

Goodwell Minute Notes
December 27, 2023

- ◇ JohnT. called meeting to order 7:00 pm, meeting was recorded:
 - ✘ Rachel B., Bob Birr, John T., Tim M., and Jennifer W. present
 - ✘ Public:
- ☺ Alec and Kasey Dakin
- ☺ John Miedema
- ☺ Clint and Shelley Cook
- ☺ Joe Wozniak
- ☺ Christopher Gingerich – Big Prairie FD

- ◇ Pledge of Allegiance recited.
- ◇ Email was sent out with minutes from November 29, 2023 meeting. Bob motioned to accept the minutes, Tim 2nd, passed. Minutes posted to the township web site.
- ◇ Rachel: **Treasurer's report** as of Dec 27, 2023:
 - ✘ Have \$139,747.14 total. Payments were \$7,371.69. Check for payroll taxes to US Treasury in the amount of \$843.06 was the largest payment. Revenue was \$2,539.42. Jennifer motioned to accept treasurer's report as presented and pay bills. Bob 2nd, passed. Road bill will be able to be paid off in January.
- ◇ Public Comment:
 - ✘ Christopher: 16 runs. 8 medical 2 for Goodwell. 2 fire runs. 1 road-con rescue. Blood sugar tester working again.
- ◇ Bob: **Zoning report**:
 - ⊃ No zoning. Sending copies to Jackie, will send copies to Equalization first of the year. Equalization seems to be getting slow.
- ◇ **Planning report- John M**:
 - ✘ Set meetings for next year: February 6, May 7, August 13, November 12
 - ✘ Minutes get published after approval. Will look into approving via email so available earlier.
- ◇ Jennifer: **Clerk's Report**
 - ✘ For winter, no meeting for One Township at a Time at the hall. Promoting visiting other township activities. New coordinator will be working on project-oriented activities.
 - ✘ Jackie said no need to do anything with automatic poverty exemption.
 - ✘ Rachel motioned to accept the Poverty Guide Line Resolution 2024-01, Tim 2nd, passed.
 - ✘ Tim motioned to accept the Property Transfer Resolution 2024-02, Jennifer 2nd, passed.
 - ✘ Audit – Heard from auditor and responded, but nothing back.
 - ✘ Have desk plates set up.
 - ✘ Ordinance, etc. review: Discussed how planning ordinance changes are to be handled. Clerk will keep old ordinance copies and keep track of new/changed ones for next planning ordinance book update. Need to update FOIA policy and procedures policy and have a resolution that accurately explains fees, hours to be paid, etc. Will find what neighboring townships have in place. Also need to review Fire agreement. This is currently out of date.
 - ✘ Elections:
 - ⊃ Feb: Need cameras. Drop box will be delivered tomorrow.
 - ⊃ Currently checking the mailbox and performing the ballot box inspection.
 - ⊃ Meeting with Election Committee and County to develop uniform documentation for townships.
 - ✘ Newwaygo sent recycling donation request. Goodwell does not use it enough to contribute. Residents can contribute at the time of recycling.
- ◇ Old Business:
 - ✘ John discussed the coming events meeting with Ryan Coffee at the hall January 9th. Make sure no quorum for Township Board or Planning Board.
 - ✘ Bob motioned to accept the Township General Policy as revised. Tim 2nd, passed.
- ◇ New Business:
 - ✘ BOR –
 - ⊃ Tim motioned to approve the \$50 per township cost for training. Bob 2nd, passed. John will get training form to Clerk to issue check. Jennifer will email planning bulletins to John.
 - ⊃ December 12 meeting: nothing to discuss, nothing to vote on.
- ◇ Public Comment:

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- ✘ Alec:
 - ≥ Is township considering charter township? Not any knowledge of such.
 - ≥ Planning board meeting video talked about fee change \$500 to \$5,000. Why? In having attorney and Ryan Coffee review current structure, it is recommended to have fee that will more likely be a deterrent than an accepted cost of going against township ordinances. Tim discussed how the current process used by the township works to resolve the issues vs. issuing a citation. But, if not willing to work with the township, then at least try to recover some of the cost spent to resolve. The magistrate is who will determine the fine, but the magistrate is limited by the township fee.
 - ≥ Discussed the 1 Township at a Time program.
- ✘ Joe: Discussed how the climate of Goodwell Township has changed. Strife is showing up, and it seems to be around changes that are violating what conscience has established. Now the residents have no common ground. There is a leverage trying to force board members to change what is been held dear in the quiet township. Asking the board not to violate their conscience with what goes against what they know as good and right.
- ✘ Bob discussed the information he found about a cage, cost ranges from \$700 - \$1500. Still looking at accordion style that can be pulled together and locked when needed and pushed back when not.
- ◇ Rachel motioned to adjourn, Bob 2nd, passed. Meeting ended 8:30pm.
- ◇ Next meetings:
 - ✘ Township meeting January 31th 7pm
 - ✘ Planning meeting February 6th, 7pm