



OID TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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

APPROVED

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

TRUSTEES: Patricia Hibbard
Arlene Pesik

PROPOSED MINUTES OF OVID TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING – DECEMBER 14, 2023

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

ABSENT:

Trustee Arlene Pesik

ALSO PRESENT:

Keith Jones, Maurice Woodworth, August Arnett, Peggy Lidgard, Connie and Gary Kioski

AGENDA:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve the Agenda, as submitted, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy. All in favor, Motion carried.

PROPOSED MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 9, 2023, BOARD MEETING:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve the November 9, 2023, Board meeting minutes, as submitted, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy. All in favor, Motion carried.

PROPOSED MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2023, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve the November 16, 2023, Special Board meeting minutes, as submitted, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Treasurer Nancy provided the Board with the November 2023 financials, the November monthly income received report, bank balances, along with the supporting bank statements as of November 30, 2023, and the corresponding bank reconciliations for each month’s bank statement.

Huntington Bank Account Balances:

- General Fund bank balance is \$163,471.61
- Payroll account balance is \$4,053.76
- Delinquent Property bank balance is \$139.59

Michigan Class:

- General Fund is \$241,852.37
- Emergency Services is \$133,353.34
- ARPA – \$123,442.39

Mercantile Bank Account Balances:

- Emergency Services account is \$15,598.28
- ARPA Account is \$40,281.64

Journey Federal Credit Union Balances:

- Tax account balance is \$4,309.50
- Cemetery account balance is \$17,437.85

Treasurer Nancy included the Tax recap document. It was a slow month for taxes.

The last disbursement for summer was made today, December 14, 2023.

Winter taxes should be coming in soon.

Moved by Trustee Pat to accept the Treasurer’s report, as submitted, bank statements and reconciliations included for review, subject to audit, Seconded by Supervisor Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

AMEND AND APPROVE BUDGET:

Moved by Clerk Claudia that we amend and approve the budget for GL #101-299-822, Insurance/Worker’s Comp, \$293; GL #101-215-740, Other Expenses/Clerk, \$63.14; GL #101-446-811, Road Repairs and Maintenance, \$2,446.84 and GL #101-262-900, Printing and Publishing/Elections, \$394.07, for a total of \$3,197.05 from unallocated funds to cover the amounts over, Seconded by Trustee Pat. All in favor, Motion carried.

CLERK/BILLS – FOR APPROVAL:

Clerk Claudia mentioned, on this check disbursement report, we paid Clinton County Road Commission \$92,155.49 for overband and five (5) gravel invoices on projects they have completed this year.

The following are the banks and check numbers for approval:

Huntington Bank – Payroll Check Numbers 545-551, Preauthorized by policy and approval, Check Numbers 11370-11377 and Check Numbers 11378-11389 and EFTs.

Mercantile Bank – EMS, Check Number 1086. The total for approval is \$105,793.72. Moved by Trustee Pat to accept the Clerk’s disbursement report, as submitted, Seconded by Supervisor Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

UNFINISHED/UPDATED BUSINESS:

Township Hall Roof – Bids:

Trustee Pat commented she couldn’t remember who was supposed to talk to the roofing companies so we could take care of it at this meeting. Board discussion regarding bids, and if they are still good as originally priced.

Trustee Pat will call Weather Vane Roofing and Elieff Brothers Roofing before the January meeting to see if they both offer the polymer asphalt roof and the price.

NEW BUSINESS:

2024 Capital Conference:

Board discussion.

Moved by Clerk Claudia to approve payment for the Capital Conference, if any Board member would like to go, Seconded by Trustee Pat. All in favor, Motion carried.

EMS Millage for August 6, 2024, Primary Election Ballot:

Treasurer Nancy commented Ovid City and Middlebury Township renewed their millages for what they already had. Board discussion. It was decided to do Ovid Township’s millage as a renewal, 2.25 mills, for seven (7) years, 2024-2030. Clerk Claudia will prepare the Resolution for the January meeting.

Supervisor Jennings commented he feels we are going to need a road millage.

Treasurer Nancy commented the County is in charge of our road maintenance.

Supervisor Jennings commented it doesn’t cover bridges. Board discussion.

Supervisor Jennings continued by saying every township in Clinton County has a road millage except Ovid Township. He suggested a town hall meeting to discuss a road millage. Board discussion continued.

