

APPROVED MINUTES
PINE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

None

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 MINUTES:

Nadeau requested a correction to the Supervisor Report – date of Farnsworth Park handicap facilities pickup needs correction – October 31 (instead of October 1)

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson, to approve the Minutes as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

TREASURER/FINANCIAL REPORTS/BANK UPDATE (on file):

- Provided the Board with copies of the report.
- Has received several complaints from property taxpayers desiring that payments by credit card be accepted.

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

MOTION CARRIED

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT (Steve Buchholz):

- 2 zoning permits and no land division applications and for the month of September

- As authorized by the Board, contacted Montcalm County Sheriff's Department for action on the Phillips property blight complaint
- Has contacted the owner of a dumpster rental business to determine whether the business qualifies as a home-based business

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

MOTION CARRIED

ROAD REPORT:

- Drews reported having given Mark Christensen of the Road Commission of Montcalm County updates on Township road conditions
- Robson reported that he has taken pictures of the two roads that were updated this summer, and of the Hall pavilion, and has posted them on the Township website

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

MOTION CARRIED

FIRE DISTRICT REPORT (Drews):

- There were no fire runs in Pine Township in September
- Gave an update on the purchase and sale of fire tender trucks.

Robson moved, supported by VanGessel to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

CEMETERY REPORT (Sprague):

- 2 burials and 1 cremains in Riverside Cemetery, and 1 burial in West Pine Cemetery in September.
- Reported on software available to record cemetery records.

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson, to allow Sprague to pursue information from Maple Valley Township regarding their cemetery software.

MOTION CARRIED

Drews reported that Pitcher Perfect Excavating, Township lawn care provider, notified him of a broken water line in Riverside Cemetery. Drews contacted Richard Shindorf, cemetery sexton, who repaired the water line. Drews will ask Shindorf for his observation of the break and obtain the repair bill.

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

MOTION CARRIED

LIBRARY BOARD REPORT (Jamie Gorby):

- Officer election was held, with Gorby being elected Vice President
- The 2023-2024 budget was approved
- Director evaluation was completed

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

MOTION CARRIED

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

- Updates Buchholz on blight issues
- Invited Mike Theiss to tonight's meeting
- Volunteers sought for winter preparation at the Hall

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

MOTION CARRIED

CLERK REPORT:

- Local MTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at Montcalm County Road Commission
- Presented recommendation for replacement of worn out Hall vacuum cleaner

Sprague moved, supported by Drews, to authorize Sprague to purchase a new vacuum cleaner at a cost not to exceed \$400.00.

VanGessel – Yes; Robson – Yes; Nadeau – Yes; Drews – Yes; Sprague – Yes;

MOTION CARRIED

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

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- Township Hall siding complete – received \$123.60 for scrap siding
- New Hall road sign update – Robson explained the programming process and training. Drews thanked Robson for his labor and computer time in installing the sign.
- Moving old Hall road sign
Drews announced that the sign has been removed. Paint will be updated and sign will be relocated on Township Hall property. The Board is open to placement suggestions.
- Offer to sell metal sign and letters
Drews announced that the metal sign and letters are for sale.
- Birch Landing Lot 1 & 35 – Lot owners' meeting results & quit claim deed details
Drews reported on the lengthy process that has taken place to learn the legality and options regarding this property.
Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel to table action until the November, 2023 Board meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE – NADEAU (Board Liaison):

Nadeau reported on tonight's quarterly meeting.

- Officers elected: Scott Millard, Chairperson; Gary Christensen, Vice-Chair; Jamie Gorby, Secretary, Barbara Kaaikala, Recording Secretary
- Colleen Crawford, previous Secretary, will be contacted to learn the name of the company who was contracted in the past to maintain Ordinance records
- Blight ordinance work to continue at January meeting, Short Term Rentals and Tiny House ordinances to follow
- Brought to the Board a recommendation from the Planning Commission that the Board pass a resolution in support of local control over ordinances (threatened by State HB 4760)

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

MOTION CARRIED

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS:

Nadeau moved, supported by Drews, to pay checks 3348 - 3379 for monthly bills in the amount of \$31,655.23.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pam Hemmes, Montcalm Twp., spoke in support of a resolution to oppose HB 4760

Leslie Rydahl, Pine Twp., spoke in support of the same resolution

Sprague moved, supported by Nadeau, to approve a resolution expressing support to maintain local control over local land uses in accordance with current, adopted ordinances by the Township of Pine.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Nadeau moved, supported by VanGessel, to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 PM. MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sprague

Marla Sprague

Pine Township Clerk

Minutes typed by Barbara Kaaikala