



OVID 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 – MARCH 9, 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, Trustee Arlene Pesik

ALSO PRESENT:

Deputy Zachary Smith; Lynn Weber, Director, Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority (CAASA); Commissioner Val Vail-Shirey

AGENDA:

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

PROPOSED MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 2, 2023, BUDGET MEETING:

Moved by Trustee Arlene to approve the February 2, 2023, budget meeting minutes, as printed, Seconded by Trustee Pat. All in favor, Motion carried.

PROPOSED MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9, 2023, BOARD MEETING:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve the February 9, 2023, minutes, as submitted, Seconded by Trustee Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

statements as of February 28, 2023, and the corresponding bank reconciliations for each month's bank statement.

Huntington Bank Account Balances:

General Fund bank balance is \$434,168.87.

Payroll account balance is \$4,611.82.

Delinquent Property Tax account balance is \$139.59.

Mercantile Bank Emergency Services account is \$284,109.58.

Mercantile ARPA Account is \$234,460.90.

Journey Federal Credit Union Balances:

Tax account balance is \$217,492.90.

Cemetery account balance is \$5,693.14.

Treasurer Nancy reported that the \$16,957.79 listed is the DNR Pilt. It was an ACH into the General Fund and needed to go into the Tax Fund.

The Cemetery Bank Statement, Journey Federal Credit Union doesn't print a statement unless there's activity. That's why that one looks different.

Treasurer Nancy received the okay today from the County Treasurer to go ahead with her disbursements. Those checks will be going out next week. Next month we will have a final disbursement amount.

Moved by Trustee Pat to 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 there were a few items over budget, such as the water testing, Board of Review and Library.

Moved by Clerk Claudia that we amend and approve the budget for the changes mentioned, and any other year-end budget amendments for the year-end audit, from unallocated funds, Seconded by Trustee Pat. All in favor, Motion carried.

CLERK/BILLS – FOR APPROVAL:

Clerk Claudia supplied the Board with the Check Disbursement Report for review.

The following are the banks and check numbers for approval:

Huntington Bank – Payroll Check Numbers 475-481; Preauthorized by policy and approval, Check Numbers 11220-11223; and Check Numbers 11224-11230.

Mercantile Bank – Emergency Services – Check Number 1078.

Journey Federal Credit Union – Cemetery – Check Number 1024.

The total for approval is \$26,120.13.

A check was written out of the General Fund for \$16,957.79 to the Ovid Township Treasurer for the Tax Fund. It was an ACH put into the General Fund for the DNR Pilt that should have gone to the Tax Fund.

Moved by Trustee Pat to accept the Clerk's Check Disbursement Report for payment of all invoices, Seconded by Trustee Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

UNFINISHED/UPDATED BUSINESS:

Township Hall Roof – Bids:

Supervisor Jennings reported we are still getting some bids. We will need to check on the bids we have if they're still good.

Custom Heating and Plumbing – Furnace Inspection:

No update. Clerk Claudia commented it has been one year since the furnaces were installed.

Moles/Lime/Price – Assessor Mark Holley – (Absent)

Mole Assassin/Ed Buchmayer – \$170/Traps:

Board discussion.

Moved by Treasurer Nancy that we approve Ed Buchmayer, the Mole Assassin, to set the mole traps for \$170, Seconded by Clerk Claudia. All in favor, Motion carried.

Wirostek Lighting – New Bid \$8,619.60:

Clerk Claudia reported the updated bid for the Hall lighting work from Wirostek Lighting is \$8,619.60, which is slightly over the amount Trustee Pat made in her motion in the February meeting. Board discussion.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we accept the new Wirostek Lighting bid for \$8,619.60, using ARPA funds, Seconded by Clerk Claudia. All in favor, Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lynn Weber, Director, Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority (CAASA):

- The CAASA Board has been engaged in finding ways to secure the future of their ambulance service. Virtually everything has gotten more expensive, driving up the cost and availability of supplies, equipment, and vehicles.
- There is a worldwide shortage of EMS providers, most specifically Paramedics. Common reasons for providers leaving the profession are workload (burnout), wages and benefits.
- CAASA's efforts to combat these issues have included significantly raising wages and adding insurance and PTO, as well as adding a 3rd ambulance most day shifts to lighten the workload. This approach has been successful so far, although they have lost a couple of strong Paramedic candidates to higher wage/benefit offers.

- A significant increase in rates is being discussed to help address the increasing costs and lessen the burden on the municipalities. This includes a plan to limit the out-of-pocket expense to the uninsured and underinsured.
- A significant challenge is that a rate increase only affects calls paid by commercial insurance, which is about 25% of the total calls.
- There was 3748 responses for 2022, resulting in 2895 transports. This equates to 30% of the calls not being transported. These are lift assist calls and patient refusals, and are called "Treat, no transport". Only car accidents or calls resulting in medication being given are billed as insurance only. This equates to only a few being billed.
- The CAASA Leadership Team is looking into efficiencies and cost saving measures that can be implemented on the operations side.

