

Draft Helena Township Board Meeting November 14th, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Peeples. Members present were Butch Peeples, Cathy Rice, David Peterson, Butch Bartz and Bonnie Robbins. Motion by Robbins to approve the agenda and supported by Bartz and approved. Motion by Robbins to approve the October 10th township board meeting minutes and the October 18th special board meeting minutes and supported by Bartz and approved.

Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment: (3 minute limit) Steve Dell and Jim Gurr offered comments.

Treasurer's Report: beginning balance October 1st, 2024 is \$440,055.85

Total receipts: \$35,122.85 and total disbursements: \$32,934.65

Ending balance October 31, 2024 is \$442,244.05

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

Presentation of Bills: October 10th through November 13th 2024 is \$38,216.60

Fire Chief/Sheriff Report: Reviewed South Torch Lake Fire & Rescue report from Chief Paul Fabiano. Nov. 23rd there is CPR training at 10:00 am at the fire station. There is a smoke detector program and will install smoke detectors with 10 year sealed batteries. Community dinner Wednesday November 27th from 5:00 to 6:00.

Reviewed October sheriff's report.

Public safety center proposal did not pass.

Township Ambulance Authority (TAA) report; 9 EMS ambulance runs and no mutual aid runs, and a total of 63 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: Steve Dell reported they are developing a policy for donations and contributions.

Road signs for Coy Mtn. need to be replaced. Road signs need to be replaced. Meeting with Jan Loveland for choosing and purchasing toddler equipment at TC. Invasive species to be sprayed and trees cut down in the spring.

Planning Commission: Gurr reported they are working on shoreline protection language. ZBA members and alternates require statutory training. Proposes increasing hourly rate for planning commissioners, ZBA members and alternatives.

Roads: the supervisor commented that there may be a way to set new speed limits in the Alden area in April.

New Business: Robbins recommends the board replace and update the clerk's computer and the "brain" to the deputy clerk's computer.

Rice made the motion to approve the replacement of the mini split in the gym which needed repairs with support by Robbins and motion passed.

Old Business: Bid for community center exterior door replacement from Preferred Maintenance Services Inc. for \$15,052.19 reviewed. Motion by Robbins to accept the \$15,052.19 bid with support by Bartz and motion carried.

Announcements: Robbins suggested the use of ground penetrating radar to determine if unsold lots are empty before being sold. Need a cemetery policing ordinance.

Nov. 30th from 3 to 7 a Christmas party in Alden. Santa Claus arrives at 5:30.

Public Comment: Jerry Meyers commented on STR's (short term rentals) and that the township is consistent with the Master Plan and survey. Robbins commented on voting where the State of Michigan has converted permanent AV applications to permanent ballot absentee voting.

Laura Wilcox sent certified mail with concerns of short term rentals being put back on the agenda for the planning commission.

Jim Gurr reported that the county canvas certification for the November 5th general election is complete.

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

Adjournment by call of the chair at 7:54 PM.

Prepared by Helena Township Clerk: *David Peterson*