



# **OVID TOWNSHIP**

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

1015 Baese Court, P.O. Box 136  
Ovid, Michigan 48866  
Ph: (989) 834-2838

SUPERVISOR: Jennings C. West  
CLERK: Claudia Barrett Pluger  
TREASURER: Nancy J. Hughson

TRUSTEES: Patricia Hibbard  
Arlene Pesik

### **PROPOSED MINUTES OF OVID TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING - MARCH 10, 2022**

The regular board meeting of the Ovid Township Board was called to order at 7 p.m. by the Supervisor with the Pledge to the Flag.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Supervisor Jennings West, Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, Treasurer Nancy J. Hughson, Trustee Patricia Hibbard and Trustee Arlene Pesik

#### **ABSENT:**

None

#### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Kam Washburn; Val Vail-Shirey; Chris Stewart; Deputy Zach Smith;  
Brent Singer, Mauer Heating & Cooling; Dan Rons, Custom Heating & Plumbing;  
Mark Holley (late)

#### **AGENDA:**

Clerk Claudia stated she would like to amend the Agenda and make an addition to it. Under "New Business," please add Chris Stewart at the beginning.  
Moved by Treasurer Nancy to approve the Agenda, as amended, Seconded by Trustee Pat. All in favor, Motion carried.

#### **PROPOSED MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 10, 2022, BOARD MEETING:**

Moved by Trustee Pat to accept the February 10, 2022, minutes as submitted, Seconded by Trustee Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Treasurer Nancy supplied the Board with the February 2022 monthly income received report, bank balances, along with the supporting bank statements, as of February 28, 2022, as well as the corresponding bank reconciliations for each month's bank statement.

**Huntington Bank Account Balances:**

General Fund bank balance is \$376,432.06.

Payroll account balance is \$2,454.01.

Delinquent Property Tax account balance is \$146.21.

**Michigan Class Investment account balances:**

General Fund balance is \$0.00.

Emergency Services account balance is \$0.00.

Mercantile Bank Emergency Services account is \$240,797.41.

Mercantile ARPA Account is \$117,017.62.

**Journey Federal Credit Union Balances:**

Tax account balance is \$221,087.55.

Cemetery account balance is \$10,536.67.

Treasurer Nancy commented the last page in our packet is the tax disbursement recap sheet she sends to the County Treasurer each time she disburses. The total disbursement was \$2,465,077.48. Nancy settled with the County Treasurer, and should be receiving her documents shortly.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we accept the Treasurer's report as submitted, bank statements, and reconciliations included for review, subject to audit,

Seconded by Trustee Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

**AMEND AND APPROVE BUDGET:**

Clerk Claudia commented we need to amend the budget for a few GL numbers.

The Trustees had an extra meeting; Clerk and Treasurer need to be amended due to FOIA work; also snow removal, cemetery, and other amendments to cover any year-end amounts over budget.

Moved by Clerk Claudia that we amend the budget as needed, and to cover any year-end adjustments/amendments in preparing for our Audit, Seconded by Trustee Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

**CLERK/BILLS - FOR APPROVAL:**

Clerk Claudia supplied the Board with the Check Disbursement Report for approval from the following banks:

Huntington Bank - Payroll Check Numbers 361-367, Regular Check Numbers 11055-11064 and EFTs for approval.

Mercantile Bank – Emergency Services – Check Number 1058 for \$44.05 and Check Number 1061 for \$1,193.50.

Journey Federal Credit Union – Cemetery – Check Number 1013 for \$308.

The total for approval from the three banks is \$26,659.69.

Moved by Treasurer Nancy to approve the Clerk's Check Disbursement Report for payment of all bills, Seconded by Trustee Pat. All in favor, Motion carried.

Clerk Claudia had a question about an Invoice from MTA for Board of Review virtual training that the Assessor had called in, but he is not here.

