

APPROVED MINUTES  
PINE TOWNSHIP BUDGET WORKSHOP  
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023 at 5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Drews called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Julie Drews, Deputy Supervisor

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

BUDGET WORKSHOP

The Board went through the budget worksheets to develop the proposed budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The budget will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on June 12, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Rotter, Pine Township, expressed that the budget looks good.

ADJOURNMENT

Robson moved, supported by Nadeau, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 PM

MOTION CARRIED

PINE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023 at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

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

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MOTION CARRIED

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

#### APPROVAL OF APRIL 10, 2023 MINUTES

Nadeau noted that, under New Business, B & E Coating Services needs to be added to the incomplete sentence.

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

MOTION CARRIED

#### TREASURER REPORT – on file

All CD's have been transferred to higher interest CD's.

The Township will pay from the Tax Administration Account the penalty and interest for the individual whose Summer 2022 tax was not collected on time due to Township Treasurer error.

VanGessel has estimate for mailing of summer tax bills by KCI at a cost of \$1, 441.50.

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson, to authorize payment to KCI for this mailing.

Drews – Yes; Robson – Yes; VanGessel – Yes; Nadeau – Yes; Sprague – Yes. Motion carried.

#### ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Buchholz reported 5 zoning permit applications (4 paid, 1 ag exempt), 1 land division application, and 1 Planning Commission application in the month of April.

Buchholz asked whether the Board would authorize collecting of application payments via credit card at public's request through his business since the Township doesn't currently have that collection option. The Board did not authorize.

Nadeau asked whether the information is available that the Planning Commission would need for a special meeting on May 22, 2023 regarding the Imhoff business. Jamie Gorby responded that a drawing of the property is needed that Mr. Imhoff will be presenting information at the May 22 meeting. To allow time for notice to be posted, the public hearing will be postponed until the regular July Planning Commission meeting.

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

MOTION CARRIED

#### ROAD REPORT

Drews reported that Cannonsville Road has been rotomilled, Youngman Rd from Willard to Briggs has been rotomilled will be prepped for asphalt, gravel has been chlorided, Farnsworth Park drive has been cleaned for asphalt, the Dickinson Lake Rd bridge hasa been completed, M-91 from Stanton Rd to Turk Lake will be widened for Amish buggy safety.

Robson volunteered to put road work photos on the Township website for the public to see.

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

MOTION CARRIED

#### FIRE REPORT (attached)

Drews reported that the two new tanker trucks are at the fire barn waiting for potential completion in October, 2023. There were twenty runs in April, five in Pine Township. Three new firefighters recently graduated from the academy, bringing the total number of firefighters to 50 certified firefighters.

VanGessel moved, supported by Robson to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

#### CEMETERY REPORT

Sprague found a new memorial flag vendor at a better price than the previous vendor and ordered enough flags and holders to last through next year.

The cost of purchasing a cemetery lot in Pine Township will be discussed in June.

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

MOTION CARRIED

#### LIBRARY BOARD REPORT

Mike Rotter reported that there are 13 mini libraries staffed by volunteers and that one staff member goes to Lakeview Terrace for leadership of activities for residents. Work on the pavilion is moving forward.

Drews reported that the Township Hall camera shows that several people use the library box that is on Township grounds.

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

MOTION CARRIED

#### OLD BUSINESS

#### PAVILLION PROGRESS, USE POLICY, RENTAL FEE

Sprague suggested having an ornamental tree at the northwest corner of the pavilion.

No smoking will be allowed inside the pavilion

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson, to charge a \$100 rental fee for the Township Hall beginning July 1, 2023, and to post No Smoking signs on the pavilion.

MOTION CARRIED

#### CLEAN UP DAY FOLLOWUP

Drews reported 4 dumpsters filled during the allotted dropoff period and the remaining 2 filled before the dumpsters were picked up, with 28 people having dropped off materials. The Township collected over \$270.00 from the metal that was dropped off. Nadeau thanked the 7 residents who came out to help.

#### PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE

Meeting May 22, 2023 at 5:00 PM to obtain information from Mr. Imhoff.

County Planning Commission reviewed Pine Solar Ordinance at their meeting on May 1, no official feedback.

#### ROAD SIGN UPDATE

Robson reported further details and quotes on the road sign for the Township Hall grounds. Robson moved, supported by Sprague, to proceed with the purchase of a 5x2' digital sign from Optic Edge of Big Rapids, and to begin installation.

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

MOTION CARRIED

#### PARKING LOT RECOATING

Drews presented updates on the parking lot recoating.

#### SUPERVISOR REPORT

Drews reported that there are two cameras at the Hall (ballot box and parking lot). He proposed adding one to the pavilion and will look into the cost to do so.

Tables for the pavilion will cost between \$850.00 and \$1,200.00. Tabled to June to look at options.

Drews will have options for the tax collection drop box at the June meeting.

Two benches are installed in Riverside Park.

The well is in at Farnsworth Park.

He and a volunteer cleaned up ash trees and limbs that were down in Farnsworth Park.

The pump is installed in West Pine Cemetery.

Robson moved, supported by VanGessel to accept the Supervisor's report.

MOTION CARRIED

#### MONTCALM COUNTY BLIGHT ORDINANCE

The Township has received a copy of the new Montcalm County blight ordinance. Nadeau noted that there is nothing about enforcement nor noise. Robson noted that the definition of blight is specific.

#### CHINESE ELM REMOVAL FROM WEST PINE CEMETERY

Drews presented two bids. Robson moved, supported by Nadeau, to accept the bid from Bunker Tree Service in the amount of \$850.00 to remove the Chinese Elm tree and stump from West Pine Cemetery.

Van Gessel – Yes; Nadeau – Yes; Sprague – Yes; Robson – Yes; Drews -Abstained

MOTION CARRIED

#### RAINBOW LAKE BOAT LAUNCH SAFETY

Drews reported on the safety issue.

#### CLERK REPORT

Sprague reported receiving a thank you letter from Amy Thomas, 911 Director.

MAISD tax abatement form has been submitted showing no tax abatements

Thanked Leslie Rydahl for taking Township paper intended for shredding to her house and burned it in an incinerator.

Robson moved, supported by VanGessel, to accept the Clerk report.

MOTION CARRIED

#### ELECTION REPORT

Sprague reported that there will be a Central Montcalm school election in August, 2023.

There were 49 walk-in voters for the May 2, 2023 911 surcharge election and 198 votes in total, with 166 Yes and 32 No votes. Sprague has billed the 911 Authority for the \$2,323.49 cost of the election, which included election workers, postage, and supplies for Pine Township. There are 20 townships in the County.

Some absentee ballots arrived after the election.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Robson moved, supported by Drews to pay checks 3150 – 3194 plus QuickBooks EFT for a total of \$15,494.61 (fifteen thousand, four hundred ninety-four dollars and sixty-one cents).

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Rotter feels that the Board is irresponsible in the cost of the purchase of the road sign. LED causes light pollution and distracted driving. Heard from several residents supporting his comments from April.

Andy Cuzak asked the Board to support the blight ordinance. He presented photos of blight at the house next door. He will be selling his home at a loss due to the blight.

Dawn Sweet Pine Township asks Board to continue to offer Public Comment on the Agenda items. Asks Board to adopt the ordinance the County Planning Commission sent to the Township. Expressed support for a Hall sign that doesn't need physical updating.

Judy Graham, Pine Township, asked whether there is a time limit when people rent the Hall and pavilion, would a camera film people during pavilion rental, and commented on road repair.

ADJOURNMENT

Nadeau moved, supported by Robson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

*Marla Sprague*

Marla Sprague  
Pine Township Clerk