

**CLARK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 8:00 a.m.**

**Roll Call: Kozma, Clymer, Fitzgerald, and Schuster**

**Absent: Rutledge**

**Other Present: Leslie Bohn, Dave Buckalew, Erich Doerr, Dennis Wenzel, Paula Badour (Deputy Supervisor), and Linda Sherlund (Deputy Clerk)**

**Inquire if Public Comment are to Address Agenda Items: Leslie Bohn of Anderson Tackman is here to go over the annual audit.**

**Approval of Agenda: Kozma made the motion to approve the agenda with Anderson Tackman Audit moved to first agenda item. Schuster seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Approve Minutes:**

**Approve Budget:**

**Approve Invoices:**

**General Fund Invoices \$38,880.22**

**Sewer Fund Invoices \$28,278.20**

**Replacement batteries and pads ordered and received for (4) AED devices \$1584.72. These 4 AED will be brought back to the businesses.**

**Regional Planning invoice for Recreation Plan Survey - \$600.00.**

**Consent to Agenda: Schuster made the motion to approve the agenda and approve minutes with changes.**

**Service Contracts: I-Technical Pro.com will be discussed under new business.**

**Special Events: Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce would like to have Fireworks on Snowsfest weekend on the ice of Cedarville Bay.**

**Schuster made a motion to approve fireworks for Snowsfest weekend, Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All in favor.**

**Budget Amendments:**

*Susan J. Rutledge*  
*Mark & Co.*

**Correspondence:**

Steve Autore and Gretchen Storey sent letters of support for the ice rink. Also, twenty students wrote letters of support for the ice rink.

**EGLE Notice of Authorization:**

Xavier Greenfield, 49-1505 S Pleasant Ave, Clark Township. Removal of old stake dock and install a new crib dock.

**OLD BUSINESS & UPDATES:**

**Anderson Tackman presentation of Audit Report and Basic Financial Statement Graphical Presentation, by Leslie Bohn CPA. Leslie Bohn presented a handout to Clark Township Board Members. Ken Talsma CPA did the audit but was not available to present it to Clark Township Board Members.**

Leslie went over the table of contents and graph handout. The graph was set up for the year before, present and the next year. She states that the audit findings were good for Clark Township. She also went over the corrected and the uncorrected. Last year items have been all corrected. The uncorrected are from this year. Leslie will let Ken know that the Township Board have questions on how to correct these items and GASB.

The board discussed the long-term debt information.

**Employee Wage Increase – Mark Clymer**

Mark Clymer stated that the inflation is at 8 to 14% and an increase in wages were discussed at the last meeting. Clymer stated that last year the employees received a 3% increase in wages in January and 3% increase in wages in July.

Lisa Fitzgerald handout a worksheet with current rates, 3% wage increase, 4% wage increase, and the budget numbers. These budget numbers do not include Tony Hamel because he is not currently working due to a non-working injury.

**Schuster made a motion to increase the Clark Township Trustees, deputies, building inspector, billing clerk, maintenance personnel and DPW employees' wages by 4%. Sherry Burd has a contract, and she will not receive an increase in wages. All other staff will receive 4% increase in wages. Steve Kozma and Patrick Schuster declined their wage increase. Kozma seconded the motion.**

Roll call vote: Fitzgerald No, Clymer Yes, Kozma Yes, Schuster Yes. Motioned carried 3 to 1.

This increase in pay will be paid to the employees after Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

The 3% percent increase is a contractual raise in July.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**I-Technical Pro service contract – I-Technical Pro service contract annual cost is due to pay,** Mark Clymer feels that this contract should be put out for bid due to cost amount. Evaluation of duties were discussed by board members.

**Schuster made a motion to put the IT service contract out for bid. Kozma seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Passport Grant- Mark Clymer:** Clymer would like to apply for the Passport Grant to build a pavilion over the ice rink.

#### **Sparks Grant Discussion – Mark Clymer**

Clymer stated that the Leopold Passport Grant was turned down, but he was able to apply for the Sparks Grant with the information he had for the Passport Grant. This grant would allow access from the floating dock system through the marsh area to the trail system. A resolution to apply for the Sparks Grant is needed by the Board of Trustees.

Grant amount was \$279,300.00 for recreation. \$10,000.00 will be township match for the grant.

