

Johnstown Township Minutes

13641 South M-37 Highway. Battle Creek Michigan 49017

Special Board Meeting – August 10, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
Preliminary Review & Budget approvals for ARPA fund projects

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Visitors: Ten (10)

Purpose: To further evaluate proposed assets or projects to be considered and funded with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and begin budget approvals. The community was invited to attend.

The ARPA funds can be spent upon receipt and must be obligated by December 31, 2024, but funds are not required to be used or obligated before then. Funds must be expended by December 31, 2026.

The township has now received both the first and second “tranche” payment. Including interest, the current balance in the fund is \$329,546.86.

Public Comments: Suggested use of ARPA funds from the public:

- Expansion of availability of natural gas service – only a specific area, not a benefit to the entire community;
- Improvement of dirt road, curve – only a specific area, not a benefit to the entire community;
- Addition of more recycle services – probably not under ARPA but we want to invite Jim Brown from Hastings Charter Township for additional ideas on recycle;
- Roof problems at the township – these have been repaired and not problems at this time.
- Improvement in Dust control in the township – probably not under ARPA but we will contact the road commission and also check out option used by Barry Township of back-to-back dust control;
- Solar Power at the township/fire department;
- Charging stations for electric vehicles;
- Internet Service improvements – insufficient funds available to address this large project
- White lines on township roads – probably not under ARPA but research more with the road commission and discuss at annual budget meeting.

Review of estimates received on previously discussed projects:

Security System: One estimate received for \$3,975.00.

Boiler System: Three estimates reviewed. Two from FHC and one from Hunter Prell. Would like to proceed with the lowest cost estimate from FHC of \$17,200, adding 20% contingency for a total cost of \$20,700.

Water Well: Replacement of water well due to high nitrates and low-pressure problems

Katz Well Drilling for estimate for 150' well, pump - \$19,893.50

Rice's Well Service – Aaron Rice expressed concern that our issue may be related to plumbing rather than the well for water volume issue. While flushing our water softener system, a large amount of medium was expelled. Need further exploration into replacement of this system.

Water Well: (continued)

Kelley's Well Service: Can we keep existing well as non-potable water source for the Fire Dept.?

Can we install a filtration system to address nitrate issue in current well?
Installation location of a new well would need to consider heated water lines in the floor on the Fire Dept. side of the building.

Decision to retest water x 2 to see where the nitrates are at now.

Consider contacting Besco or Peerless for a commercial softener system. Fire Chief Jozwik will take the lead on this project.

Water Softener: To be added for consideration

Pavilion/park area: 3 estimates received. Discussion on size. Would like to consider 32' x 60' vs. the 32' x 40' option as previously discussed. An area has been mowed and a proposed stake-out done to give better visual. Difference in estimates: depth of concrete – 4" or 6", one has no excavating included, one was only given by phone with minimal information.

Continue with consideration. Get update on estimates to larger size, cost of excavating as some omitted from estimates, and then revisit this discussion at the next meeting.

Previously discussed items now ready for approval:

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Account</u>
<u>Fire Dept.</u>	Purchase of combined rescue tool for MFR truck	\$ 15,000	206.336.970.000
<u>Fire Dept.</u>	Personal Protection Gear x 4 sets	\$ 14,000	206.336.970.000
<u>Fire Dept.</u>	Replacement of Fire Dept. Boiler System	\$ 20,700	206.336.970.000
<u>Fire/Twp</u>	Security System	\$ 3,975	206.336.970.000 101.265.970.000
<u>Fire Dept.:</u>	Transfer in ARPA funds	\$ 51,687	206.000.699.000
<u>Township:</u>	Transfer in ARPA funds	\$ 1,988	101.000.699.000

A motion was made by Powell to approve the use of ARPA funds to cover the cost of the purchase of the combined rescue tool for Fire Dept. at \$15,000, 4 sets of personal protection gear for Fire Dept. at \$14,000 replacement of the boiler system located in the Fire Dept. at a cost of \$20,700 and installation of a security system at a cost of \$3,975.00 for a total budget cost of \$53,675. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: A resident was concerned about the speed limit on Hickory Road east of Manning Lake Road. Could the 25 mph be moved out to include the area on the blind curve?

Next Meeting: August 31, 2022 – 4:00 p.m. - The community invited to attend. To be posted on the sign, display case & web site.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Powell to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Attested to by:
Barbara Earl
Supervisor



Sheri Babcock, Clerk