Chloride Contract – \$34,952.09:

Moved by Clerk Claudia to approve the chloride contract of three applications for \$34,952.09, Seconded by Trustee Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution Number 2023-02 – Resolution to Establish Ovid Township Officers Salary – Supervisor’s Salary:

Clerk Claudia commented since we established new pay for the 2023-2024 budget, we have to do a resolution for each position approved.

Moved by Clerk Claudia that we approve the Resolution to Establish Ovid Township Officers Salary, Resolution Number 2023-02, the Supervisor’s salary for \$15,592.50, 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 2023-03 – Resolution to Establish Ovid Township Officers Salary – Clerk’s Salary:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve the Resolution to Establish Ovid Township Officers Salary, Resolution Number 2023-03, the Clerk’s salary for \$23,310, 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.

Resolution Number 2023-04 – Resolution to Establish Ovid Township Officers Salary – Treasurer’s Salary:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we approve the Resolution to Establish Ovid Township Officers Salary, Resolution Number 2023-04, the Treasurer’s salary for \$23,310, 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.

2023-2024 – Proposed Budget – Hourly wage change for Workers :

Clerk Claudia commented before we adopt the new budget we should discuss possibly making some changes on the Salary Schedule for deputies and Election workers since Proposal 22-2 passed, and there will be nine days of early voting. There was a Clerk’s meeting at the Courthouse discussing some of the changes coming. Board discussion. Moved by Clerk Claudia that we pay all deputies \$15 per hour, pay the Election Chair and Co-Chair \$30 for the first hour and \$16 for each hour thereafter, pay Election Inspectors \$30 for the first hour and \$15 for each hour thereafter, provided they work at least six hours once the polls open, 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.

2023-2024 – Proposed Budget:

Clerk Claudia commented we need to adopt the 2023-2024 budgets.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we adopt all 2023-2024 budgets with the changes suggested, 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.

Budget adopted.

Hall Cleaning – Connie Kioski – \$50/per cleaning:

Board discussion regarding the proposal Connie Kioski presented to the Board for cleaning the Hall for \$50 per cleaning, and Ovid Township purchasing all the cleaning supplies. She will be checking on the insurance she needs.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we contract with Connie Kioski for cleaning the Hall for \$50 per cleaning, provided she gets the insurance that's needed, 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.

Election Supplies – Feather Voting Banner – “Election Source”:

Clerk Claudia presented the Board with information regarding some new Election supplies/equipment. Trustee Pat and Claudia have seen the voting booths all set up. Board discussion.

Moved by Clerk Claudia that we purchase one feather voting banner, 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.

Election Supplies – “Inclusion Solutions”:

Moved by Trustee Pat that we purchase three 4-Station Franklin Voting Booths, three covers, one set of privacy wings and one chair using ARPA funds, 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.

IT RIGHT/VC3 – Contract:

Board discussion regarding the contract and exploring other options for service.

Moved by Trustee Pat that we renew the Contract at this time, but explore other options, 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.

REPORTS:

Deputy Zachary Smith:

Deputy Smith reported since he was last here there have been three very bad accidents in our area, two that were related to mental health issues where they took their own lives. There are multiple calls a day pertaining to mental health issues. The jail is full of mental health issues and/or drug-related issues. Something needs to be done at the State level to accommodate all these people. There have been a couple of larceny cases.

Library – Trustee Patricia Hibbard:

Trustee Pat supplied the Board with the January 17, 2023, Board meeting minutes, along with the financials, the February 2023 Statistics sheet and the February Librarian’s Report. Trustee Pat reported they closed the Fifth Third account. She is still suggesting they get an accounting software program.

OMESA – Treasurer Nancy Hughson:

Treasurer Nancy supplied the Board with the January 24, 2023, minutes, Treasurer’s report and supporting financial statements. Also in our packets is the Ovid Fire and Rescue Fire Chief’s Report from 1-25-2023 through 2-28-2023. Nancy asked to close out QuickBooks so they wouldn’t take out more money for that. It is automatically taken right out of the checkbook.

CAASA – Supervisor Jennings West:

Supervisor Jennings commented he had to leave the CAASA meeting early to come to our Board meeting.

Lynn Weber reported they talked about trying to settle the benefit package as far as the PTO, those kinds of things.

County Commissioner – Val Vail-Shirey:

The Broadband contract has been approved for Frontier. They offered more than anyone else.

Val reported Hollister and M-21 will have a four-way stop. MDOT approved a four-way stop. Val spoke with Doug Steffen, who called MDOT. MDOT has signed off on it. It is in the hands of the Michigan State Police, and they have to sign off.

Board members commented we met with the Road Commission today, and specifically asked about it.

Val Chairs the Human Resources Committee. She commented if there’s anyone in the community we know that would be a good candidate to serve on any committees to let her know.

She is also the County Commissioner appointed to Planning and Zoning, which has been dealing with the solar application and the Eagle Township situation. They did approve the solar application.

***Public Comments:**

None

Board Comments:

Supervisor Jennings stated he received the EMS breakdown from Treasurer Nancy for all three OMESA entities.

Lynn Weber asked why the ambulance funding didn't come out of the same fund as OMESA. We explained it does. The ambulance and fire come out of the EMS fund. It's also a separate bank account.

Supervisor Jennings adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk