



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 – JANUARY 11, 2024

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, Trustee Arlene Pesik

ABSENT:

None.

ALSO PRESENT:

Keith Jones, Maurice Woodworth, Robert Rodway, Rachel Curtis, Shane Curtis, Deb Price, Peggy Lidgard, Robert Sauer

AGENDA:

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

PROPOSED MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14, 2023, BOARD MEETING:

Moved by Trustee Arlene that we accept the December 14, 2023, minutes, as written, Seconded by Trustee Pat. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Nancy provided the Board with the December 2023 financials, the December monthly income received report, bank balances, along with the supporting bank

statements as of December 31, 2023, and the corresponding bank reconciliations for each month's bank statement.

Huntington Bank Account Balances:

General Fund bank balance is \$101,826.87

Payroll account balance is \$5,888.24

Delinquent Property bank balance is \$139.59

Michigan Class:

General Fund is \$242,995.15

Emergency Services is \$133,983.47

ARPA – \$124,025.68

Mercantile Bank Account Balances:

Emergency Services account is \$15,557.23

ARPA Account is \$40,289.64

Journey Federal Credit Union Balances:

Tax account balance is \$635,799.83

Cemetery account balance is \$17,437.85

Treasurer Nancy included the tax recap for Clinton County. We've disbursed \$1,876,622.02 so far.

Moved by Trustee Pat to accept the Treasurer's report, as submitted, subject to 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 this month, and the Revenue and Expenditure Report ending December 31, 2023.

The following are the banks and check numbers for approval:

Huntington Bank – Payroll Check Numbers 552-560, Preauthorized by policy and approval, Check Numbers 11390-11392 and Check Numbers 11393-11403 and EFTs.

Mercantile Bank – EMS, Check Number 1087. The total for approval is \$16,198.24.

Moved by Trustee Pat to accept the Clerk's report, as submitted, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy. All in favor, Motion carried.

UNFINISHED/UPDATED BUSINESS:

Snow Plowing:

Clerk Claudia spoke to Andrew Clark from Clark's Landscaping. He commented we did not have a signed contract, so nothing had been done regarding salting or snow removal. He thought we were no longer interested in his company to do the job. The contract we originally received in December through email was not readable. He was going to drop another one off. Yesterday, January 10, 2024, someone came and dropped one off.

Moved by Trustee Pat to go with CDL since he did it last year and there weren't any problems, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **No**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **No**

Motion carried.

Township Hall Roof:

Board discussion.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we go with Elieff Brothers Roofing, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **No**

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Meeting Date:

Board discussion. The Budget meeting will be the same day as our next Board meeting, February 8, 2024, starting at 5 p.m.

Election Commission Meeting Date:

Clerk Claudia commented the Election Commission consists of the Clerk, Supervisor and Treasurer. We need to approve workers for the February Election. The meeting will be Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 1 p.m.

Election – Early Voting Worker's Pay – \$15/hour State funded:

Clerk Claudia reported when the County first discussed Early Voting pay with all the clerks, \$20 per hour was what was discussed. Then the State said they will pay \$15 per hour. If we went with \$20, the Township would have to pay the difference.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we keep the pay for the Early Voting workers at \$15 an hour, Seconded by Treasurer Nancy.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Election – Security Cameras – New Look Computer & Data Estimate – \$2,028.97:

Discussion regarding the new security Election laws for the State of Michigan.

Moved by Treasurer Nancy that we go with New Look Computer for the new security cameras, Seconded by Trustee Pat.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution Number 2024-01, Resolution Approving Ballot Language for Emergency Services:

In the December 2023 meeting we discussed this.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve Resolution Number 2024-01, as written, Seconded by Trustee Arlene.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution Number 2024-02, Resolution to Authorize Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority to Purchase and Finance an Ambulance:

Board discussion.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve Resolution Number 2024-02, as written, Seconded by Clerk Claudia.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

MTA Conference – April 22-25, 2024:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve the MTA Conference for anyone on the Board and the Deputy Clerk, Seconded by Trustee Arlene.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Treasurer Nancy Hughson – **Yes**

Trustee Patricia Hibbard – **Yes**

Supervisor Jennings West – **Yes**

Trustee Arlene Pesik – **Yes**

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger – **Yes**

All in favor, Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Library – Trustee Patricia Hibbard:

Trustee Pat commented she was not at the last Library Board meeting.