**Fitzgerald made a motion to approve resolution to apply for this Sparks Grant. Schuster seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Kozma Yes, Clymer Yes, Fitzgerald Yes, Schuster Yes. All in favor, motion carried.**

Clymer will apply for the Spark Grant; it will be used for a parking lot and a bridge over Pearson Creek off Weston Avenue. This bridge will be handicap accessible. This grant is approximately \$180,000.00 and no match is needed. The engineer work has already been done for this project.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

**Fish Cleaning Station:** Lisa Fitzgerald had people inquiry about when the Fish Cleaning Station at Cedarville Harbor will be up and running.

Clymer states that the Island's Wildlife is planning on putting this station up and the station will be paid for by them. Clymer states that Max Heil will work with the Island's Wildlife Committee.

Clymer comment that the DNR were supposed to come and help plan with a Boat Cleaning Station at Hessel and Cedarville Marina. *Harbor,*  
*Marina*

#### **Funds**

**General Account: \$603,375.84**

**Sewer Account: \$176,844.01**

**The two parcels that were foreclosures for back taxes are now owned by the Clark Township.** Fitzgerald states that the property at 162 S Plank Road, the previous owner would like to purchase it back. Clymer would like to hold onto this property.

Clymer states that the property on Cedar Road has two people that would like to purchase this property.

#### **Supervisor's Report:**

The Neal House Committee is working with the Community Foundation to fundraise.

The DNR would like a plan on how each room in the house will be used.

The Neal House Committee and Hessel Marina will need a joint committee meeting.

#### **Committee/Commission Reports**

**Airport Committee: No meeting.**

**Ambulance Corp:** No report this month or last month.

Kiley McGowan is willing to train business staff and township employees on using the AEDs properly. She would like to have this training before she goes back to work.

**Code Enforcement Officer:** Handout Report given to all board members.

There have been several complaints on the commercial fishing boat parked at Hessel Marina. Cal Burnside has been meeting with enforcement agencies to resolve this matter. Hessel Marina is considered a refugee harbor.

**Fire Department:** Report given to board members from December 20, 2022, to January 16, 2023. The number of incidents responded to in 2022 was 44.

Engine 3 Fire Truck replacement is needed.

Annual Fire Department Dinner for all members and Clark Township Board Members was held at Ang-gios on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Heritage Park:** No Meeting. Fitzgerald states that the Light Up the Park fundraiser raised \$157.00 for the park. She hopes next year more people will do a display and more money will be raised.

**Hessel Harbor Committee:** Clymer stated that there will be a meeting next week.

**Planning Commission:** Steve Kozma spoke on behalf of the Planning Commission; they had one special land use case.

A special land use permit is necessary for the used car lot at the old Les Cheneaux Chamber building. Parking areas for this project has been addressed.

The Planning Commission has finalized zoning definition, they are now able to search for key words in a document.

Kozma would like to know if there are projects that the Township Board would like the Planning Commission to address.

Clymer stated that he would like the Planning Commission to address the potential solar panel system before they come to our area. Marquette Township already has solar panels in some fields in their area.

The Recreation Plan needs to be review by the Planning Commission.

**Recreation Committee:** Peek-a-Boo Trail wetland areas will be addressed in the spring when the DNR can come and evaluate the wetland areas.

**Road Ends Committee:** Clymer stated that there will not be blanket agreements for Clark Township. Each road end needs to be addressed individually.

**Sewer Advisory Board:** No meeting this month.

**Public Comment:**

Dennis Wenzel inquired if there is a new owner for Ace Hardware. This business is in the process of being sold to the new owner.

Dave Buckalew, Coldwell Banker Real Estate Company representative had questions regarding the transfer of property and how they are billed for outstanding sewer bills.

Lisa spoke regarding the special assessment.

**Dave Buckalew spoke regarding conservancies buying property in our area and how it effects the area.**

Clymer explained the difference between Little Traverse Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy and what they focus on in our community. Clymer stated that the conservancy has bought a lot of property in the past, but the last four years they have flat lined in buying property.

**Dave Buckalew stated that John Labelle of Cedar Campus may be a resource for help get the ice rink at the Community up and running. Cedar Campus built their ice rink.**

**Clymer asked the attendees of the meeting to go online and fill out the Recreation Plan survey.**

**Adjournment: Kozma made the motion to adjourn, Schuster seconded. All in favor. 9:48 am meeting adjourned.**