Supervisor Jennings commented we have a bridge on North Chandler, \$700,000; Shepardsville Road, \$925,000; another on Shepardsville Road, \$217,500; Hollister Road, which the State and the Road Commission are working on a grant for that, and it has not passed. Clerk Claudia commented this wasn’t on the Agenda. The County meets with us, gives us the documents, and discuss with us what needs to be done and the estimated cost before our Budget is approved for the year. That’s when we discuss this.

REPORTS:

Library – Trustee Patricia Hibbard:

Trustee Pat supplied the Board with the October 18, 2023, Library Board meeting minutes, along with the financials, the October 2023 Statistics report, and the November Librarian's Report. They decided on a new flooring for the Library. Connie Thornton resigned her position as Director. She will be working a few hours a week, and they decided on the pay for that.

OMESA – Treasurer Nancy Hughson:

Treasurer Nancy supplied the Board with the October 24, 2023, minutes, Treasurer's November report and supporting financial statements. Also included in our Board packets is the Ovid Fire and Rescue Fire Chief's Report from 10-25-2023 through 11-28-2023. Resolution 2023-02, Authorization for On-Time Regular Recurring Bill Payments Between Meetings was in our packet. They are working on the budget for next year. The insurance has gone up a lot, about nine (9) percent. They received a check for \$12,000 from the insurance company for what was lost in the Lupu fire.

CAASA – Supervisor Jennings West:

Supervisor Jennings commented they went into Closed session at the meeting, so he couldn't discuss what went on. There's another meeting on December 21 at the Hospital.

Assessor Peggy Lidgard:

Peggy sent out 13 disabled Veteran's letters on November 28. She's received 7 back so far. There is one new one.

There were eight (8) sales this month, and only one permit.

There was not a December Board of Review meeting. Since the State changed some procedures, there was no need to have one. All the reports were sent to the County anyway. They said we didn't balance, even though we balanced November 1st. As it turned out, the Clerk in Equalization emailed and said they transposed a number, so we were fine. We balanced.

Going through the database Peggy found 250 parcels that didn't have a picture. She will be going through next year taking pictures of all those. She will be taking them from the road, not on their property. The Ovid Township magnet will be on her vehicle.

One taxpayer's taxes were very high for 40 acres. He bought the land in 2003, and he never filled out a certain form. That was three assessors ago. They uncapped it. Since 2003 he has been paying a lot in taxes. In 2016 there was a split. Peggy will go back to 2003 and figure out what the taxable value was before it was sold, and then recalculate the taxable value up to 2016. She will have to figure out how the split was done, and re-evaluate the taxable value there. He can't pay the taxes until she figures out what the 2023 values will be. If he pays them now, he won't get a refund.

Peggy received the beginning balances from the County. For agricultural property, it will be going up an average of 6.5 percent. Commercial and industrial basically will stay the same. Residential property will go up about 8.5 percent. The cost of living is five (5) percent. Everyone's taxes will be going up five (5) percent. The people of the State of Michigan voted on that in 1994.

Peggy received more studies from the County for Ag. The land value on the first acre they are figuring is \$35,600, and then every acre after that is almost \$5,000 an acre.

Peggy never received any of the personal property forms from the previous assessor. She spoke to the County. They do an audit of it, where you have to give property statements to them, so they had copies. They provided Peggy with those.

Supervisor Jennings commented he didn't think Commissioner Vail-Shirey would be at anymore of our meetings. All of the County Commission meetings will be on Thursday nights now.

Public Comments:

Keith Jones

Connie Kioski

(Back and forth discussion)

Board Comments:

Treasurer Nancy responded to Mr. Keith Jones that we do not have a road millage, and she would like to keep it that way. Whatever is spent on the roads comes out of the General Fund. We contract with Clinton County for road maintenance. It's their responsibility to make sure those roads and bridges are in good shape. There's no way we could afford to fix a bridge, even with a road millage.

Trustee Pat commented the polymer roof is guaranteed to last as long as a metal roof. The guy that talked about it was very thorough for the benefits of it, and it costs less than a metal roof, and there's no maintenance.

Treasurer Nancy commented she used to send out a Newsletter with her taxes. People did not read it. They came in and asked questions that were listed on the Newsletter. Why spend that kind of money when it's not going to be read.

Keith Jones interjected throughout Board Comments.

Treasurer Nancy requested approval to go to the Michigan Municipal Treasurer's Association (MMTA) Conference in January.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve payment of the MMTA Conference for Nancy,
Seconded by Clerk Claudia.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Supervisor Jennings adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk