

## FLORENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

November 20, 2023

Supervisor, Tim Carls called the meeting in the Florence Township Hall to order at 7:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all. Other board members present were Janice Jones, Don Schrock, and Ben Russell. Others present were Paul Osthoff, Janet Suhonen, Jay Suhonen, and Rick Schaffer.

The October 16th minutes were read and approved with a motion from Ben and a second by Don.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The treasurer's report showed a General Account balance of \$59,890.38; CDs totaling \$306,962.98; Florence Fire Fund CDs Totaling \$67,442.52; a tax account of \$6,708.21; ARPA Funds of \$110,090.13; and income of \$39,870.98. Don made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Ben seconded the motion. Motion was approved by all.

### PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ben made a motion and Don seconded a motion to pay the monthly bills in the amount of \$18,507.79. Motion was approved by all.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

Don reviewed the Fire Report. Florence Township had seven safety calls this month. There was an Ambulance meeting was on November 16. The next meeting will be Feb 22 at 5:30pm.

The planning commission had a meeting on Nov 6<sup>th</sup>. Clayton Lyczynskill presented Land Bank information. The master plan was also discussed. If combined, the master plan would cost around \$3000 per township.. After some discussion, Rick explained how he understands this plan which is that each township will keep its own master plan, and the county-wide master plan would be more of an umbrella over all the townships. It was decided to wait until the next meeting to vote on whether we join the agreement. The solar panel ordinances were also discussed. The state is currently voting on legislation to take control of local ordinances. The planning commission will continue to work on forming a solar ordinance.

Connie Steffel owns two properties on Klinger Lake Road. She would like to add a driveway to the barn. No permit is needed. She would like to get an address for one of the properties. Paul is working with her to accomplish this.

There was a complaint about excessive burning. The township doesn't have a burning ordinance. The Constantine Fire Department may be able to handle this situation.

Paul sent an application to Larry Miller for a land split.

The \$509.00 from the Reed case was payment for the fine.

### OLD BUSINESS

Tim and Paul both reached out to attorney offices. Tim will continue looking around.

Tim got a response from the MDOT concerning the roundabout. Tim will contact them.

Tim got a letter from Michigan Department of Treasury concerning a corrective action plan. Kyle Harris is helping complete this. Tim will follow up with Kyle.

Janet will put up a sign displaying that cameras are in use at the township hall. The camera will be needed to view the drop box once that is installed. The reason for the delay of the drop box is because of the fiscal year ending which has been causing a pause in ordering.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Kayla, Don, Tonya, and Roger attended a Road Commission meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2024 projects were discussed. The main project discussed was finishing Mintdale road from the bridge east to Engle road. This would cost the township around \$46,000.

Elwood Miller and Arthur Eggerling each requested a large quantity water withdrawal.

Peek cemetery could use some upgrades. The driveway has holes that need to be filled in. There are also overgrown bushes. Janet will check into pricing for driveway maintenance. We will consider this in the spring when we hire a grounds keeper.

Kayla will check into cemetery plot pricing.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rick Schaffer, who is a county commissioner, made a presentation about land banks. Some federal money being put in land banks. There are 42 land banks in Michigan. Typically the higher the population, the more money given. There is an authoritative board over the land bank. His concern is that the process is being pushed too fast before necessary by-laws and ordinances are in place, however the land bank is able to be dissolved.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ben and Janice made a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:31p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kayla Miller, Clerk