OMESA – Treasurer Nancy Hughson:

Treasurer Nancy supplied the Board with the November 28, 2023, minutes, Treasurer's December report and supporting financial statements. Also included in our Board packets is the Ovid Fire and Rescue Fire Chief's Report from 11-29-2023 through 12-19-2023, and Resolution 2023-04, Ovid Fire & Rescue Proposed 2024 Budget. Treasurer Nancy had her training with BS&A for the Cloud. She printed her first set of checks with the new system, which turned out great. The Board signed several papers for the insurance.

CAASA – Supervisor Jennings West:

Supervisor Jennings commented the new ambulance should be here within the next two months. It has been on order for almost two years. They had to wait for a frame, which they got, and it has been shipped out to build the rest of it.

Assessor Peggy Lidgard:

- *Peggy received one disabled Veteran letter back. There are four more still out.
- *There were four sales for the month.
- *All land values and ECF values for real property are completed.
- *Personal property statements were sent out on January 4th. There were nine. Peggy has not received any back yet.
- *Peggy went out on December 21st, and December 30th, 2023, and finished all her site visits for permits. There were nine permits. There are three permits not complete. Those will be rechecked for next year. Two of those were house fires they are still working on.
- *She is working on the Assessment Roll Book for 2024.

The Board of Review organizational meeting is March 4th, 2024, at 11 a.m. March Board of Review meetings are tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 11th from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. It will be a long day. The second day will be Friday, March 15th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

At 7:47 p.m., Robert Rodway, Rachel Curtis and Shane Curtis left.

Public Comments:

Keith Jones

Board Comments:

Treasurer Nancy responded to Mr. Keith Jones regarding the roof. We were informed by multiple roofers that it did not need to be repaired immediately.

Regarding the second paragraph in Mr. Keith Jones letter about the Supervisor meeting with the Road Commission, the Road Commission meets with us as a Board. It doesn't meet with just Supervisor Jennings. The meeting he went to was an MDOT meeting. In speaking with Mr. Doug Steffen, Director of the Road Commission, they were out inspecting the bridges when she called him. This week the Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk went on a ride-along with him, and were told those bridges are fine. We do not need to worry about them in the near future. He said our roads and bridges are in good shape. Mr. Steffen called Mr. Keith Jones, and left a message, but no response.

Mr. Keith Jones interjecting throughout Board comments.

Treasurer Nancy commented we've spent \$1,135,580.00 over the last seven years. Mr. Steffen also said there's no need for a road millage because we are maintaining our roads. He's more than willing to come to a meeting and explain this.

Supervisor Jennings commented, when we were riding around, Mr. Steffen reported our Township has good roads. We've done a very good job maintaining them.

As far as the Code of Ethics and so on, Treasurer Nancy commented she feels we are very ethical. We are very transparent. If anyone has a problem, come and talk to us. Don't publish something in the paper when you don't have all the facts.

Clerk Claudia commented we noticed in the email we received from Mr. Keith Jones, before it was published in the paper, several things that were not accurate. We called Mr. Keith Jones and asked him to come in and talk to us so we could clear it up, and he refused to come and talk with us.

The 2024 taxable value threshold for exempting General Law townships from the requirement to publish minutes has increased to \$110 million. The 2023 rate was \$104 million. Our taxable value is not that high.

Trustee Pat commented regarding a raise for the Clerk and Treasurer. The public isn't aware of what goes on. Trustee Pat feels they are here working more than any other boards she has seen. Kam Washburn once told us you should ask for a raise every year. You have another year of experience and knowledge. What's being asked of the three people that are here is more work all the time.

Treasurer Nancy reported Jennings received a raise at the same time we did, but that wasn't reported in Mr. Jones letter.

At 8:10 p.m., Mr. Keith Jones gave a note to Supervisor Jennings West.

Clerk Claudia commented Nancy did the water testing, so she's being reimbursed for that.

Treasurer Nancy explained the water testing process. She met with Kylie Trisch, Environmental Health Specialist I, from the Mid-Michigan Health Department. All the test results came back fine.

Board discussions.

Moved by Trustee Arlene to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Trustee Pat.
All in favor, Motion carried.

Supervisor Jennings adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk