

Johnstown Township Minutes

13641 South M-37 Highway. Battle Creek, Michigan 49017

Regular Board Meeting – March 8, 2023 – 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: wa
None

Visitors: Twenty Nine (29)

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):

Minutes: A motion was made by Warren to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting & Public Hearing for Clear Lake of February 8, 2023, the Regular Board Meeting of February 8, 2023, and the Special Board Budget & ARPA planning meeting of March 1, 2023, as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Karmen Nickerson

Tax collection went smoothly with 95% of taxes collected. This is slightly down from the average 97% to 98%. Karmen explained the different millages and the amounts paid to the separate agencies.

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

Clerk's Report – Sheri Babcock

May Special Election: Gull Lake Schools and Kalamazoo RESA have proposals on the May ballot. Due to the low number of registered voters (156) it is proposed that we consolidate this election with Barry Township.

Resolution #2023-3-1 needs to be adopted.

Resolution offered by Board Member Powell and supported by Board member Warren.

Roll Call vote: Ayes: Warren, Powell, Nickerson, Babcock, Earl
Nays: None

Supervisor Declares Resolution adopted.

Property Ins.: Insurance policy has been updated to include the new value on the Grass Rig after conversion and coverage for the pavilion.

Election Changes: Not much information is available at this time. None of the Prop-2 proposals will be in place for the May election.

Pavilion Contractor: Can we pay out \$2,000 for labor time towards the balance due of \$6,638 leaving a balance due of \$4,638. A motion was made by Warren to pay out \$2,000 to Baumgartner Construction as a draw on amount still due. Seconded by Nickerson. All ayes. Motion carried

Budget Modifications

General Fund -101

Supervisor

101.171.715.000	Payroll Tax	+1.00	Increase expense
101.171.726.000	Office Supplies	-1.00	Decrease expense

Elections

101.191.702.000	Election Worker Salaries	+8.50	Increase expense
101.191.702.000	Election Workers Payroll Tax	+ .65	Increase expense
101.191.801.000	Contractual Services	-9.15	Decrease expense

Assessor

101.209.802.000	Reappraisal Services	+215.00	Increase expense
101.209.801.000	Contractual Services	-215.00	Decrease expense

Clerk

101.215.715.000	Payroll Tax	+81.93	Increase expense
101.215.703.000	Other Salaries	-81.93	Decrease expense

Treasurer

101.253.703.000	Deputy Treasurer	+106.00	Increase expense
101.253.726.000	Office Supplies	-106.00	Decrease expense

Fire Dept. – 206

206.336.732.000	Dues & Subscription	+573.00	Increase expense
206.336.740.000	Operating supplies	-573.00	Decrease expense

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

- Written report deferred until next month;
- BOR starts next week

Fire Report – Fire Chief Chris Jozwik

- 31 calls for the month of February for a total of 57 calls year to date;
- 15 MFR calls in February. MFR calls year to date 29;
- Trainings: Ice Search & Rescue;
- Personnel changes: One resignation, one return from leave.
- Current Membership: 17 Active members, 1 cadet;
- Department Activity: Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for April 29, 2023 – 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Next Quarterly Meeting of the Township Board and JFD Officers is April 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Report - Bruce Campbell

- Provided information on appointments to various boards and county positions;
- Beginning to discuss options for the Jail. Current population in the jail is down;
- The FOC building owed by the County will be used for offices;
- Discussion on the Blight Issues in Johnstown Township

Old Business:

- 1. Lacey Road Truck Traffic:** Nothing new to report.
- 2. Clear Lake Weed Control:** The final public hearing was held today, Mar. 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Notice of Assessments will be mailed out next week to residents. They plan to start treatment of the lake in the summer 2023.
- 3. Mill Lake Sewer:** Nothing to report. Remove from Old Business until we hear back from the residents;
- 4. Township Blight Problems:** Continuing to work towards Blight Ordinance. The Enforcement Officer from Bedford Township was here and discussed in detail how this is working for Bedford Township. Many residents were in attendance from Winans Drive area with great concerns over the condition of a property in their neighborhood. They are very frustrated with the lack of enforcement and want the township to get a Blight Ordinance in place.

New Business: None

Pay Invoices and Payroll:

A motion was made by Warren to pay the bills in the amount of \$106,145.35 as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Citizen's Comments:

- Dowling Library is holding a Used Book sale this Saturday. You can shop for used books in the basement of the library.
- Multiple residents had comments about the junk on Winans Drive, dogs that run after people walking or riding bikes. Want the township to move forward with Blight Ordinance.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Powell to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Attested to by:
Barbara Earl
Supervisor


Sheri Babcock, Clerk