Clerk Claudia commented she spoke to BS&A regarding Trustee Arlene's paycheck being entered with the number -354. BS&A said since it had already been journalized, it was easier to leave it listed as -354 and leave the United States Department of Treasury EFT listed as number 354, and we've documented what was done.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Chris Stewart, Candidate for State Representative, 75<sup>th</sup> District:**

Chris Stewart addressed the Board and audience. Mr. Stewart is running for State Representative in what is now the new 75<sup>th</sup> District. He is a former teacher. He is a business owner and is very involved in agriculture and conservation. He has been Chairman of the Eaton County GOP. He can be reached at 267-714-8837, or on Facebook at Friends of Chris Stewart, and [friendsofchrisstewart75@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofchrisstewart75@gmail.com).

#### **Ovid Township 2022-2023 Proposed Budgets:**

Treasurer Nancy said the projected State Revenue Sharing numbers came out, and Ovid Township is \$209,443, so maybe we should change it to \$209,000. Board discussion.

Moved by Clerk Claudia that we adopt the Ovid Township 2022-2023 Budgets for the General Fund, Public Safety Fund and Cemetery Fund, with the one change to State Revenue Sharing of \$209,000, Seconded by Trustee Pat.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Budget Adopted.

**Resolution Number 2022-02 – Resolution to Establish Officer’s Salary – Trustees:**  
Moved by Clerk Claudia that we adopt Resolution Number 2022-02, Resolution to Establish Officer’s Salary for Trustees, \$1,848 yearly salary, per Trustee, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy.

Roll call vote was as follows:

- Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**
- Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**
- Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**
- Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**
- Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution Adopted.

**Resolution Number 2022-03 – Resolution to Establish Officer’s Salary – Supervisor:**  
Moved by Clerk Claudia that we adopt Resolution Number 2022-03, Resolution to Establish Supervisor’s Salary, \$14,850, Seconded by Trustee Pat.

Roll call vote was as follows:

- Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**
- Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**
- Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**
- Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**
- Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution Adopted.

**Resolution Number 2022-04 – Resolution to Establish Officer’s Salary – Clerk:**  
Moved by Treasurer Nancy that we adopt Resolution Number 2022-04, Resolution to Establish Clerk’s Salary, \$22,200, Seconded by Trustee Pat.

Roll call vote was as follows:

- Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**
- Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**
- Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**
- Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**
- Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution Adopted.

**Resolution Number 2022-05 – Resolution to Establish Officer’s Salary – Treasurer:**

Moved by Clerk Claudia that we adopt Resolution Number 2022-05, Resolution to Establish Treasurer’s Salary, \$22,200, Seconded by Trustee Arlene.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution Adopted.

**Michigan Association of Municipal Clerk’s Conference – June 21-24, 2022:**

Clerk Claudia commented on the next few items listed on the Agenda, the Board Members received documents earlier to review via email.

Moved by Trustee Pat to approve Clerk Claudia attending the Clerk’s Conference at the Grand Traverse Resort, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

**Michigan Township Participating Plan Board of Directors Elections:**

Clerk Claudia commented the document in Tab 7 relates to the Par Plan Board of Directors Elections, if anyone is interested. Clinton County is Zone 6.

**Elections, e-Pollbook – two laptops:**

Clerk Claudia commented everyone should have received the requirements for purchasing the e-Pollbook, the estimate from New Look Computer and Data, and BJ’s Wholesale Club for Lenovo and HP laptops. We would like to purchase two so absentee ballots can be done. Board discussion regarding laptops and prices.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we purchase two laptops for Elections from BJ’s Wholesale Club, Seconded by Trustee Arlene.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**  
Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**  
Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

#### **Furnace Bids:**

The furnace bids we received were from Hopkins Mechanical Services, Custom Heating & Plumbing, Mauer Heating & Cooling and Chasco Plumbing & Heating. Dan Rons came from Custom Heating & Plumbing and Brent Singer came from Mauer Heating & Cooling. They presented what they were offering and answered many questions from the Board. Board discussion.

