

Almira Township

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2023

I. Supervisor Roper **called the meeting to order at 6 pm** at the Almira Township Hall 19639 Maple Street, Lake Ann

II. Pledge to the Flag Recited

III. Roll Call

Present: Tammy Clous, Mandy Gray Rineer, Mark Roper, Lori Florip. Matt Therrien was excused.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda: None

V. Approval of Meeting Agenda: *Motion by Rineer, supported by Clous, to approve the meeting agenda as presented. All ayes, no nays, Therrien excused, motion passed.*

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Clous, supported by Rineer, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All ayes, no nays, Therrien excused, motion passed.

VII. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer MG Rineer provided the Financial Report for the end of October 2023.

VIII. Brief Public Input: None

IX. County Commissioners

Commissioner Art Jeannot presented a written report and discussed a request from the Airport Authority, the meeting that was held with the Township Supervisors, and the re-organizational plans announced by Munson Healthcare involving Paul Oliver Hospital.

X. Dept. Heads:

Tom Vinette, Chairman of the Recreational Resources Committee, stated that sub committees had been discussed. Tom informed the Board that because of the Thanksgiving Holiday, the November regular meeting has been moved to December 6th and that the regular December meeting has been cancelled. Tom also stated that the Committee would be discussing 2024/2025 budget items. Jerry Morse reported that the site for the dog park has been narrowed down to a single area and that other issues, like parking, and lighting are now being discussed. Roper stated that he had met with Cody from the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, regarding Ransom Lake. Cody will be looking into what grants might be available.

Chief Drury reported that for the month of October the Department responded to a total of 32 calls for service, including: 17 ambulance requests in Almira Township, 2 ambulance requests in Lake Ann Village, 3 carbon monoxide alarms, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 1 illegal burn, 1 gas leak, 1 misc. outdoor fire, 1 lightning strike vs house, 1 smoke alarm installed and 1 assist to Benzie County EMS in Benzonia Township. Chief also discussed the possibility of forming a citizen's advisory group for the Department.

XI. Village report: No report, and consensus is that this is to be removed from future agendas.

XII. Guests: None

XIII. Old Business:

- A. Mistwood Greens:** Lakaila Streeter stated that there is an interested buyer for the remaining units and that she would be talking with the interested buyer in the next day or two regarding a possible purchase agreement.
- B. Master Plan:** Clerk Clous has still not received a time line from Mathew Cooke at Networks Northwest.
- C. Townhall Steps:** Roper stated that he is talking with a contractor about resurfacing the steps. He also stated that there is concern about the hand rails sticking out too far for safe snow removal.
- D. ARPA Funds:** Board members are working on getting plans together for the projects previously discussed. The Townhall steps and ARPA funds can be combined together for future meeting agenda topics.
- E. Tennis/Pickle Ball Resurfaced:** Roper talked about resurfacing the basketball court to include pickleball lines plus resurfacing the tennis courts to include pickleball lines on one court. Discussion took place and Roper will look into this further.
- F. Michigan CLASS:** Rineer has enrolled the Township into this program and will be presenting options at a future meeting.
- G. Website Quotes:** Rineer stated that she has received only one quote but has contacted three web site designers.

XIV. New Business

- A. December Holidays:** Discussion took place. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Florip, that the Township Office will be closed on Monday, December 25, 2023 and Tuesday, December 26, 2023 to observe the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Holidays; and will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2024 and Tuesday, January 2, 2024 to observe the New Years Eve and New Years Day Holidays. All aye, no nays, Therrien excused, motion passed.
- B. County Headlee Reset Resolution:** Benzie County Commissioners supplied a sample resolution for possible adoption. Almira Township supplied a sample resolution for possible adoption along with a separate letter that could be sent instead of adopting any resolutions. Board members are to review these options for discussion at the December meeting.
- C. Pension/Social Security:** Concerns on investment returns and meeting the quarters for Social Security have been raised. Research needs to be done and brought back to the December meeting.
- D. Short Term Rental Application and Renewal Forms:** ZA Preston presented an updated Short Term Rental Application form and a new Short Term Rental Renewal Application form. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to approve the new Short Term Rental Renewal Application and the updated Short Term Rental Application as presented. All ayes, no nays, Therrien excused, motion passed.

XV. Extended Public Input: Rick Drewyour asked about the process of getting speed limit changes done on Maple Street East of the Village. Bill Haggard thanked Clous and Dort for election work they had done. Jerry Morse expressed concerns about wind and solar energy legislation recently passed in Michigan.

XVI. Board Comments: Florip stated that the Fire/EMS personnel on duty that came to an incident in the Village Park did an amazing job. Rineer thanked Clous, Dort, and all the election workers for their work at the recent election. Clous stated that the recent election went well and thanked all the election workers for their dedication. Roper stated that the Board, Township employees, election workers, and community all are amazing. He also wished the hunters good luck this hunting season.

XVII. Adjourn: Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

DRAFT