

CLARK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2023

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 8:05 A.M.

Roll Call: Kozma, Clymer, Fitzgerald, and Rutledge

Schuster via phone.

Other Present: Paul Hitchens, Denise and John Hessel, Glenn Campbell, Dennis Wenzel, Paula Badour (Deputy Supervisor), and Linda Sherlund (Deputy Clerk)

Inquire if Public Comment are to Address Agenda Items: Paul Hitchens would like to comment on the airport proposal.

Approval of Agenda: Fitzgerald states that the Board of Trustees can postpone the cafeteria insurance agenda item until the board meets with the union representative. Kozma made a motion to approve the agenda, Fitzgerald seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Approve Minutes: Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2023

Approve Invoices:

General Fund Invoices: \$74,427.79

Sewer Fund Invoices: \$27,593.73

Service Contracts: None

Special Events: None

Budget Amendments: Rutledge gave a detailed handout of the budget amendments to each Board of Trustee.

Consent Agenda: Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Kozma seconded. All in favor.

Correspondence:

Operating Engineers 324- Kevin Besonen, Business Representatives would like to meet and confer for the purpose of negotiating a new contract. Clark Township Board of Trustees will

Approved at Reg. Bd. Mtg. 3-15-23
Susan Rutledge
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need to go thru the existing contract and will need to meet to go over any changes they have in April.

Rutledge would like to know if Township is paying IT Technical Pro on a monthly basis. Clymer states the Township is paying him monthly until Township finalizes the bid process.

EGLE Notice of Authorization:

49-Meridian Street-Wetland/Lake Huron. Widen two areas of Meridian Street to install a 10' wide paved area that can accommodate on-street parking and pedestrian access.

Marty Letts, 49-S 2371 Hill Island Road, Clark Township. Construction of four 8-foot-long cribs for the construction of an H-shaped dock.

Nick Naiser, 2500 E Fox Lair Trail, Cedarville. The applicant purposes to dredge, then place a trestle and floating dock in Muscoe Channel.

Mark and Gretchen Storey, 49-2105 S Forest Lane, Clark Township. After the fact authorization to add permanent floating docks pieces in a "T" shape to the end of an existing dock.

Sidock Group, INC. – Floodplain Service No. HPR-4FPJ-WGOVM, 49-430 E Grove Street, Clark Township. Copy of letter needs to be given to Ken Waybrant for zoning information.

OLD BUSINESS & UPDATES:

Approval of the Recreation Plan:

Resolution of the 2023-2028 Recreation Plan, Fitzgerald made a motion to approve this plan, Rutledge seconded.

The plan is needed to apply for any grant process. The community survey findings are enclosed in the plan. The plan has been reviewed by the Planning Commission.

Roll Call Vote: Kozma Yes, Clymer Yes, Fitzgerald Yes, and Rutledge Yes. Schuster absent to vote. All in favor. Motioned carried.

Fire Boat Invoice: Clark Township received an invoice for \$24,170.40 for the 34' Stanley Fire Boat. This is the remainder of the boat balance. The Community Foundation has donations of \$16,066.53. The Firemen's Donation Fund at Clark Township has 6,000.00. The remainder of the amount will be paid from the fire equipment fund.

Fitzgerald made a motion to pay up to \$3000.00 out of the Fire/Clark Township Equipment Fund. Motion was seconded by Kozma.

Roll Call Vote: Clymer Yes, Kozma Yes, Fitzgerald Yes, and Rutledge Yes.

Absent Schuster. All In favor. Motioned carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hessel Airport Proposal presented by Sault Tribe Incorporated and Rebelyon Development Group LLC. This joint venture proposes that the Township grant a 10-year lease with a purchase option and/or management agreement providing the control of the Hessel Airport for \$1 per year.

Neither party were at the Township Board meeting.

Paul Hitchens commented that Steve Kozma should not be able to vote due to conflict of interest. Paul Hitchens states that Kozma worked for Donald Moore.

Paul Hitchens has written Steve Kozma a letter stating that he should not serve on any board, and if he continues actions will be taken. Kozma asked the Board of Trustees to put this issue to rest. Clymer states that the Township has received legal advice stating that conflicts of interest can be decided case by case, Kozma has no conflict of interest due to past affiliations.

Rutledge made a motion to refuse the current Airport Proposal from Donald Moore. Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Clymer Yes, Kozma Yes, Fitzgerald Yes, Rutledge Yes.

Absent Schuster.

All in favor, motioned carried.

Clymer quoted that Donald Moore has not demonstrated integrity with the Township in previous agreements.

Donald Moore lease agreement with Clark Township states he is required to pay for his electricity bill, and he has not done so.

Firefighter Application: Andrew Farlow applied for a position with the Fire Department. He is unable to take the test until later on in the year due to availability of testing.

Fitzgerald made the motion to approve his application, Kozma seconded the motion. All in favor. Motioned carried.

Board of Review: Board of Trustees need to appoint James Eberts as alternate on Board of Review. This appointing needs to be done within 10 days of Township Board Meeting.

Kozma made a motion to approve the re-appointment of James Eberts as the alternate on the Board of Review, Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Payroll Adjustment December and January: Rutledge wrote a letter to the Board of Trustees proposing a special payment to Deputy Clerk Linda Sherlund for \$1000.00 per month for her outstanding, thorough, and very competent handling of my extended absence for the months of December 2022 and January 2023.

