

Johnstown Township Minutes

13641 South M-37 Highway. Battle Creek Michigan 49017

Regular Board Meeting – July 13, 2022 – 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: 13 residents

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

Public Comments (3 minutes per person): None

Minutes: Four sets of board minutes were presented:

- June 8, 2022 Special Informational Meeting—Sleepy Hollow Dr. Paving.
- June 8, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
- July 6, 2022 Special Election Commission Meeting
- July 12, 2022 Special Election Commission Meeting

A motion was made by Powell to approve the four sets of minutes as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Karmen Nickerson

- Treasurer's report presented with funds as of June 30, 2022.
- Second half of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds received.
- Summer Taxes: Bills went out by July 1, 2022
- More residents are using the online payment option to pay their property taxes.
- The Auditor completed the onsite portion of the FY2021-2022 audit the week of June 20. The Board would like to invite an auditor to attend a future meeting.

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

Primary Election: As of July 13, 2022, 450 AV Ballots have been sent out for the August 2, 2022, Primary Election.

Election Training: Election workers are required to have training every two- and four-year election cycle. We would like to include a training stipend to cover these trainings. We will approve this half-day training payment approval each year on the annual salary schedule.

A motion by Nickerson to provide a \$75 stipend for a half-day training for the election workers who attended the required training. Seconded by Earl. All ayes. Motion carried.

Clerk's Report – Sheri Babcock (continued)

Clear Lake Weed: The joint meeting for Johnstown and Baltimore Township residents was held earlier this evening and was well attended. Andy from PLM presented information regarding proposed weed control. Petitions were available for residents to start circulating.

Assessor's Report – Joyce Foondle

- Building Permits – Working with county to address problems in getting permits in a timely manner.
- Inspections have started for properties on Hutchinson Rd., Bird Rd., and Schreiner Rd. and Cooper Rd. Inspections on Fruin Rd. and Mud Lake Rd. are nearly completed.
- Board of Review: Due to change in law, residents can now apply for Principal Residence Exemptions any time of the year.
- Land divisions: one new division
- Tax Tribunal: no new cases.

Fire Report – Fire Chief Chris Jozwik

- 39 calls in June, for a total of 219 incidents year to date.
- 20 MFR calls in June, for a total of 136 MFR calls year-to-date.
- Training: Hazmat and Driver's Training each completed.
- Personnel changes: One Firefighter completed certificate 1 & 2.
- Current Membership: 20 Active, 1 cadet.
- Community Event: Fine Lake bike parade.

Next Quarterly Meeting of the Township Board and JFD Officers is October 3, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

Commissioner Report – Bruce Campbell

- In observance of **Juneteenth**, County courts were closed.
- **Financial Audit** resulted in sound report.
- Proposed housing options – Old Friend of the Court building declined.
- **Thornapple Assisted Living:** expansion project is near completion. Ribbon cutting ceremony held last week.
- **Bylaw changes:** Commissioners will hear public comments.

New Business:

- **ARPA Funds Meeting:** Special meeting will be held August 10, 2022, at 6:00 PM to plan, review, and budget ARPA funds.

Old Business:

- **Mill Lake Sewer:** Project General Manager Scott Monroe stated approximately 87 homes would be connected. Estimated costs and timelines were discussed.
- **Fire Department Policy Changes:** A motion was made by Warren to approve the proposed policy and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) changes as proposed. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business: (continued)

A motion was made by Warren to proceed with modifications to convert the medical truck#893 to a grass rig as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

- **Sleepy Hollow Paving:** A revised cost estimate has been received from the Road Commission as the initial estimate contained an error. Discussion of cost and cost assessment options.

A motion was made by Nickerson to begin the 7-year special assessment of all effected parcels with the cost to be assessed on a per parcel basis for the purpose of paving Sleepy Hollow. Seconded by Babcock. All ayes. Motion carried.

Pay Invoices and Payroll:

A motion was made by Warren to pay the bills in the amount of \$189,189.37 as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Citizen's Comments:

- Resident inquired if something could be done to improve the appearance of Iden Cemetery. The Board will get an estimate to replace the front fence at Iden Cemetery.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Powell to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m. Seconded by Warren All ayes. Motion carried.

**Attested to by:
Barbara Earl
Supervisor**



Sheri Babcock, Clerk