Treasurer's report, Blomstrong Second. **Motion carried.**

- **Payment of Bills:**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to approve the Payment of Bills, Hansen Second. **Motion carried.**

- **Supervisor's Comments:**

Blomstrong thanked everyone who has called and emailed regarding his appointment. He informed everyone that he really appreciated it. Blomstrong told everyone that he is still learning and that we have a good meeting going forward with good dialogue and open transparency. Blomstrong thanked Dave Ellis for getting him up to speed, and it was nice to have a good transfer of ideas back and forth as to how things are working here. Blomstrong informed everyone that he was starting to go through his office paperwork and files to learn the things that has happened in the last couple years. Blomstrong talked about how he has many people tell him there concerns about the cemeteries. He informed everyone that he has been in contract with Randy from Heckman and Son Lawn care with the concerns. Blomstrong talked about the new pickleball court and how we are hoping to get it up and running soon. Blomstrong informed everyone that his plans within the next couple months are to look at appointments for members of the township board.

Reports:

- **Planning Commission:** Karnatz told everyone that the Planning Commission did not have a meeting in June. Karnatz informed the board that the next scheduled meeting will be in August unless something comes up before that. Karnatz informed the board that he would forward some information to all the planning commission members for training opportunities. Karnatz informed that board that the training was the day before and it was a \$25 fee and he went ahead and paid it and he himself did the training

because it opened up a bunch of free training for me in August. Kamatz explained to the board that training classes in August that are put on by the Michigan Association of Planning are recording and he can forward the link to the other members so they can watch it. Robert Hemmes spoke up as the recording secretary and commented that the planning commission board agreed to have a joint meeting with the regular board. Hemmes commented that we should schedule that meeting. Hemmes commented that the planning commission is looking for a recording secretary.

- **Zoning Board of Appeals:** John Johansen informed the board that the ZBA had a special meeting/closed meeting on May 25, 2022. Johansen commented that we need to replace Joe Dyer spot on the ZBA.
- **Library Board:** The Library Board meeting agenda and report is posted on the Township bulletin board.
- **Cemeteries:** None
- **Zoning Administrator:** Zoning Administrator, Mike Nelson informed the board that he issued 6 permits for the month of May.
- **County Commissioner:** Adam Petersen gave his report.
- **Fire Department:** Chief Dickinson read the fire report. Chief Dickinson talked about putting a dry hydrate on Perch Lake. Chief Dickinson talked about removing the tree about the Tennis/Pickleball court. Chief Dickinson talks about how bad the cemeteries are.
- **Trustees:** Hansen personally thanked John Johansen for taking care of the row Cemetery mowing it, keeping that up.
- **Clerk:** None.

Public Comment – Concerning Reports:

Public Comment- Concerning Old Business:

Old Business:

- **Computer Purchase- Clerk- to assist with voting**

Blomstrong tabled this for the July Meeting.

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to approve the revised road contract. Second Hansen. **Motion Carried.**

- **Wind Ordinance to Planner and Lawyer- Current Status**

Blomstrong read a letter from Mark Eidelson.

The Board discussed the options to send it to a lawyer or to the Planner.

A Motion was already made in a previous meeting to send the Wind Ordinance to the Planner.

- **Master Plan review by Planner**

Blomstrong read a letter from Mark Eidelson and asked the Planning Commission Chairman if he had the list of ballots that Mark needed to review the master plan.

Public Comments- Concerning New Business:

- A resident commented on election stuff.
- A resident asked if the Township is covered under the MML policy if the township would be sued.

New Business:

- **Clerk Update- Upcoming primary election in August(applications, testing of equipment and ballot distribution.**

Blomstrong informed everyone that Jessica know the date that she needs to have everything out and the date will be posted for the testing of the equipments

- **Payment of \$ 1,511.00 to MML for Workers Compensation Insurance**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to pay \$1,511.00 for workers compensation insurance, Hansen Second **Motion Carried.**

- **Payment of \$13,609.00 to MML for Liability and Property Pool Insurance**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to pay \$13,609 to MML for liability and property pool insurance, Hansen Second **Motion Carried.**

In discussion by the board Hansen asked for a new appraisal done, Second Cousineau.

