

Montcalm Township Board Meeting Minutes
1880 S. Greenville Rd Greenville MI 48838
July 13, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Blomstrom Supervisor, Rosemary Hyde Treasurer, Jessica Shearer Clerk 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 Blomstrom

Pledge to the Flag

- **Approval of Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Hansen to approve the agenda with changes to New business to add Hall Rentals, Hyde second **Motion Carried.**

- **Approval Of Minutes for May 11, May 24(Special Meeting) and June 11, 2022**

A **Motion** was made by Hansen to approve all the Minutes Cousineau Second **Motion Carried.**

- **Treasurer's Report:** The report was distributed to the audience and Board Members. Hyde informed everyone that we received \$50,000 from Montcalm County. Hyde asked Adam Petersen where we should deposit the money.

A **Motion** was made by Hansen to approve the Treasurer's report, Shearer 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:**

Blomstrom explained to everyone that when working with Sara (the auditor) and Shearer that within quickbooks it shows a negative balance when it comes to the profit and loss report. Blomstrom commented that in the last month his goals were to look at around determination to have replacement dates for each board within the township. In which he explained he has determined. Blomstrom explained that he is trying to resolve all the cemetery complaints. He explained that he is trying his best to answer everyone's email as fast as possible. Blomstrom gave Dave Ellis props for setting up the new phone systems and having voicemail forward to emails. Blomstrom explained that he has been in contract with the county about getting the township zoning ordinance where they need to be.

Reports:

- **Planning Commission:** Karnatz reported that the Planning Commission did not hold a meeting in June, But will be holding a meeting in August. Karnatz told the board that he has sent everything over to the planner for the master plan.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals:** No report.
- **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 3 permits for the month of June
- **County Commissioner:** Adam Petersen gave his report.

- **Fire Department:** Chief Dickinson read the fire report. Chief Dickinson requested to hire a new firefighter.

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to hire Lane Lingeman as a firefighter. Second Shearer. **Motion Carried.**

- **Trustees:** Cousineau thanks everyone who applied for the open positions and who have stepped up and want to make a change.
- **Clerk:** None.

Public Comment – Concerning Reports:

- A resident asked about the profit and loss report.

Public Comment- Concerning Old Business:

- A resident commented how the township keeps spending money on the planner instead of the lawyer .
- A resident asked about election workers,
- A resident asked about computers.
- A resident commented that in Eureka Township they passed an ordinance and we should look at it. This resident also commented that our township lawyer helped out on Eureka, Sindy and Pine Township's Wind ordinance.
- A resident commented that we need to reset transparency and it shouldn't be the same people.
- A resident commented that the Township can set up an account with Dell to pay for the new computers.

Old Business:

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

A **Motion** was made by Shearer to set up an account through Dell Computer to purchase 2 laptops. Hyde Second **Motion Carried.**

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

Blomstrom informed everyone that we should receive the wind ordinance back from the planner within the next couple weeks.

- **Master Plan review by Planner Current status**

Blomstrom informed everyone that we should have something from the planner by the end of the month.

- **Clerk Shearer update- Upcoming primary election in August (applications, testing of equipment, ballot distribution, public testing date, election coordinator)**

Blomstrom gave an update.

- **Public Posting of Board and Committees with renewal dates/terms expiration per position.**

Blomstrom informed everyone that the list of open seats on each board will be posted in the township.

- **Pickleball Court/Tree removal; \$250 needed to remove a tree.**

A **motion** was made by Blomstrom to pay \$250 to have the tree removed next to the pickleball court. Hyde Second. **Motion Carried.**

Public Comments- Concerning New Business:

- A resident commented that hall rental should be a low cost for residents and that \$200 is a lot for a hall rental. This resident commented that we should reinstate a lower fee for hall rentals for employees of the township.
- A resident commented about how many agenda we should put out for the meeting.

New Business:

- **Supervisor Recommendation for PC and ZBA open seats (MCL 125.3815/Act 110 of 2006)**

A **Motion** was made by Blomstrom to put Richelle Lentz to be on the Planning Commission. Second Cousineau.

Discussion - Shearer asked Blomstrom if the new member of the Planning Commission was going to be the recording secretary in which Blomstrom replied with Yes. Shearer asked Blomstrom why he would pick Lentz

when she already turned down the job as recording secretary when previously asked. Blomstrom explained that he believes that we need diversity on the board.