Fitzgerald made a motion to approve this payment of \$2000.00, Kozma seconded. Roll Call Vote: Clymer Yes, Kozma Yes, Fitzgerald Yes, Rutledge Yes.

Absent Schuster. All in Favor. Motioned carried.

IC Ambulance Training in Traverse City, March 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 2023. Kiley McGowan would like to go to Traverse City for this training. She does the training for the EMS and Fire Departments. Training cost will be \$445.00 plus lodging and mileage. The Ambulance and Fire Fund will pay for this training.

EMS Training for the AED for the Employees: Kiley McGowan is willing to do the AED training for the Clark Township employees on March 6th at 10:00 a.m. at the Clark Township Offices.

Treasurer's Report:

General Account: \$576,447.84

Sewer Account: \$ \$172.618.51

Supervisor's Report:

Clymer would like to reapply for the Leopold/Duck Bay Dock Grant. Both the DNR Passport Grant and Sparks Grant has been denied.

Kozma made a motion to re-apply for the Recreational Passport Grant for Leopold/Duck Bay Dock, Fitzgerald seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Rutledge Yes, Clymer Yes, Kozma Yes, and Fitzgerald Yes.

Absent: Schuster. All in favor. Motion carried.

Neal House Updates: Clymer spoke about the fundraising on the Neal House and Hessel Marina Projects. He would like a fundraising subcommittee to bring a specific proposal to the Township

for a Mackinac County grant application. A Resolution for acquisition is needed for the Trust Fund Grant.

Rutledge requested that the Board of Trustees would be emailed any updates on the Neal House.

Rutledge requested that the Board of Trustees have a special meeting to discuss any questions and concerns regarding the Hessel Marina and Neal House Projects. Rutledge is requesting that no money shall be spend on these projects until after the Special Board of Trustees Meeting.

Fitzgerald would like to meet after Pat Schuster returns from his vacation at the end of February.

Weston Trail Sparks Grant:

Clymer states that Weston Trail Sparks grant is in round 2, a resolution from the Board of Trustees will be needed in March.

Bike Trail:

Clymer spoke with Pat Duncan regarding the Kerri Mertaugh Bike Path. Kerri Mertaugh Bike Path would be a path between Hessel and Cedarville. Recreation Committee has been working on getting a bike path along M-134 for 15 years. Lynn Brown of the Recreation Committee was going to work with MDOT but the funds were used for the shoulder of the road. Recreation Committee may have to organize a sub-committee to look at funding and grants for the bike path.

Pavilion over the Ice Rink:

Kozma would like to see if there are any grants available for the pavilion over the ice rink. Rutledge states the Community Foundation grant funding program maybe more fitting for this project.

Committee/Commission Reports:

Airport Committee: No meeting.

Ambulance Corp: Written report - EMS calls from 01/01/2023 to 01/31/2023 were 23 calls.

Brian Huntley, this joint group, Kinross, and Whitefish Point is exploring forming an EMS Authority. This group is being formed due to lack of EMS and pay rate. EMS training will be held soon in Marquette.

Fitzgerald comment that our Ambulance Corp is in good shape in staffing and pay rates.

Code Enforcement Officer: Written report given to Clark Township Board of Trustees for the month of January 2023.

Fire Department: Written report-January 17th, to February 13th, 2023.

Fire Department had one incident so far in 2023. Ice rescue on January 11, 2023.

Steve Honnila and Auxiliary will purchase a large screen TV that has internet capability in order to view training videos.

Heritage Park: No meeting this month.

Hessel Harbor Committee: Jon with the DNR has not given his input on the recreational use of the top floor of the Neal House.

Planning Commission: Kozma reported that James Keighley is on Mackinac County Planning Commission, and he feels that the Clark Township should have a solar ordinance prior to the issue arises. The Planning Commission will start working on a solar ordinance.

Kozma said the Planning Committee felt Snowsfest Event was successful.

Planning Committee discussed the Neal House Project and Hessel Marina Project. Kozma feels that the public has a negative view of these projects due to not being informed.

Recreation Committee: Supervisor Report

Road Committee: 11 Townships met with different projects. Clymer is hoping to get the Meridian project done this year. Banking millage money for Cedar Street in Hessel in 2024.

Sewer Advisory Board: No meeting. State Revolving Fund will only let the Clark Township DPW work on up to \$50,000 worth of this project. Board of Trustees may have to shrink this project due to labor cost and how many grinder pumps can be purchased under the bid.

Public Comment:

Glenn Campbell on behalf of his LLC would like to make a presentation on his vision for the Hessel Airport at the next Township Board meeting on March 15th. He stated that he would email a copy of the presentation on Monday morning prior to the meeting. He will also have a handout at the meeting and would limit his presentation to 20 minutes.

Clymer has requested to insurance companies for premium rates regarding the health insurance coverage of Township employees.

Clymer states that **Erin Evashevski** will have the Ambulance contract available soon. **Erin Evashevski, Leslie Bohn, Jon Koets, and Clymer** have met to discuss independent contractor vs employee. Due to using our equipment the decision was made to hire ambulance staff as an employee.

Adjournment: **Kozma** made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 a.m., **Fitzgerald** seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.