Moved by Trustee Arlene that we purchase the two furnaces from Custom Heating & Plumbing in Ovid for \$6,642, Seconded by Trustee Pat.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**  
Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**  
Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**  
Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**  
Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Supervisor Jennings commented before we get into the Charter Township discussion, he wanted to give an update on the Clinton County “Welcome to Ovid Township” signs. They are in the process of being printed. They will be on North Ovid Road, Meridian Road, Hollister and Shepardsville Roads, north and south.

#### **Charter Township:**

Board discussion regarding Options of becoming a charter township or not.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we choose Option 1, Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**  
Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**  
Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**  
Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**  
Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Clerk Claudia commented she will prepare a resolution opposing incorporation for next month's meeting.

**Emergency Services Millage:**

Clerk Claudia and Treasurer Nancy spoke with our attorneys on the phone regarding the emergency services millage.

Board discussed the fire and ambulance millage, how it should be worded, done separately, for how many years, November ballot, et cetera. It was decided to table it for a month.

**Clinton County Amendment to Zoning Ordinance - Marihuana-Related Activities:**

Clerk Claudia supplied the Board, via email, the February 22, 2022, Memorandum we received from the Clinton County Board of Commissioners explaining the marihuana zoning amendment. Clerk Claudia also supplied the Board with Ovid Township's Marihuana Ordinances, Numbered 2017-01 and 2018-01. Board discussion and discussion with Commissioner Kam Washburn regarding memorandum we received. Moved by Trustee Pat that we continue as we are, in the Opt Out status, as Ordinance Number 2017-01 states, Ordinance Prohibiting Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities; and Ordinance Number 2018-01, Prohibition of Recreational Marihuana Establishments, Seconded by Clerk Claudia.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

**Application for Zone Map Amendment (Rezoning) PC-06-22 MA (OR 17722):**

Supervisor Jennings spoke with Doug Riley regarding the rezoning that Ovid Township did not have a problem with it. The meeting regarding that conflicts with our meeting.

**UNFINISHED/UPDATED BUSINESS:**

**Township Hall Roof:**

Treasurer Nancy commented we haven't heard anything from our rep, Jon Johnson, regarding the roof. We called him, but he hasn't returned our call yet. We will make another attempt to call before next month's meeting if we don't hear from him.

Board discussion regarding the roof, and possibly finding another insurance company since our calls are not being returned.

**\*Public Comments:**

None.

## **REPORTS:**

### **Sheriff Representative – Deputy Zachary Smith:**

Deputy Smith reported there's a lot going on at the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff and Undersheriff are both retiring in April.

Deputy Smith commented the new radio system went live two days ago. The old system didn't work. They couldn't reach out to dispatch or anyone else if they needed help. With the new system, they can call dispatch. They also have access to all surrounding counties. Being able to communicate with them through the radios is a great help for each county.

The new jail and sheriff's office is in the planning phase. They purchased a desanitize machine for around \$40,000 for the jail and sheriff's office.

There has been a lot of vandalism on Williams and French Roads. They believe it's a single person taking rocks and smashing cars and houses. Also, on the northeast side of the County, there's a lot of issues with larceny. Any items left outside, they are taking.

Supervisor Jennings asked if they monitor Facebook to see what's for sale. Deputy Smith said they do. Their detectives are very good with that. They also have a program where they can monitor all the pawn shops, put descriptions in of what was stolen, and get results.

### **Library – Treasurer Nancy Hughson:**

Treasurer Nancy supplied the Board with the January 19, 2022, Library Board Meeting minutes, and the Librarian's Report. Also included in our packets for review are the financials, the expense tracker sheets, general fund income, donation fund, building fund, payroll, and January 2022 statistics.

Treasurer Nancy stated there wasn't really anything new at the last meeting. The bookkeeper is having some issues with St. Johns Business and Tax. It will get worked out at the next meeting.

### **OMESA – Treasurer Nancy Hughson:**

Treasurer Nancy reported there wasn't much at the OMESA meeting either. There was a large barn fire that night. Some of the guys came in after fighting it for eight hours. The millage wasn't discussed. Greg Palen, Treasurer, came with the financial report, and they discussed that.



**CAASA – Supervisor Jennings West:**

Supervisor Jennings commented the CAASA meeting didn't have much going on. There were no side conversations at the meeting. They are discussing the per capita rates. They are talking about going up in increments yearly.

