

Johnstown Township Minutes

13641 South M-37 Highway. Battle Creek Michigan 49017

Regular Board Meeting – August 11, 2021 – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Supervisor Barb Earl, Clerk Sheri Babcock, Treasurer Karmen Nickerson
Trustee Deana Powell, Trustee Jeff Warren

Absent: None

Visitors: Twelve (12)

Agenda: A motion was made by Warren to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Powell.
All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comments (3 minutes per person): None

Minutes: A motion was made by Powell to approved the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of
July 14, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Powell to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting of
July 14, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Nickerson to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting of
July 21, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Earl. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Powell to approve the minutes of Special Board meeting of
August 4, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report – Karmen Nickerson

- Summer tax collection is going ok. Last day to pay summer property taxes without a penalty is
Sept. 14, 2021
- Treasurer's Report presented

A motion was made by Warren to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Powell. All
ayes. Motion carried.

Clerk's Report – Sheri Babcock

- Dowling Library Trustee – we received a resignation letter from Grethel Inman to vacate her position on
the Dowling Library Board effective July 5, 2021.

A motion was made by Powell to accept the resignation of Grethel Inman from the Dowling Library Board.
Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

- We have a resident, John Howe, who has been recommended by the Dowling Library for appointment
to fill this position for the remaining term. It was explained that due to this vacancy occurring before
mid-term, it will be necessary for him to run on the 2022 ballot. In April 2022 paperwork should be
completed to be placed on the ballot. If less than three people run, it will not need to be on the August
2022 primary election but appear on the November general election.

A motion was made by Powell to accept the appointment of John Howe, as Dowling Library Trustee effective
August 11, 2021. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried. Oath of Office was recorded.

Clerk's Report – Sheri Babcock (continued)

- Mobile Market: Blue Zone in partnership with South Michigan Food Bank will have a mobile market food box distribution here at the township on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday beginning August 17 – October 19th. They will have 50 boxes available on a first come, first serve basis.
- The Register of Deeds Office – announced a website change and training sessions available for users.
- Budget Modifications:

Treasurer:	101.253.726.000	Office supplies	-936.83
	101.253.801.000	Contractor serv.	+936.83

Summer tax bills were mailed out by contractor instead of using office supplies due to lower cost.

A motion was made by Warren to approve the budget modification as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Revenue	101.000.671.000	Hall Rental	600.00
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Hall rentals resumed

A motion was made by Powell to approve the budget modifications as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Assessor's Report – Joyce Foondle

- Building Permit Listing for June & July
- Agricultural classed properties are nearly finished up. The next area to receive notice letters are Uldriks, Dr., Ferris Rd, Stickland Rd & Dunn Rd.
- No ratios from County Equalization as of yet. Generally residential sales study will be done first, followed by appraisal studies in Agricultural, Commercial & Industrial
- Land Division – two approvals
- Michigan Tax Tribunal: Answer has been sent

Fire Report – Fire Chief Pete Dunn

- 34 incidents in July for a total of 286 incidents year to date.
- 23 MFR in July, 209 MFR year to date.
- Training: Pump and MFR
- Personnel changes: None
- Current Membership: 19 Active, 4 probationary, 2 cadets.
- Department Activity: None

Next Quarterly Meeting of the Township Board and JFD Officers is October 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Report - Bruce Campbell

- Continued work on American Rescue Plan
- Appointment to Animal Shelter Board
- Other boards need volunteers
- Re-Appointment for Chairperson for Barry County Officers Compensation Committee
- Continued information on activities with Dar Leaf and election investigations

Old Business:

- Sleepy Hollow: Review of where process now stands. After many phone calls, it was determined by the resident in charge of getting petitions, that they would like to change this to a two-step process and bring the road down to dirt, fill with crushed asphalt for step one. The second step would address the drainage and re-pave the road.

Old Business: (continued)

- Long Lake Ordinance Update: Still waiting on return email from the lawyer. Additional petition signatures are still needed as they are at about 61%. Additional information was provided by a resident including the old copies of the DNR booklet that addressed the daylight savings time. The ordinance is definitely out of date and would require more changes than just the times.

New Business:

- Roof Repair – we have two estimates to address the problems with leaks. The first one is for \$26,600 for sealing all screws, fabric seal seams, spray sealing coat. The second estimate is for \$5,000 to replace all screws, with newer version that covers the rubber seal, replacing rubber vent boots, and repositioning the snow/ice breakers to install correctly. In our meeting with the contractor, it seems that the second option at \$5,000 would be enough to address our current leaking problems.

A motion was made by Powell to approve the \$5,000 estimate as presented. Seconded by Warren. Ayes. Motion carried.

Pay Invoices and Payroll:

A motion was made by Warren to pay the bills in the amount of \$37,810.19 as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Citizen's Comments: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Powell to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Attested to by:
Barbara Earl
Supervisor



Sheri Babcock, Clerk