

## **Duplain Township**

October 9, 2024

The October 9, 2024 regular meeting of Duplain Township was called to order by Bruce D Levey, Supervisor, at 7:30 pm, Duplain Township Hall, 145 W Main Street, Elsie, Michigan. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Members Present:** Bruce D Levey, Ryan Boots, Robert Ladiski, Amy Bowen, Dawn Levey

**Guests:** **Bill Schaffer. City of St. Johns;** Doug Steffen and Gail Watkins Clinton County Road Commission, Val Vail-Shirley Clinton County Commissioner, Bill Schafer City of St. Johns, Duane Breining

**Agenda:** The meeting agenda was presented for approval with the addition of St. Johns City Parks and Rec. and the contract from Mark Holley to complete the farm survey. It was moved by R. Boots to approve the agenda as amended, supported by R. Ladiski. Approved.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the September 11, 2024 meeting were presented for approval with the name correction of Ken Harris. It was moved by R. Ladiski to approve the minutes as corrected, supported by R. Boots. Approved.

### **Special Reports:**

- a. Clinton County Road Commission – Doug Steffon. Presented the annual recap of work completed during the 2024 season. It was an exceptional year, a lot of great projects, a lot of chip seal, no accidents or injuries during the process. All gravel came from Schlagle's which was a positive decision. Projects for 2025 will be identified in November. The commission will be completing a culvert inventory and noting infrastructure issues, first time. Have applied for a grant up to \$300,000 for a safety survey program. 2027 funding was approved the Hollister Road Bridge. Then Steffon opened up for question and answer, a variety of topics were discussed.
- b. St. Johns Parks & Recreation – Bill Schaffer was present to promote the Fantasy Forest Park project located in St. Johns. This is a 2.7-million-dollar endeavor with the goal to create a goal regional park destination, a go to place in Clinton County – universal assess is the end game. The project was outlined, and a township contribution would be encouraged, possibly \$15,000 with a June 30 commitment date.

**Financial Reports:** Amy Bowen, township treasurer, presented the monthly financial reports for review and approval:

- General Fund \$294,195.66
  - Money Market Account \$61,446.70
  - Savings Account \$185.00
  - CD \$14,327.46

• EMS	\$2,493.54
○ Money Market	\$69,716.58
○ Savings	\$5.00
• Roads	\$108,132.80
○ Savings	\$5.00
• Tax Account	\$235,415.79
○ Savings	\$5.00
• Dam Fund	\$140.00
○ Money Market	\$50,070.82
○ Savings	\$5.00

It was moved by R. Ladiski to approve the monthly financial reports pending audit, supported by R. Boots. Approved.

**Correspondence:** Letter from the City of St. Johns regarding Fantasy Forest.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None

**Old Business:**

1. Roads/Bridges/Dam Update – EGLE grant has been executed, and an estimate for the bridge repair is in progress. Surveys are underway on the Elsie Dam project area. A kickoff committee will be scheduled soon. A field day maybe set up in the next few weeks to take people down to the site.
2. Election Update – AV Ballots have been sent, 427, 117 returned. Homeland Security review – see attached: keys, bushes, and lighting are on the priority list. In progress is the emergency plan. It was moved by R. Ladiski and supported A. Bowen to have all locks changed not exceed \$4,000. Approved.

**New Business:**

1. Fire Update - \$17,000 was received for the ambulance that was sold. Currently in audit phase for 2023-24, need more information for it to be completed. The audit could be rolled into the Village of Elsie forensic audit. Department has their own Spectrum account for internet and phone service; the building will be switched to Village insurance policy. The Village and Department relationship is improving.
2. CAAS Update – Bill Schmidt board chair retired and Lee Thelen is the interim chair. To for 2024 emergency runs – 3,093 and Rescue: 99.
3. Contract for Professional Services from Complete Appraisal, Dr. Mark Holley was presented for review and approval. Specifically, the contract is for reappraisal of farms at a cost of \$15,900 divided over two fiscal years. It was moved by A. Bowen to enter into the contract and supported by R. Boots. Approved.

**County Commissioners Report:** Val Vail-Shirley – noted that the Planning Commission meets 10/10/24 and that one of the solar companies submitted a petition for language change in the

recently adopted ordinance. Budget hearing was held regarding a 29-million-dollar budget. The budget includes an increase in staffing in the prosecutor's office, and the sheriff's department. Farm/Land Preservation discussion at the September Commissioner's meeting it failed, comments were shared with officials, noting that there is a disconnect between those serving urban communities and those serving rural communities.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** None

**Clerks Report** – Expenditures totaling \$59,648.94 were presented for approval. It was moved by R. Boots, to pay the bills as presented. Supported by A. Bowen. Approved.

**Things That Need Talked About** – Field Trip to the Dam area 4-6 pm on Wednesday, October 30, put on the web page. Authorized tour rain or shine.

**Adjournment** - It was moved by A. Bowen to adjourn and supported by R. Boots. Approved. Adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn D Levey

Duplain Township Clerk