

**Reading Township
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 13, 2023**

The regular meeting was called to Order by Supervisor Allan Andrews at 7:04 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Flaughner, Andrews, Mesarosh, Gripman, present with Parker being absent.

GUESTS: Maria Stroinski, Brad Wright, Adam Mesarosh, Steve & Sandra Ladd, Gretchen Oberdick, Fred Bockelman, Phyllis Newell, Linda Burcewicz, Ed & Chris Greene, Ruth Pawliski, Bill Geis, Steve Luma, Elaine Gallant, Janice Garczynski, Martin Mikolajczyk, Brent & Rachel Marsh, Brad & PJ Booth, Bill & Pat Wegrzyn, Doug Tripp, Earl Williams, Karen Wheeler, Brent & Courtney Everline, Mary Jane & Tom Bayer, Carol Miller, Mike Parney and Mark Wiley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Flaughner moved, Gripman seconded to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023, regular meeting. Motion Carried (4-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Numerous guests voiced their concerns and issues with the current road conditions in Reading Township.

COUNTY COMMISSION:

Mark Wiley reported about the reasoning for the delay in appointing two (2) new members to the Hillsdale Road Commission. He also reported that the new road commission director wants employees to have more training. The Hillsdale County Commissioner meeting is now on YouTube. The courthouse repairs are continuing using the ARPA funds to make the necessary repairs.

ROAD COMMISSION:

Mike Parney complemented Supervisor, Andrews, for the job he is doing for the township. He also advised the guest in attendance to call the road commission's office when their roads need attention/repairs. He also feels the new road commission's director is doing a good job for Hillsdale County. Mike also answered any questions the guest may have had.

CEMETERY: None

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Gripman mentioned that the next fire board meeting will be held on February 15, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the fire department.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Mr. Farris handed out his December 2022 and January 2023 report. He talked briefly on the new Amish school request.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on April 17, 2023, at 7:00 pm. The 2023 Meeting Schedule, 2022 Accomplishments, 2023 Planning Commission Goals, 2023 Planning

Commission Members, Approved October 17, 2022, meeting minutes and the Proposed January 10, 2023, meeting minutes were all handed out.

LIBRARY BOARD:

Mesarosh reported the next meeting will be February 14, 2023. The library yearly audit will be presented at that time.

OLD BUSINESS:

CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND / AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE:

See New Business

NEW BUSINESS:

Payment of February's Bills and Payments:

- Mesarosh moved, Gripman seconded to approve payment of February's bills and payments in the amount of \$24,662.75. Roll Call: Mesarosh-Yes, Gripman-Yes, Flaughner-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

Updating Township phone &/or internet systems:

The supervisor and clerk received a quote from DMCI in the amount which matches the current cost from Spectrum for the telephone and internet systems. The current phones are outdated and need to be replaced. - Gripman moved, Mesarosh seconded to approve the replacement of the phone and internet service from Spectrum to DMCI, \$170.32 monthly fee and \$537.00 for VoIP equipment and installation. Roll Call: Gripman-Yes, Flaughner-Yes, Mesarosh-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

Updating Fire Call Charges:

The changes to the fire call charges provided by the Reading Fire Department fire chief, were presented by the clerk to the Board members. The Board members decided to approve the new charges as presented retro to January 1, 2023. - Flaughner moved, Gripman seconded to approve the new fire run charges as presented retro to January 1, 2023. Roll Call: Mesarosh-Yes, Flaughner-Yes, Gripman-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

Township building Drive Approach bid results:

Flaughner reported only receiving one (1) bid for the replacement of the township drive approach. The bid came in at \$62,255. The board decided to table the action and request for new bids to be returned to the clerk by 5:00 pm on Monday, March 6, 2023. The board members and some guests will be contacting different contractors to see if they would be interested in bidding for the job. It was also requested by Gripman to use the ARPA funds for road repairs first. Mesarosh reminded the Board that some of the ARPA funds have been already designated and approved for payment. No action taken at this time.

Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report:

Greg Bailey, from Bailey, Hodshire & Company, presented the financial statements and independent auditor's report ending March 31, 2022. Overall, he said the township is in good condition with no major issues. - Mesarosh moved, Gripman seconded to accept and receive the financial statements and independent auditor's report ending March 31, 2022, as presented Motion Carried (4-0)

Hillsdale County Road Commission proposed projects (2023-2024):

- Flaughner moved, Gripman seconded to approve the road stabilization with conducting two (2) applications of brine (one by Memorial Day and the other done by Labor Day) at a total cost of \$18,360.00. Roll Call: Mesarosh-Yes, Gripman-Yes, Flaughner-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

- Gripman moved, Mesarosh seconded to approve 1000-ton 23A Limestone patching on various roads. Three (3) locations on Hemlock Rd and the remaining balance to be used elsewhere. Roll Call: Gripman-Yes, Flaughner-Yes, Mesarosh-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

Discussion was had as to where to use the balance ARPA and Mileage funds. Blair, Fowler and Hakes Roads being the main locations for repair. Also, Beach, Murry and Chief Drives were discussed. - Gripman moved, Flaughner seconded to approve the repairs to Blair Rd at the cost of \$90,100.00 using the ARPA funds. Roll Call: Mesarosh-Yes, Gripman-Yes, Flaughner-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

The remaining repairs were tabled until more communication with the Hillsdale County Road Commission can take place.

BS&A Tax/Assessing Program update to Cloud from .Net:

Discussion was had to update the Tax/Assessing program to the iCloud in order to be able to communicate with all the BS&A current programs. Questions were asked as to the Annual fee being much higher than our current fee. The decision was tabled until the budget figures are completed.

2023-2024 Board of Review March schedule:

The 2023-2024 Board of Review March meeting schedule was presented and will be printed in the local newspaper and also posted on the website.

Approval Resolution 2023-01 – Waive Interest and Penalties:

- Flaughner moved, Gripman seconded to the Resolution 2023-01 to waive interest and penalties on local tax collection. Aye – 4, Nay – 0. Motion Carried (4-0)

Approval Resolution 2023-02 – Adopt Poverty Exemption Income:

- Flaughner moved, Gripman seconded to approve Resolution 2023-02, the Federal Poverty Guidelines in determination of Poverty Exemptions for 2023. Roll Call: Mesarosh-Yes, Gripman-Yes, Flaughner-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

Approval of Domestic Harmony contract:

- Gripman moved, Flaughner seconded to approve the Domestic Harmony contract for the 2023 fiscal year beginning April 1, 2023, and ends on March 31, 2024, in the sum of \$250.00. Roll Call: Flaughner-Yes, Gripman-Yes, Mesarosh-Yes, Andrews-Yes. Motion Carried (4-0)

FUTURE BUSINESS:

2023-2024 Budget

OTHER BUSINESS:

BOARD COMMENT:

Andrews explained the quote from Foundations Systems of Michigan. Their inspection determined the township halls southwest corner is sinking. The estimate would only fix the sinking issue and not repair the crack in the south wall. This was just for the board knowledge and information.

Mesarosh reported she will be collecting tax payments at the township hall on the 14th and 28th of February.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Wheeler reported to the board that the Kimball Camp Township Park did not receive the first round Spark Grant, but will be resubmitting for the next round. She also handed out sample rules and regulations.

Mr. Farris commented that the township has more people and more traffic on the roads which are the same as in years past.

Next Regular Meeting will be March 13, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

-Flaughter moved and Gripman seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried (4-0)

Meeting Adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MM230213

Allan Andrews, Reading Township Supervisor

Kathy Flaughter, Reading Township Clerk