

CLARK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 2024

AT CLARK TOWNSHIP OFFICE 207 N. BLIND LINE ROAD, CEDARVILLE, MI 49719

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge of Allegiance recited. Clymer called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Present; Kozma, Schuster, Fitzgerald, Clymer, and Rutledge

OTHERS PRESENT: Shery Burd (Assessor), Jane French (Les Cheneaux Library), Paula Badour (Deputy Supervisor), Linda Sherlund (Deputy Clerk).

INQUIRE IF PUBLIC COMMENT ARE TO ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the agenda. Kozma seconded the motion. All in favor.

APPROVE MINUTES: December 20th, 2023.

APPROVE INVOICES:

GENERAL FUND: \$21,938.35

SEWER FUND: \$24,857.25

SERVICE CONTRACTS:

Les Cheneaux Snowmobile Club: Sault Tribe Annual Agreement \$5,000 for the 2% grant money.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

ANNUAL SNOWSFEST – February 8TH through 11TH, 2024 Les Cheneaux Community.

YOUTH DANCE – January 27TH, 2024

BUDGET AMMENDMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Kozma made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Schuster seconded the motion. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

EGLE:

Breezeswept Docks -Dennis Beale Boathouse- Crib Rebuild Proposal

Jason Dunn (Breezeswept) sent an email regarding the Dennis Beale Boathouse plans. Breezeswept is required to obtain a Bottomland Conveyance from EGLE, which needs a Resolution from Clark Township Board of Trustees approving this project.

Township Board approved at regular meeting on 1/21/24.

Susan Rutledge

Mark Clymer

Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the plan for Dennis Beale Boathouse/Breezeswept. Schuster seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Brian Powers: 49-2191 S. Hill Island Road – Draft Permit for Countersignature.

Sidock Group, Inc.: 17-1000 E. M-134 – Floodplain Service No. HQ0-GDEH-37BKR

Snowmobile Radar Run: Event organizer must fill out a special event application and turn it into the Clerk's Office prior to the event. Joe Baker (Airport Manager) will work with the event organizer to clarify event locations.

OLD BUSINESS & UPDATES:

Michigan Department of Natural Resources/Forest Resource Division Grant Awarded:

Clark Township received the 2024 Volunteer Fire Capacity Project Agreement, a project totaling \$4998.00 for pumps, nozzles, and radios. This grant was a 50/50. The township portion is \$2499.00, this amount will come from the fire and equipment milage fund. Clymer will sign the contract on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the amount of \$2499.00, which will come out of the fire and equipment milage fund. Kozma seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Clymer Yes, Rutledge Yes, Fitzgerald Yes, Kozma Yes, and Schuster Yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

The grant will expire August 1, 2024. All purchases must be made by August 1st, 2024 and invoices must be submitted to the DNR for reimbursement by September 1st, 2024.

Discrepancies on the new website:

Deborah Beukema requested that any changes to the new website need to go through the Township Board of Trustees. Clymer presented a draft copy of his changes to the website.

Clymer stated that a sign in password is needed for the new website, so only selected people can see the site until it is updated and up and running.

Sewer Project:

Mark Clymer has informed the Electrical Inspector (Steve Harrison) that the township will not be obtaining permits for the sewer project. Inspector plans to investigate further with the state. Steve Harrison did not attend this meeting.

The Sewer Advisory Board Members have received a copy of the drafted newsletter for approval.

Knife valves are not in accordance with Michigan Code and should not be used per Plumbing Inspector per Shawn Fitzgerald, Supervisor's Office has left messages for plumbing Inspector Craig Cole for further clarification and to find out how else we can isolate a home from back up.

Clymer stated that the township will not give any knife valves out.

Sherry Burd – COBRA

Sherry Burd (Assessor) will be retiring on July 1st, 2024 and would like to stay on the Blue Cross Blue Shield COBRA plan to this date of retirement.

Kozma made a motion to approve extending her COBRA Plan/Reimbursement till July 1st, 2024 or retirement day. Fitzgerald seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Schuster Yes, Kozma Yes, Rutledge Yes, Clymer Yes, and Fitzgerald Yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan:

The Board of Trustees agreed to begin the new Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan on February 1st, 2024 through Islands Insurance. Fitzgerald is the only person on this plan for now.

Open Burn Ordinance - Kozma:

Kozma emailed the Open Burn Ordinance information to the Board of Trustees on 01/12/2024. The Board of Trustees discussed the ordinance and details of the permit process.

Rutledge made a motion to approve the Open Burn Ordinance effected on February 1st, 2024. There will be a permit fee of \$25.00. Kozma seconded the motion.

Kozma stated no public meeting is need for the Burn Ordinance.

Details of who will give out permits and send information to Cal Burnside have not been decided.

The person that applies for this permit still needs to also go to the DNR site to make sure that the conditions for burning are okay.

Roll Call Vote: Schuster No, Fitzgerald Yes, Clymer Yes, Rutledge Yes, and Kozma Yes. The motion passes 4 to 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Public Meeting:

Clymer discussed holding an Annual Clark Township Board of Trustees meeting in the evening in the summer. The Annual Public Meetings are to be scheduled for the last Saturday of June.

Schuster made a motion to table this agenda item to gather more information before making a decision. Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All in favor.

Building Inspector Salary:

The Board of Trustees discussed the proposal to increase salaries for Building Inspectors due to increased workloads from permit inspections. The Board of Trustees discussed hiring Cal Burnside to assist Ken Waybrant (Building Inspector) with his duties. Ken Waybrant is a salary employee and does not receive

any payment per permit. Ken Waybrant received approximately fifty permits last year. The Board of Trustees discussed permit fees and land use fees and if they should be increased. Kozma will speak with Ken Waybrant regarding permit inspections and fees.

Rutledge will call MTA to see if Clark Township can hire Cal Burnside to aid Ken Waybrant.

Fitzgerald made a motion to table further discussion until Kozma speaks with Ken Waybrant. Kozma seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

F350 Offers:

Rutledge stated that there were three offers for the F350 Truck: \$1,000.00, \$1,100.00, and \$4,200.00. Kozma made a motion to accept the offer of \$4,200.00 from Chuck Sumner for the F350 Truck. Schuster seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Fitzgerald Yes, Clymer Yes, Rutledge Yes Kozma Yes, and Schuster Yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund: \$548,811.87

Sewer Fund: \$99,568.18

Sewer Bond:

c2ae Invoices:

Fitzgerald has not received any invoice this month to submit to c2ae for a draw on the Sewer Bond. Fitzgerald stated that there were invoices that total \$36,000.00 that the township paid prior to receiving the funds for the first wire, which were submitted to c2ae for reimbursement.

Fitzgerald said the Board of Trustees should consider sending monthly sewer bills out to keep funds flowing. Clymer stated that the Sewer Advisory Board would like to send out another newsletter and he will add that residents and non-residents that have a sewer bill can pay monthly if they wish. March will be the next sewer billing cycle.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Jane French (Manager) Les Cheneaux Library spoke on the Superior Library milage. The ½ mil expires at the end of 2024. The library system has been operating on a half mil for the last nine years and needs an additional half mil to cover increasing costs and updates. The one milage for ten years request is set for February 27th, 2024 election. This money will be used for additional technical support and an increase in wages and benefits for staff.

There are eight libraries in the district, each library will receive their share. Our library is owned by Friends of the Library. Friends of the Library received 50% of Clark Township collected millage, which pays for rent and maintenance.