

Almira Township

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2023

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, Tammy Clous. Lori Florip was excused.

IV. Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda: Under Old Business add B. Master Plan. Under New Business add G. Attorney Fees; H. Fire Dept. Surplus Items.

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

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

VII. Treasurer's Report

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

VIII. Brief Public Input: John Morse expressed his thoughts regarding Lori Florip's medical issues.

IX. County Commissioners

Commissioner Art Jeannot was not able to attend this meeting due to County commitment so he sent a written report that updated information on housing, human resources position, economic development, and other county happenings.

X. Dept. Heads: Recreational Resources Committee Chairperson Jerry Morse stated that Tom Vinette was the new Chairperson of this committee, voted in by the committee earlier this month, and that Jerry would be emailing the approved committee meeting dates to the clerk. Tom stated that the committee has been discussing five-year plan ideas and the recreation plan.

Chief Drury reported that for the month of December, the Department responded to 32 calls for service, including: 20 ambulance requests in Almira Township, 1 personal injury accident, 1 power line down, 1 gas leak, 3 citizen assists, 2 assists to Inland Township Fire Department, 1 assist to Glen Lake Fire Department, and 2 assists to Cedar Area Fire Department. The Department ended the year with 363 calls for service, which breaks the previous record of 312 calls in 2021.

XI. Village report: Lake Ann Village meeting is tomorrow night at 6 p.m., the Village held a budget workshop this past Saturday. There will be a Community Coffee this Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.

XII. Guests: John Morse, Chairperson of the Benzie Bus Board of Directors, presented the Benzie Bus 2022 Annual Report.

XIII. Old Business

- A. Special Board Meeting:** Supervisor Roper explained that the time for this meeting, previously scheduled for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, January 11th, would not work. Discussion took place. The time for this meeting will now be 1 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11th instead.
- B. Master Plan:** Mathew Cooke, from Networks Northwest, gave an update of the census information, which might be available soon. This information should be able to be added before public comment period starts. Further discussion should take place at the February Board meeting.

XIV. New Business

- A. Budget Workshop Dates:** Discussion took place regarding dates and location of these meetings. It was decided that the budget workshop dates would be Tuesdays, January 24th and 31st at 9 a.m. at the Fire & EMS Building.
- B. Investments:** Treasurer Rineer informed the Board of the upcoming investments that she would like direction on. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Therrien, to re-invest \$200,000, in laddered terms, with Huntington Bank. This motion, and support, were then withdrawn. More discussion took place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Roper, to re-invest \$200,000, in laddered terms, with Huntington Bank. This motion, and support, were also withdrawn. More discussion took place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Therrien, to invest \$300,000, in laddered terms, with Huntington Bank. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye. All ayes, Florip excused, motion passed.
- C. Record Retention Format:** Clerk Clous explained this request. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to retain records on thumb drives as allowed by law. All ayes, Florip excused, motion passed.
- D. Red Door Furnace:** Supervisor Roper explained the situation with the furnace and that two bids had been received. Discussion took place as to when this should/could be done. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Therrien, to accept Towne Plumbing Inc. bid in the amount of \$3,735.00 to replace the furnace in the current fiscal year, for the building that houses the Red Door Coffee Shop. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Clous, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, Florip excused, motion passed.
- E. Poverty Exemption Resolution:** Treasurer Rineer read Almira Township Resolution for Poverty Exemption No. 1-23 #1. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to approve Almira Township Resolution for Poverty Exemption No. 1-23 #1 as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, Florip excused, motion passed.

- F. Townhall Piano:** Discussion took place. Therrien will look into replacement and bring information back to the February meeting.
- G. Attorney Fees:** Supervisor Roper presented a letter from Parker Harvey regarding rates for legal services starting in 2023. Discussion took place and the Board acknowledged the rate increase from \$180.00 to \$200.00 per hour.
- H. Fire Department Surplus Items:** Chief Drury requested that the Board declare two old light bars as surplus. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Rineer, to declare surplus 2 old light bars to be sold via a sale. All ayes, Florip excused, motion passed.

XV. Extended Public Input: None

XVI. Board Comments: Rineer, love and miss Lori, hope to see her at next months meeting. Therrien, found free pianos already, and wished Lori well. Clous, thinking about Lori. Roper, prayers for Lori.

XVII. Adjourn: *Supervisor adjourns the meeting at 7:15 pm*