

Almira Township

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

April 10, 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: Matt Therrien, Tammy Clous. Lori Florip, Mandy Gray Rineer, Mark Roper

IV. Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda: Under New Business, change Item E. from Fire and EMS Resignation to Fire and EMS Personnel.

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

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

VII. Treasurer's Report

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

VIII. Brief Public Input: None

IX. County Commissioners

Commissioner Art Jeannot presented a written report and answered questions. Art also informed the Board and residents present that Rick Drewyour had been appointed to the County Jury Board.

X. Dept. Heads:

Tom Vinette, Recreation Resources Chairperson stated that the Recreation Resources Committee had approved the Master Recreation Plan, that the Committee was in favor of a dog park, Committee is looking for a volunteer to run the youth summer ball program, the Committee is planning one movie in the park for the eve of music in the park, with the thought of one more movie in the park in September. The Committee could/should run the youth summer ball program or at least advertise for a volunteer to run the program.

Chief Drury reported that for the month of March, the Department responded to 32 requests for service, including: 25 ambulance requests in Almira Township, 3 motor vehicle accidents, 2 carbon monoxide alarm activations, 1 burning complaint, and 1 assist to Benzie County EMS.

XI. Village report: None

XII. Guests: None

XIII. Old Business

- A. **Mistwood Greens:** Treasurer Gray-Rineer reviewed previous status. Lakaila Streeter, from Lakeview Realty, gave an update of what she has found regarding this property. She listed her ideas of what the next steps to be taken are.
- B. **Master Plan:** Clerk Clous stated that the final invoice has been paid. Florip reported what the Planning Commission Chairperson would like done with discussion taking place. The Board will continue to wait to see what August brings in regards to census information, will keep this item on the agenda until then and then can set a dead line for moving forward.
- C. **Townhall Cleaning:** Discussion took place. Board would like to get proposals for checking and cleaning the townhall on Mondays which would include an hourly rate for the weekly cleaning. The Board would like to have a proposal to have a deep cleaning done. The Board would like to investigate costs of painting for the future.
- D. **Zoning Administrator:** The deadline was last Wednesday for applications, with only one application being received. Roper stated that he would like the current Zoning Administrator and current Planning Commission Chairperson to be at interviews. The current Zoning Administrator will be back in the office the first part of May. Roper would like this position to be advertised again in local newspapers with applications due by 4 pm on May 3rd. The one current application will be held until the May deadline.

XIV. New Business

- A. **Depository Letter:** Rineer presented the information of the depositories for the 2023/2024 fiscal year. Discussion took place.
- B. **Clean Up Day:** This event is scheduled for the first Saturday in May from 8 am to noon. GFL has been contracted, and the Veterans group have the container for the scrap metal on order. Suggested donation is \$30.00 per load, with funds being given to three groups helping with personnel.
- C. **Road Brining:** Information from the Benzie County Road Commission regarding brining the gravel roads took place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Therrien, to have the Benzie County Road Commission brine the gravel roads with one (1) application of brine including Brooks Lake Road. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- D. **Planning Commission Resignation:** The Planning Commission accepted the resignation of Bill Ballard, from the Planning Commission, at their April 4, 2023 meeting. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to accept the resignation of Bill Ballard from the Planning Commission. All ayes, no nays, motion passed. Discussion of process to appoint for vacant position took place. A letter of thanks should be sent to Bill.
- E. **Fire and EMS Personnel:** Chief Drury presented the Board with a resignation letter from Mariah Eberhardt. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to accept Mariah Eberhardt's resignation from the Fire & EMS Department. All ayes, no nays, motion passed. Chief Drury stated that a start date for the new fulltime person, Derek Smith, needed to be set. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Therrien, that the start date for fulltime person, Derek Smith, on the Fire & EMS Department would be Wednesday,

April 19, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.

F. Budgeted Purchases: Discussion took place regarding Appendix A of the 2023/2024 Township Budget. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Therrien, to move forward with the purchase of 2 sets of turnout gear spending up to \$8,000 from the 210 funds, and to move forward with the purchase to replace hoses and fittings spending up to \$3,000 from the 206 funds. Roll call vote was as follows: Florip, aye; Therrien, aye; Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to move forward with the new storage building for office spending no more than \$4,000.00. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Florip, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.

G. Training House Agreement: Chief Drury explained what is being discussed and the process that needs to be done. Roper is to review the hold harmless contract. Chief Drury also stated that there is a lot of paper work to be done for this project. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Therrien, to approve Supervisor Roper to sign the training house agreement. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.

XV. Extended Public Input: Lakaila Streeter asked who is her Board contact person, when should she submit next steps in this process, who will be signing documents, who decides price, who responsible for expenses incurred, who decides when property to be listed. Rineer will continue to be the Board contact person, Lakaila can submit next steps when she is prepared, Township Board will oversee steps that need to be brought before the entire Board. Tom Vinnette stated that our area has three great trails, everyone should try to get out on them.

XVI. Board Comments: All Board members welcomed Roper back. Roper and other Board members thanked Mary Dort for her work while Roper was out of town.

XVII. Adjourn: Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.