Roll Call Vote

Blomstrom- Yes

Cousineau- Yes

Hyde-No

Hansen-No

Shearer- No

Motion Failed.

A **Motion** was made by Blomstrom to put Christine Foley on as the new ZBA member . Second Shearer. **Motion Carried.**

- **Supervisor recommendation for Fire Board Seats**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to keep the same fire board members and terms, which extends Erv Bradley and Adam Petersen for another year. Others on the board would be extended two and three years, respectively. Hansen Second, Motion Carried.

- **Posting of 2 PC and additional ZBA Open seats**

A **Motion** was made by Blomstrom to repost an ad in the newspaper for new ZBA and Planning Commission Members with a Deadline of August 5th at 5 pm Second Shearer **Motion Carried.**

- **Resolution R-2022-3: Board Asserting Final Voting Rights to Master Plan**

A **Motion** was Blomstrom to approve resolution R-2022-3. Second Cousneau **Motion Carried**

- **Library Board Pay/ Addition to Compensation Schematic (Resolution R-2022-2)**

A **Motion** by Hyde to add Library board pay of \$50 onto Resolution R-2022-2. Second Hansen **Motion Carried.**

- **Letter From State reference additional reporting information sent to Clerk Shearer- update on information return**

A **Motion** was made by Blomstrom to make a policy that the treasurer and clerk reconcile bank accounts 7 days prior to the township meeting. Second Hansen **Motion Carried.**

A **Motion** was made by Blomstrom that upon submitting payment for the 94 1tax forms a affidavit be signed by both trustees showing payment was sent and a copy of the affidavit be sent to the supervisor. Second Hyde **Motion Carried.**

- **Deputy Clerk Responsibilities**

Shearer informed everyone that the deputy clerk helps with writing the minutes, paying bills and helps with election stuff.

- **Bank Account Signatures**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to remove Douglas Crowley from the bank accounts and add Brain Blomstrom on the bank accounts Second Cousineau **Motion Carried.**

- **Eagle Scout Project- Chief Dickinson**

Chief Dickinson explained that he met with an eagle scout that wants to do a project at the township. Chief Dickinson explained that he has had some ideas to do around the township and when meeting with the Eagle Scout they exchange the ideas and he was leaving it up to the Eagle Scout to decide what project he would like to do.

- **Vacuum replacement / Refrigerator Replacement**

In discussion the board decided to put Hansen in charge of finding a replacement for the Vacuum and Cousineau in charge of a replacement for the refrigerator.

- **Hall Rentals**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to Charge \$75 for funerals Second Shearer **Motion Carried.**

Public Comments.

- A resident commented why she didn't pick being recording secretary when asked in a previous meeting. This resident wanted to know why they got picked for anything to apply for.
- A resident commented that they support Blomstrom recommendation for picking Richelle for the Planning Commission.
- A resident commented they agree with Blomstrom and Cousineau with their pick of Richelle and they cant believe that the other board members turned her down.
- A resident commented that they believe that the swing set on the township property is not insured by MML
- A resident commented about using a pa system so everyone can hear when board members speak.
- A rep from Vertis Blood Drive asked if they could use the township every other Month on the 3rd wednesday.
- A resident asked about the 7 day policy prior to the board's regular meeting.
- A resident from Jackson Mi commented about election stuff going on at the county level.
- A resident commented about the annual meeting with the 3 other boards.
- A resident commented about their feelings about the vote on the planning commission.
- A resident commented that everyone needs to remember that everyone who sits on the Township board are election officials
- A resident commented that they believed that the township get away with annual meetings a long time ago.

Shearer read her resignation letter to the board members. Shearer's letter gave a 30 days resignation which would go till August 11, 2022.

A **Motion** was by Blomstrom to accept Shearer 30 day resignation letter. Second Hyde. **Motion Carried.**

A **Motion** was made by Hyde to add Clerks position on the ad for the newspaper with the open seats for PC and ZBA. Second Blomstrom. **Motion Carried.**

A **Motion** was made by Blomstrom to hold a Special Meeting on August 10, 2022 at 6pm to interview for the Clerks position prior to the regular board meeting. Second Hansen **Motion Carried.**

A **Motion** to adjourn was made by Shearer. Second Hansen. **Motion Carried.** Meeting Adjourned at 8:51pm.

Submitted By Jessica Shearer, Montcalm Township Clerk.