- **Update Resolution #R- 2017-6, Salary and Compensation Standards, to include Cadet Firefighter**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to amended resolution #R-2017-6 salary and compensation standards to include cadet firefighter pay \$8.39 an hour. Second, Blomstrong. Hansen Abstention **Motion Carried. 3-1**

- **Posting For Planning Commission Position/ Requirements/ Process**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to post for both Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals due June 29, 2022. Second Hansen. **Motion Carried.**

Discussion

Application requirements letter of interest. The board discussed when the letters should be due. The board decided that June 29, 2022 would be the deadline to submit the letters of interest. The board discussed the other member on the board that will expire soon.

- **Public Posting of boards and committee with renewal dates/terms expiration per position**

Blomstrong reviewed what he said in his supervisor's comments.

- **Mutual Aid agreement**

Blomstrong and Chief Dickinson explained the Mutual Aid Agreement and how it works and why it has to be updated.

A **Motion** was made by Blomstrong that we allow Chief Dickinson to sign both Mutual fire Aid Agreement as well as the decontamination agreement as provided by the Montcalm County Fair Association. Second Hyde. **Motion Carried.**

- **MTA workshop and payment of classes**

Blomstrong suggests that we submit the classes to all the boards and see if anyone is interested. Blomstrong is going to give the paperwork to all the Chairmans of the board and the board will discuss it at different time under old business.

Public Comments

1. A resident commented about sending the wind ordinance to the lawyer per what she understood at the last Planning Commission.
2. A resident commented that there are lawyers out there that are also Township Planners and the board might want to look into it.
3. A resident commented that they support what the board has decided to do with sending the Wind ordinance to the Township Planner. This resident also supports the Blomstrong.
4. A resident asked about Spencer Road and how there is a junk yard.
5. A resident commented about the noise complaint that she filed and they thanked Blomstrong for emailing her back to her complaint.
6. A resident commented about sending out a survey to be sent out for the wind turbines and they haven't heard the board discuss it. This resident asked who was responsible for the cemeteries. This resident commented that she talked with Jessica about a headstone on her grave. This resident also commented that the minutes from each board area due 8 days past the meeting.
7. A Sindy township resident commented that he has worked with our township attorney and they think that the township attorney would do a great job at looking over the wind ordinance. This resident says the planning township knows nothing about wind ordinance.
8. A resident commented about junk cars and noise complaints around his neighborhood and how the fees should be more than \$50.
9. A resident commented that the wind ordinance will be published for residents to look over it . This resident also commented about how being sued over wind ordinance and how sindy township has the most restricted in the county and that they have not been sued yet.

10. A resident asked how much money the township has spent looking at Planners and lawyers and on wind.
11. A resident commented about the cemetery how bad they look. This resident commented about how they have asked multiple times to have their mothers grave site fixed.
12. A resident commented that they have been attending meetings for 30 years and the cemetery has also been a problem. This resident commented that the board might want to look into spending more money on cemeteries.
13. A resident commented that Pine Township cemetery looks beautiful.
14. A resident commented that the way they understand it is the wind ordinance. This resident commented that the ordinance should say Draft.
15. Cory Smith commented that at the last Planning Commission in April they voted unanimously to regulate how many unlicensed vehicles. Cory asked if the board had come up with a Police power ordinance to go with Vice- Chairman motion.
16. Adam Petersen commented that at the county level they are going to discuss coming up with an ordinance for junk.
17. A resident commented that we have ordinances already in place for junk.

Discussions were held upon the residents and the board about the Police Power ordinance and if Public hearings need to be done.

A **Motion** to adjourn was made by Hyde. Second Hansen. **Motion Carried.** Meeting Adjourned at 8:34pm.

Submitted By Jessica Shearer, Montcalm Township Clerk.