

APPROVED MINUTES
PINE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Drews, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

PRESENT: William Drews, Supervisor; Marla Sprague, Clerk; Misty VanGessel, Treasurer; Tyler Nadeau, Trustee;
Randy Robson, Trustee

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Julie Drews, Deputy Supervisor, Barbara Kaaikala, Deputy Clerk; Steve Buchholz, Zoning Administrator

COUNTY COMMISSIONER PRESENT: Patrick Q. Carr, District 8 representative

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Robson explained the agenda publication process on the Township website.

Drews requested two additions to the agenda – 1) Four Seasons insect control contract renewal; 2) Board of Appeals training

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson, to approve the amended agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Judy Graham, Pine Township – asked for the current Planning Commission members to be reappointed tonight

Dawn Sweet, Pine Township – agreed with Judy Graham

COUNTY COMMISSION UPDATE

Patrick Q. Carr, Montcalm County Commission Chairman and District Fire Chief, gave a Commission update and a Fire District update.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Nadeau noted that the removal of the Chinese Elm needs to be under Cemetery Report instead of Fire District Report.

Robson moved, supported by VanGessel to approve the amended June 12, 2023 Minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

TREASURER/FINANCIAL REPORTS/BANK UPDATE:

VanGessel noted that there is an outstanding check in the tax account.

Robson asked for details on a check written to the Montcalm County Drain Commission. Sprague explained that a payment to the Drain Commission for a recently sold parcel was required to be processed through the Township.

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson to approve the Treasurer report.

MOTION CARRIED

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Buchholz reported having issued 1 zoning permit, 2 land division applications, and 1 combination in June.

He reported on blight issues that will be turned over to Montcalm County.

Drews noted over-height stacks at a sawmill and semi's parked at a property that had been a problem in the past. Buchholz will watch those properties.

Robson moved, supported by Drews to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

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ROAD REPORT:

Drews reported that Cannonsville Road is about to be repaved. He has been checking roads, especially for washouts.

Nadeau moved, supported by VanGessel, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

LIBRARY BOARD REPORT:

Jamie Gorby, Pine library board representative, stated that she reported on the June 8 Library Board meeting at the last Pine Township Board meeting and that the next meeting will be on July 20. She had nothing further to report.

Robson moved, supported by Drews, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

- followed up on the number of parcels in the township (1454)
- Jamie Gorby reported that the Planning Commission had no comment at tonight's meeting on the Spencer Township Master Plan update
- notified the audience that Board Minutes are not posted to the Township website until approved at the Board Meeting, Robson asked public to let him know if they notice updates that need to be done
- has contacted State Representative Patrick Outman asking for funding for a storm siren for the Township
- is looking for solutions to the Township liability on the Birch Landing property
- Computer software may be needed to maintain cemetery records. Sprague will look for options and report at the August meeting

CLERK REPORT:

- has been working on the 2022-2023 budget
- reported on the time requirement for the August 2 election for Central Montcalm Public Schools millage election

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Picnic tables delivered by Scott Millard, assembled by Drews and Chris Rydahl – Thank you Scott and Chris for your help!
- Handicapped table is on back order
- Rainbow Lake Drain – recap meeting on July 22, 2023 at 10:00 AM at Pine Township Hall
- Township Hall Pavilion security camera has been installed with 1 year storage to the Cloud. Thank you Nate Drews for installing!
- Township Hall parking lot recoating and marking are scheduled to be completed this week

OLD BUSINESS

TOWNSHIP HALL SIDING:

Drews moved, supported by Sprague, to accept the \$2,600.00 4-foot high wainscoating bid.

Roll call vote: Robson – No; Nadeau – No; Drews – Yes; Sprague – No; VanGessel – No

MOTION FAILED

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Nadeau moved, supported by VanGessel, to purchase and install all new siding with evergreen wainscoted bottom, ivory top, with fascia and soffit, at a cost not to exceed \$6,500.00.

Roll call vote: Sprague – Yes; VanGessel – Yes; Robson – Yes; Draws – Yes; Nadeau – Yes. MOTION CARRIED

TOWNSHIP HALL ELECTRONIC ROAD SIGN UPDATE:

Robson presented three sign options to the Board. Sprague moved, supported by Robson, to select Design #2.

MOTION CARRIED

Robson moved, supported by Draws, to contract for electrical installation of the sign not to exceed \$1,000.00.

Roll call vote: Draws – Yes; Robson – Yes; Nadeau – Yes; Sprague – Yes; VanGessel – Yes. MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

TOWNSHIP HALL GROUNDS USE POLICY UPDATE:

Sprague has updated the grounds use policy and distribute the policy to Board members.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

The positions of Jamie Gorby, Dan Main, and Chris Bell need renewal for a 3-year term. Draws recommended all three for reappointment and all three agreed to continue serving.

Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel, to reappoint Jamie Gorby, Dan Main, and Chris Bell for 3-year terms on the Planning Commission beginning August 1, 2023 and ending July 31, 2026. MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET BALANCING TRANSFERS:

Nadeau moved, supported by VanGessel, to authorize Sprague to balance the 2022-2023 Township budget by transferring monies between accounts MOTION CARRIED

TOWNSHIP BLIGHT ORDINANCE:

Action on the blight ordinance was tabled indefinitely to allow the Planning Commission to move on to other tasks.

FOUR SEASONS EXTERMINATING CONTRACT RENEWAL:

Nadeau moved, supported by Draws, to renew the Four Seasons Exterminating contract for one year at a cost of \$57.70.

Roll call vote: VanGessel – Yes; Robson – Yes; Draws – Yes; Nadeau – Yes; Sprague – Yes. MOTION CARRIED

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TRAINING:

Draws moved, supported by Sprague, to decline the offer from Cato Township to utilize Leslie Abdoo of Foster, Swift as a training source for the Board of Appeals and to pursue training through Doug Antes of Fulton Township, Gratiot County. MOTION CARRIED

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson to pay checks 3246 – 3278, plus an electronic funds transfer for monthly bills in the amount of \$28, 196.60, with check 3259 being VOID. MOTION CARRIED

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Owen, Pine Township – reported how the 4th Street, Langston public/private road access issue has affected him and his home, and asked the Board to resolve the issue. Drews explained the investigation process that the Township went through regarding the issue.

Judy Graham – Pine Township – asked that the pavilion be included when making the building and grounds policy

Dawn Sweet – Pine Township – asked about enforcement of Township or County blight ordinance

Gordon Gorby – Pine Township – sees value in spending Township money toward training for committee members

RONALD IMHOFF PROPERTY REZONING/SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT:

Scott Millard reported that Imhoff, who was present at a Planning Commission Public Hearing this afternoon prior to the Board meeting during which a rezoning and special land use permit was approved for his property, has contacted Millard and informed Millard that Imhoff does not want the rezoning/permit.

The Board tabled the issue until the August, 2023 Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Robson moved, supported by Nadeau, to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sprague

Marla Sprague
Pine Township Clerk

Minutes typed by Barbara Kaaikala