

## Duplain Township Regular Meeting

July 12, 2023

The July 12, 2023 regular meeting of the Duplain Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Bruce Levey at 7:30 pm at the Duplain Township Hall, 145 W Main Street, Elsie. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Members Present:** Bruce Levey, supervisor; Amy Bowen, treasurer; Dawn D Levey, clerk; and trustees Ryan Boots and Robert Ladiski.

**Visitors:** Val Vail-Shirey (County Commissioner), Gail Wadell, Joe and Vicky Ondrusek, Arlene Pesik, Harry Huntoon, Lee Thelen (Greenbush), Laura White, Lee Thelen (Greenbush), Lora Putnam, Larry Kimball, Roger and Janet Dennings, Jody Smith, David Smith, Willy Heisey, Yvonne Makara, Kam Washburn, Fred and Linda Gifford, Alice Shipman, Kathy George, Karen Andrews, Sharon Conklin, Clare Applebee, Keyna Court, Deanna Applebee, Ron Maynard, Duane Schneider, Randy Tahvonen, Penny Tahvonen, Officer Shane Grinnell, and Police Chief Bryce.

**Agenda:** The meeting agenda was presented for approval with the following additions: Elections security system, Park Maintenance – repaint the bridge barrier, and audit update. It was moved by Ryan Boots to approve the agenda with additions, supported by Amy Bowen. Approved

**Minutes:** The minutes of the June 14, 2023 regular meeting were presented for approval. It was moved by Amy Bowen and supported by Robert Ladiski. Approved.

**Assessor:** Dr. Mark Holley – All the townships will be audited for their assessment roll. The Duplain Township is in good shape and prepared. July 18, 2023, 9am Board of Review.

**Special Presentation:** McKenna Associates – Local Zoning, representative Christopher Khorey. Proposal available upon request. Khorey, outlined the process and provided a proposal with costs to contract with McKenna Associates. It was noted that he is not an attorney and attorney fees required were unknown and not included in the proposal.

**Q & A –** Questions were asked by the following members of the audience who identified themselves: Janet Dennings, Joe Ondreusek, Kathy George, David Smith, Penny Tahvonen, Gail Wadell, Lee Thelen (Greenbush Township). Major focus was on the issue of renewable energy and zoning, legal implications, and the pros and cons of local zoning.

**Financial Reports:** The financial reports were presented by Amy Bowen for review and approval.

- General Fund \$287,493.52
- \$109,521.11 – Money Market

- \$185.00 – Savings Account
- \$13,687.52 – CD
- Emergency Services \$32,035.01
- \$86,301.88 – Money Market
- \$5.00 – Savings Account
- Road Fund \$109,716.37
- \$5.00 – Savings Account
- Tax Account \$5.00

It was moved By Robert Ladiski and supported by Ryan Boots to approve the financials as presented.

**Correspondence - None**

**Sheriff Report - None**

**Public Comment on Agenda Items** – Those wishing to address the board were asked to state their name, and each would be given two minutes to make comments. No additional comments.

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Road/Bridges/Mill Pond – Second** chloride application has been completed. Seal coat completed, and roadsides mowed. It was noted that the flow of water going over the dam is at a historical low due to the lack of rain.
- Park and Recreation Committee Report: The Parks and Rec had a tri-fold of the parks and future aspirations of Duplain Township at the Elsie Dairy Festival. There was interest and comments regarding the parks. The pavilion at Friendship Park will be painted soon.
- Planning Commission: Renewable Energy Citizens Advisory Committee Report – Dawn Levey. It was reported that the committee has had two informational meetings with a third slated for July 20, 2023, 7 pm, Clinton County Court House. Public comment is slated for August 3, 2023, 7 pm. Duplain Township residents are encouraged to send questions and comments to: [duplaintwpcclerk@gmail.com](mailto:duplaintwpcclerk@gmail.com).
- Election Update: More information will be available after the July 18, 2023, 8:30 am meeting. A request was made to purchase a security system for \$119 and \$4 for monthly fee, this will be placed to observed the ballot drop box and will be reimbursed

by the State of Michigan. It was moved by Ryan Boots to approve the purchase of the security system and supported by Robert Ladiski. Approved.

- Historical Room Re-Organization – Bruce Levey, a re-organizational meeting slated for Monday, July 24, 2023, 6:30 pm. The Township will facilitate the initial meeting and then return oversight to the Historical Board. Roofing repair on the building has been completed.

#### **New Business:**

- Fire Update – A. Bowen – Fire meeting postponed until Wednesday, July 19, 2023.
- Terrorism Coverage – the renewal policy requires board action regarding terrorism insurance at a cost of \$69 annually. It was moved by Ryan Boots, and supported by Robert Ladiski to approved the terrorism insurance. Approved.
- Audit Update – Amy Bowen. Field audit Thursday, July 13, 2023, 9 am.
- Bruce Levey reported that there had been vandalism at the bridge and that there was graffiti on the bridge barrier. Steps will be taken to have the barrier repainted and is addressed in the budget.

**County Commissioner’s Report** – Val Vail-Shirley reported the following: A four-way stop will be installed at the corner of Hollister and M21, this will be a change of habit for folks, effective Monday, July 17, 2023. Regarding the presentation given by the McKenna Associates, Clinton County will be supportive on planning and zoning which ever decision townships make. The Greenbush SES request was approved and is in process. She further reported that there is a 12-month moratorium on renewable commercial energy, and that a 19-member advisory committee is in progress. Two meetings thus far, a third for informational meeting is slated for July 20, 2023 at 6 pm at the Clinton County Court House in the Commissioner’s Board Room and taking input from the committee members. August 3, 6pm, input from public comment. Future meeting dates: July 20, August 3, August 17, and August 31, 2023.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Shane Grinnell, village manager and zoning administrator, commenting that if the township is considering establishing local zoning, he would encourage collaboration with the Village of Elsie and have the sources. Jan Dennings – asked for information regarding the statues in Hero Park. Yuvonne McKera – had questions about wind energy and fire suppression referred to Assistant Chief Elsie Fire Department. Chief of Police Bryce discussed the zoning and civil issues. Will Heisey – commented that if the township separates from county, it could be a large legal risk, he neither opposes or supports. Kenna Court – foreign interference in renewable energy discussion followed. Chuck Harden – thanked the township board for there commitment to the community.

**Clerk’s Report/Expenditures** – A presentation and explanation of the expenditures was presented for approval. Expenditures totaled \$6,962.86 general fund and \$10,235.63 from the

Road Fund. It was moved by Robert Ladiski and supported by Ryan Boots to approve payment of the expenditures. Approved.

Things that need to be talked about: Bruce Levey, thanked those who attended and for treating one another with respect. The discussion was good and informative.

**Adjournment** – It was moved by Ryan Boots to adjourn the meeting and supported by Amy Bowen. Adjourned at 9:12 pm. Approved.