

## **Essex Township- Minutes of the Monthly Meeting**

**August 30, 2023 @ 7:00pm**

**Members Present:** Supervisor Carla Wardin, Deputy Supervisor Eric Verlinde, Clerk Tim Karasek, Treasurer Kathy George, Trustee Jim Gavenda, Trustee Mark Winsor

**Visitors:** Bonnie Hale- Cemetery Manager, Kelby Leiby- MRFD, Doug Steffan- Clinton County Road Commission, Kevin Smith- Resident, Dennis Gillespie- Resident, Rick Nelson- Resident

**Call to Order:** Township Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:59pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

### **Visitor Statements:**

#### **Kevin Smith, Dennis Gillespie, Rick Nelson – Residents**

- Residents of Paxton Rd. raised concerns over the gravel product used on their road and the manner in which it was applied. Also raised concerns over the re-permitting of the existing gravel pit and the implications it will have on Paxton Rd.

#### **Bonnie Hale- Cemetery Manager**

- Still working on getting flags ordered for the cemetery graves.

#### **Kelby Leiby- MRFD**

- Presented report on current fire/rescue runs as well as staffing and equipment updates.

#### **Doug Steffan- Clinton County Road Commission**

- Reported on road improvements throughout the county. Appreciative of the townships part in the process.
- New Road Commission facilities almost complete.
- Discussed potential brine restrictions on county roads.
- New US-127 Frandor construction project to last 2 years.

### **Approval of Board Minutes and Special Land Use Meeting Minutes:**

Approval of the June 21, 2023 Board Minutes and the August 7, 2023 Special Land Use Meeting Minutes.

**M. Jim Gavenda, S. Mark Winsor: MCU**

**Trustee Report:** None

**Final: Approved October 18, 2023 Meeting**

**Treasurers Report:** Kathy Goerge,

- Review Transaction Detail by Account
  - Countryside Accounting
  - Tough Flags issue.
- Balances are current.

**M.** Jim Gavenda, **S.** Carla Wardin: Accept the Treasurers Report as presented. **MCU**

**Solar Wind Advisory Board update:**

- Foster Swift is working to keep us within the parameters of legality.
- Working to respect private property rights and protect farmland.
- Meetings just about over, not at consensus yet.

Summer property tax collection at 26%.

**Clerks Report:** Tim Karasek,

- Review of Budget and Financial Reports

**M.** Kathy George, **S.** Jim Gavenda: Accept the Clerks Report as presented. **MCU**

**M.** Kathy George, **S.** Jim Gavenda: Move \$200 from Clerk Audit Fee account to Computer and Web Services account. **MCU**

**M.** Tim Karasek, **S.** Kathy George: Move \$600 from Election Supplies account to Election Maintenance account. **MCU**

Discussion on new election procedures surrounding the expansion of voting days and the proposed Clinton County Early Voting Agreement, sharing the election responsibilities between townships.

**M.** Carla Wardin, **S.** Mark Winsor: Support the Clinton County Early Voting Agreement. **MCU**

**Supervisors Report:** Carla Wardin,

- ITC Project NOT passing through Essex Township.
- We may have a joint planning and zoning opportunity with Dallas and Bengal Townships. They are currently checking with their Boards.
- ARPA Funds are currently at \$80,982.66. Must use by the end of 2024.
- There is a September 14<sup>th</sup> public meeting for the application for rezoning the Forest Hill Gravel Mine expansion.

**Old Business:** None

**Final: Approved October 18, 2023 Meeting**

**New Business:**

Adoption of the 2023 L-4029 tax rate for the Winter tax roll.

**M.** Kathy George, **S.** Mark Winsor. Adopt the 2023 L-4029 tax rate for the Winter tax roll. **MCU**

**Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourn 7:57pm.

**M.** Carla Wardin, **S.** Mark Winsor. **MCU**

**Nest Meeting October 18, 2023 7:00pm**

Respectfully submitted by:

Timothy Karasek

Essex Township Clerk