

# CLARK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Clark Township Hall, 207 N. Blind Line Road, Cedarville, MI 49719 (906) 484-2672

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Clymer called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m.

**Roll Call:** Present Schuster, Fitzgerald, Clymer, Kozma, and Rutledge  
Other Present; Luke Jaroche, Erich Doerr (St Ignace News Reporter), Cal Burnside (Code Enforcer), Paula Badour (Deputy Supervisor), Linda Sherlund (Deputy Clerk).

**Inquire if Public Comments are to address agenda items:** Luke Jaroche would like to speak regarding the Road Committee. Clymer stated he would move the Road Committee report under old business, so he does not have to wait to report under Road Committee Reports.

**Approval of Agenda:** Fitzgerald made a motion to accept the agenda with the change. Schuster seconded. All in favor.

**Approve Minutes: September 20, 2023 – Regular Meeting**

Clymer stated he received his minutes to review for September 20, 2023 meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Approve invoices:**

General Fund: 38,547.75

Sewer Fund: \$28,429.90

Invoices more than \$500

**Service Contracts:**

Youth Services Contract for Les Cheneaux Community School, 10/28/23; 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.  
Dance at Community Center.

**Consent Agenda:** Schuster made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Kozma seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

Schuster made a motion that the EGLE Notice of Authorization will not be read aloud at the regular meetings but will be available for review. Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

*Trust Board approved at Regular Mtg 11-15-23*

*Susan Rutledge*

*Mark Clymer*

Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce invites the Board of Trustees to their annual dinner on November 1, 2023. Clymer and Kozma will attend. Any Board of Trustees that would like to vote for Citizens of the Year, Business of the Year, and Organization of the Year can do so.

**Old Business:**

**Website Progress:** Deborah Beukema gave Board of Trustees a handout with updates. It will take several weeks to build the website and they will send us a draft before going live.

**Luke Jaroche Update on the Road Committee:** Luke Jaroche went to the Road Commission meeting, he stated that there were several townships officials that also attended. The Road Commission would like a member of the commission to attend the local township meeting, Tom Doty was to attend Clark Township monthly meeting today but was not in attendance.

Clymer stated that he has a good working relationship with Dirk Heckman from Mackinac County Road Commission and meets with him on a regular basis.

Rutledge wanted Luke Jaroche's opinion regarding adding two more commissioners to the Road Commission. The Board of Trustees discussed the pros and cons of adding additional commissioners.

Mackinac County Road Commission will now charge the resident \$7,500.00 for any cuts in the road due to replacing sewer lines. Mackinac County Road Commission would like Clark Township to pay if the resident does not pay, but Clark Township is not liable for the charge.

**Downtown Park:** Kozma spoke on behalf of the Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce. Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce, Lisa Fitzgerald and Noel Weaver met and would like to improve the downtown park area. Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce provided information and a layout of the play area for the Board of Trustees. The Chamber of Commerce will pay for this equipment and labor. The Chamber of Commerce would like permission from the Board of Trustees to construct this playground and place two benches in this area. Kozma stated that the estimated cost of this play area will be \$35,000.00.

The Board of Trustee discussed the use of signage and pamphlet holder. The Chamber of Commerce will provide information prior to putting up any signage.

Kozma would like to thank Noel Weaver for all the work he has done regarding this project.

**Fitzgerald made a motion to allow the Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce to construct this playground and place two benches in the downtown park area. Fitzgerald is willing to oversee the project. Rutledge seconded the motion. All in favor. Motioned carried.**

Fitzgerald brought up replacing the pavilion in the downtown park. She stated that she would like to see a flat slab with a roof. The Board of Trustees discussed it but made no decision.

**New Business:**

**Recycle Center Hours:** Fitzgerald spoke with Jim Smith regarding revising the Recycle Center hours. Jim Smith would like the Recycle Center to closed on Friday and Saturday and be open 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. every day except Wednesday; hours are 10:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Board of Trustees stated that they would like to see the Recycle Center open at least one weekend day. Fitzgerald stated that the last contract signed stated to open three days a week. The recycling millage also states that the Recycling Center will be open for three days a week. The contract will expire on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. If changes to the hours opened, the township will need to notify the public at least a month in advance.

**Rutledge made a motion to table a decision until Fitzgerald can speak with Jim Smith regarding the hours. Schuster seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Overtime hours for Linda Sherlund for the elections:** Rutledge stated that Sherlund will need to be the clerk's office for eight hours on Saturday before the election, till 5:00 p.m. on Monday before the election, and 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on election day.

**Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the necessary overtime for Linda Sherlund for the election. Kozma seconded the motion.**

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

**DPW – F350 XLT Ford Pickup:** Rutledge spoke with James Landreville, he stated that the township needs to replace the F350 truck for the Sewer Department. Information on the truck was available for review.

**Schuster made a motion to purchase a 2015 Ford 350 XLT 4WD for \$34,200.00. Fitzgerald seconded the motion.**

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

The 2015 Ford truck purchase funds will come from the Sewer Fund.

**Fitzgerald suggested that the township send out sewer bills out each month to allow residents that have sewer to pay monthly and help generate funds for the sewer fund. She will do a cost analysis to see if it is cost effective.**

**Hillcrest Construction Project:** The Sault Ste Marie Tribe sent a letter regarding a special variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals to build on Hillcrest property. Kozma will draft a letter to send out to The Sault Ste Marie Tribe.

