

Almira Township

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2022

I. Supervisor Roper **calls 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: Mandy Gray Rineer, Mark Roper. Matt Therrien. Lori Florip, and Tammy Clous were excused.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda: None

V. Approval of Meeting Agenda: *Motion by Therrien*, supported by Rineer, to approve the meeting agenda as presented. All ayes, Florip and Clous excused, motion passed.

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All ayes, Florip and Clous excused, motion passed.

VII. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer MG Rineer presents the Financial Report end of November-2022. Winter tax payments are coming in.

VIII. Brief Public Input: John Bumstead, 34th District Senator, introduced himself and handed out his business card to Board members and the public in attendance.

IX. County Commissioners

Commissioner Art Jeannot stated that the County Commissioners are hiring a new director for central dispatch and that central dispatch will be moving into the lower level of the Sheriff's Department building. He also stated that the County is helping to fund three housing projects. Art asked if there were any questions.

X. Dept. Heads: Recreational Resources Committee Chairperson Jerry Morse stated there was no November meeting because there was not a quorum and that there is a need for the seventh member of the Committee.

Chief Drury reported that for the month of November, the Department responded to 34 calls for service, including: 16 ambulance requests in Almira Township, 9 road hazards due to weather, 2 burning complaints, 1 smoke alarm assist, 1 odor investigation, 2 rollover accidents (1 in Platte Township), 1 assist to Benzie EMS in Crystal Lake Twp., 1 assist to Benzie EMS in Inland Twp, and 1 fire assist to Blair Twp. in Grand Traverse County.

XI. Village report: Three new members were elected to the Village Council, a President and two Trustees.

XII. Guests: Danny Mosholder, President of Almira Fire & EMS Association, discussed the fund raising for 3 AEDs to be placed in the Township. One at Almira Township Park, one at the Almira Township Beach Park, and one at Burnett Park. The AEDs would be in weather safe boxes, will

be alarmed, are wi-fi capable, and can be set up to notify EMS personnel when in use. East Bay Township, in Grand Traverse County, has AEDs out in their township and have had no problems with them being taken or damaged. *Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to partner with Almira Fire & EMS Association, in placing AEDs in the Almira Township Park and the Almira Township Beach Park. All ayes, Florip and Clous excused, motion passed.*

XIII. Old Business

A. Mistwood Greens: Supervisor Roper stated that the Township now has clear ownership and the future of this property needs to be discussed.

B. Master Plan: Mathew Cooke, from Networks North, gave an update of the census information, which might be available at the end of this month. This information should be able to be added before public comment period starts.

XIV. New Business

A. Board of Review Alternate Appointment: *Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to appoint Rick Drewyour to the Board of Review. All ayes, Florip and Clous excused, motion passed. Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to appoint Derek Smith as the Alternate to the Board of Review. All ayes, Florip and Clous excused, motion passed.*

B. Special Meeting Date (ARPA): Discussion took place about a date with Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. being selected to hold a special meeting regarding ARPA funds, and Mistwood Greens. Board members are to get their ARPA funds ideas to Mandy to compile a list.

C. Fire and EMS Appointments: Chief Drury stated that three candidates were interviewed for the fulltime position, this was narrowed to two candidates who then did an ability test. The interview committee is recommending that Steven Armour be offered the fulltime position. *Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to offer Steven Armour a fulltime position with the Almira Twp. Fire and EMS Department, pending paperwork completion, passing physical, and getting Firefighter I and II certifications within one year. Steven can start when he is available with a one-year probation period. Roll call vote was as follows: Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; Florip and Clous were excused, motion passed. Chief Drury requested that Geoffrey Miller be appointed as a paid-on call member of the Department. Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to appoint Geoffrey Miller to the Almira Twp. Fire & EMS Department as a paid-on call member. All ayes, Florip and Clous were excused, motion passed. Chief Drury requested that Nick Grzesik be appointed as a paid-on call member of the Department. Motion by Therrien, supported by Rineer, to appoint Nick Grzesik to the Almira Twp. Fire & EMS Department as a paid-on call member. All ayes, Florip and Clous excused, motion passed.*

D. Fire and EMS Software: Chief Drury gave a history of the current reporting software, that the current company had been bought out and that the charges for the current software use would be going up substantially. A new company, using basically the same software format, had been started with fees being about what is currently being paid. This new company would transfer the information from the current system to the new

system for free if done by the end of this month. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Therrien, to contract with Emergency Networking on a one (1) year basis starting January 1, 2023, with Chief Drury trying to get a refund from the current software company for the remaining contract period. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper aye; Florip and Clous excused, motion passed.

- E. Long Lake Intercept Agreement:** Chief Drury gave a history of intercept agreements with other agencies and what the cost of those intercept agreements are. He also discussed the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) that both Long Lake Twp. Fire/EMS and Almira Twp. Fire & EMS belong to. Discussion took place with the consensus of the Board that the current contract on the books with MABAS is what the Township will be honoring.

XV. Extended Public Input: None

XVI. Board Comments: Therrien wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Rineer wished everyone Happy Holidays and thanked all who came to the meeting tonight for attending. Roper stated that next fiscal year budget work would be happening starting next month, thanked all for coming to the meeting and wished all Happy Holidays too.

XVII. Adjourn: *Supervisor adjourns the meeting at 7:20 pm*