

Helena Township Board Meeting October 10th, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Supervisor Peeples. Members present were Butch Peeples, Cathy Rice, David Peterson, Butch Bartz and Bonnie Robbins. Motion by Rice to approve the agenda and supported by Bartz and approved. Motion by Robbins to approve the September 12th township board meeting minutes and the September 18th special board meeting minutes and supported by Bartz and approved.

Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment: (3 minute limit) None

Treasurer's Report: beginning balance September 1st, 2024 is \$558,897.12

Total receipts: \$2,789.83 and total disbursements: \$121,631.10

Ending balance September 30, 2024 is \$440,055.85

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Robbins, supported by Bartz and approved.

Presentation of Bills: September 12th through October 9th 2024 is \$95,676.85

Fire Chief/Sheriff Report: Reviewed South Torch Lake Fire & Rescue report from Chief Paul Fabiano.

Sherrif Hoch reviewed September report.

County Commissioner report reviewed from Terry VanAlstine and JAIL RELEASE PROGRAM IS October 11th. 911 tower getting ready to be constructed. Village of Bellaire is starting to work on a short rental ordinance.

Township Ambulance Authority (TAA) report; 11 ambulance runs and no mutual aid runs, and a total of 107 EMS responses for the TAA service area reported by Rick Teague.

All reports are linked with the minutes on the township website, www.helenatownship.com.

Communications: None

Speaker: None

Committee Reports:

Zoning: Reviewed Bob Logee's zoning report.

Parks & Rec: Reviewed approved Procedure donations/contributions language from Parks & Rec. Robbins made the motion to accept and approve the Procedures donations/contributions language with support by Bartz and motion passed.

Working on acquiring playground equipment from designated donation funds. Terry VanAlstine suggested contacting Great Start Collaborative.

Still waiting for DNR approval for the Master Plan.

Ball Park proposed fencing at North boundary and a proposed retention pond discussed.

Suggestion was made to contact Jen Wright for help in grant writing from Grass River.

Septic tank at the tennis court park needs to be pumped.

Planning Commission: Discussed shoreline protection language and draft for two boat slips for every 100 feet of shoreline and one additional boat slip for another 50 feet of shoreline.

There was a public hearing on the proposed Salon/Spa/STR, and an application was submitted for Special Use. Because information was not received in time for review of the board, there will be a special meeting called for a determination of approval after the board has had time to review the application.

Roads: There is \$34,408.17 left in the roads fund.

New Business: Two docks from the Alden safe harbor to be removed for repairs.

Webinar equipment for board meetings; lab top, OWL and tripod. Rice made the motion to purchase webinar equipment not to exceed \$1400 with support by Bartz and motion carried.

Old Business: Pavilion at tennis court park completed except for painting. Bids needed for the painting.

Bids needed for the side doors at the community center; to be replaced with fire rated, half glass and a push bar.

Announcements:

Nine days of in person early voting starts Saturday, October 26th from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm at the community center until Sunday, November 3rd. Election day

Election day is Tuesday, November 5th from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm.

Public Comment: Michelle Zeeman announced that Paul Delange will be giving the history of Spencer Creek Sunday, October 13th at the community center.

Harvest Days in Alden Saturday October 12th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the tennis court park including a chili cookoff.

Michelle Zeeman spoke about the need of an ordinance for short term rentals.

October 19th is the annual trunk and treat at the church parking lot from 12:00 to 2:00.

STLFD announced that there is a no burn ban in place.

Jim Gurr commented.

Motion to pay bills: Robbins made the motion to pay the bills, supported by Bartz. All present voted yes, motion carried.

Adjournment by call of the chair at 8:04 PM.

Prepared by Helena Township Clerk: *David Peterson*