**Assessors Retirement 7-1-24:** Rutledge stated that Sherry Burd will retire on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Rutledge stated that township will need to advertise for the assessor's position in March. Rutledge stated that there have been inquiries about that position.

**Autore Oil, propane pricing for year:** Rutledge stated that the price for 10/01/2023 to 04/30/2024 will be \$1.399. Last year's price was \$1.699. An information sheet for the cost of propane was given to all Board of Trustees.

**Loomis, Evert, Parsley, Davis & Gotting Attorney's Labor Contract** was \$6,714.74 through 9/22/23.

**Christopher Martin, Regional Environmental Manager Carmeuse Lime and Stone** sent a letter stating that they will be drilling one hole in Clark Township. The purpose of the drilling program is to identify the quantity and quality of limestone on Carmeuse owned lands.

**New Ambulance:** Rutledge stated that the minutes from the August 18, 2021, stated that Fitzgerald made a motion for Keith McGowan to have Scott Schalow put Clark Township on Emergency Vehicles Plus waitlist for a new ambulance. Rutledge supported the motion. All Ayes Motion carried.

The letter from Scott Schalow, Ambulance Sales Manager explained that there will be a wait of up to three years to purchase any new emergency vehicles.

This Board of Trustees tabled this discussion until prices are obtained.

**Treasurer's Report:**

General Fund \$445,280.76

Sewer Fund \$118,202.76

**Fitzgerald spoke with James Landreville regarding the Dump and Lagoon fencing; fencing does not need to have barbwire on it.**

Fitzgerald will create a bid notice and then the notice will be published in the newspaper.

Robinson Fence will be notified of the bidding, due to the township receiving a quote from him prior to the bidding process.

**Fitzgerald asked if Noel Weaver could use the truck while he is working on the Christmas Heritage Park Displays.**

Rutledge will call the insurance company to see if he will be covered under the township's policy while he is volunteering.

**Fitzgerald – The Board of Trustees discussed mowing of the airport and highway corners.** Fitzgerald stated that the ground contracts will need to be discussed. Equipment users need to maintain equipment after using it.

**Community Christmas –** The Annual Community Christmas event will be at the Community Center Parking lot on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. The Community Christmas will be set up the same as last year.

The helpers will hand out information for the Snow's Heritage Park Christmas tree lighting event at 6:00 p.m. on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

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

The DNR denied the Weston Trail and the Bike Trail SPARKS Grants. Clymer will investigate and apply for other grants.

Drummond Island and the Les Cheneaux Area will host the GLIA Summit in the fall 2024. Clymer would like to apply for the 2% Tribal money for approximately \$10,000.

**Fitzgerald made a motion to allow Clymer to apply for the 2% Tribal money for GLIA Summit. Schuster seconded the motion. Schuster Yes, Fitzgerald Yes, Kozma Yes, Rutledge Yes, and Clymer Yes. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Jon Koets (Insurance Agent) went over the township's contract with Rutledge, Clymer, and Fitzgerald. Clymer stated that if barricades are in areas that insurance may be less. Schuster would like to know if this is cost effective.

Clymer states that the township is still waiting for a 705 form from Connors Industries. This form is to license the fireboat properly.

Clymer stated that he received an email from Donald Moore regarding the lease agreement. The Board of Trustees would like to have a copy of the lease agreement before further discussion.

Clymer spoke to a receptionist at Trimedia in reference to the overcharge of wetlands delineation for Peek-A-Boo Hill Trail. Clymer is expecting a return call.

Clymer met with Jason Dunn and Robert Smith regarding the changes regarding EGLE permits.

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

**Airport Committee:** Joe Baker told Clymer that crack seal did not work. Clymer would like to apply for a 50/50 Aeronautics Grant to have the airport sealed properly.

**Rutledge made a motion to have Clymer apply for this grant. Schuster seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:** Schuster Yes, Fitzgerald No, Clymer Yes, Rutledge Yes, and Kozma Yes. 4 – 1 motioned carried.

**Ambulance Corp:** EMS calls from 09/01/2023 to 09/30/2023. A total of twenty-three calls.

**Fire Department Reports:** Fire calls from 09/19/2023 to 10/16/2023. The number of incidents responded to in 2023 is twenty-three.

**Code Enforcement Officer Report:** September 01/01/2023 to 09/25/2023. 21 Complaints, nineteen issues resolved, and two ongoing investigations.

**Heritage Park:** The Snows Heritage Park Pickleball courts are closing on October 31<sup>st</sup> for the winter. Shawn Fitzgerald will drain bathrooms pipes.

**Planning Commission:** Kozma spoke regarding the Planning Commission Meeting. There was no quorum at the October 10<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting. The committee discussed the procedures for adopting an ordinance for Alternative Energy.

**Schuster made a motion to send the solar and windmill information to Erin Evashevski for review. Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Recreation Committee:** Peek -A- Boo will begin construction in the spring.

**Road Committee:** Information and discussion under old business.

**Sewer Advisory Board:** Advisory committee would like the Board of Trustees to increase the sewer rates \$5.00 in December 2023 and then increase rates \$5.00 in December 2024.

**Public Comment: LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES PER PERSON FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

No public comment.

**Adjournment:** Fitzgerald made a motion to adjourn at 10:50 a.m. Schuster seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.