**County Commissioner Kam Washburn:**

Kam updated us on many things going on in the County. First, as everyone knows, our Clerk, Diane Zuker, is retiring this year. The two Circuit Court judges, Judge Schlegal and Judge Barkman, will be selecting her replacement. They have had one meeting. Diane will be here a little longer than she thought.

Sheriff Jerue announced his retirement, also the Undersheriff is going to retire. To replace the sheriff, it will be the County Clerk, Diane Zuker; Tony Spagnuolo, Prosecutor; and Judge Sullivan, the Chief Judge. Those three will select the replacement for the sheriff.

Officially, the Commissioners voted and approved the 18-million dollar Bond for the Road Commission building. Due to the financial security of Clinton County, they received a AA+ rating. They also voted to open Smith Hall and the fairgrounds. Things are getting pretty much back to normal now.

At the Clinton County Township Officers Association meeting held at Ovid Township, there was discussion of having a Broadband meeting because there are so many questions. Kam stated there will be a Broadband meeting at the Courthouse, for local officials, on Wednesday, March 16 at 6 p.m. Adam Smiddy from Guidehouse will again be there to go over the survey results with everyone.

Kam commented, as Deputy Smith mentioned, the new communication system went online yesterday, March 9 at 3:45. So far everything is working good. It was two years ago we passed the emergency services millage. Chris Collum worked very hard, and she got this whole project done through Covid.

The County is doing a comprehensive plan update of all their physical properties, including the jail, as Deputy Smith mentioned. This will be down the road a bit. The whole study hasn't been completed yet.

Kam told us he's retiring from the County this year after 43 years of public service. Kam introduced Val Vail-Shirey. Val is going to run for Kam's position. She resides in Victor Township. The new districting is Victor Township, Ovid Township, Duplain Township, and the north two-thirds of Greenbush Township. Val is running for County

Commissioner for District 1. Val was born and raised in Clinton County. Her dad, Claude Vail, was a County Commissioner for four years. Val has been involved with the Clinton County Republic Party. She currently works at The Capitol as a Legislative Aide. Kam noted he will be endorsing Val on the Republican Ticket to replace him.

**Val Vail-Shirey, Clinton County Commissioner candidate, District 1:**

Val Vail-Shirey commented she had served on the Bath Charter Township Board. She's known Kam for many years. She was born and raised in Victor Township, where she lives now. One of the new 9-1-1 towers is on their farm there. She is secretary to the Clinton County Republic Party. She's worked for the House Republicans as Legislative Director to Representative Alexander and to the House Agriculture Committee. She's looking forward to serving and getting to know everyone. She will be retiring from the State in December.

**Assessor Mark Holley:**

Mark commented he didn't have a lot to report, other than Ovid Township is in perfect shape. Board of Review appeals will start Wednesday, March 16 and finish on Monday, March 21. Mark commented there was no one coming, to his knowledge, at this point. Treasurer Nancy said there would be one coming. That's what he said when he paid his taxes.

Mark said there was a 3.3 percent increase in taxable, so it's not a huge increase for anybody this year. Assessments didn't move hardly at all anywhere, and there weren't very many sales.

When the weather warms up, Mark will finish up with the 65 parcels in the south end of the Township that he didn't get to last year.

**\*Public Comments:**

None.

**Board Comments:**

Clerk Claudia asked Assessor Mark about an Invoice she received from MTA on Thursday, February 24, 2022, for a Board of Review virtual training for Supervisor Jennings on Friday, February 25, when Supervisor Jennings was going in person the following Monday, February 28. When Claudia spoke to MTA, they informed her that Mark Holley called and ordered that. Mark commented Jennings didn't go on Friday. The Clerk and Treasurer are the two authorized to order classes or anything through MTA. They also have the credit cards. The question is why was this done. Mark commented just give the bill to him. Claudia cancelled it. Discussion with Mark.

**Adjournment:**

Supervisor Jennings adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk