

## **Duplain Township**

September 11, 2024

The September 11, 2024 regular meeting of the Duplain Township Board was called to order by Bruce Levey, supervisor, at 7:30 pm, Duplain Township Hall 145 W. Main Street, Elsie, Michigan. The meeting opened with a moment of silence in memory of those who perished on September 11, 2001, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Members Present:** Bruce Levey, Amy bowen, Ryan Boots, Robert Ladiski, and Dawn Levey

**Guests:** Aillie Weaver, Maner Costerisan; Ken Harris, Developer; Dr. Mark Holley, assessor.

**Agenda:** The meeting agenda was presented for approval. It was moved by R. Boots to approve the agenda as presented, supported by R. Ladiski. Approved.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the August 14, regular meeting and the August 28, 2024 special meeting minutes were presented for approval. It was moved by A. Bowen to approve the minutes as corrected, supported by R. Boots. Approved.

### **Special Reports:**

- a. Audit - Allie Weaver presented the 2024 Audit overview. No significant changes, unmodified, clean opinion again for 2024. Very similar to years past. The township is very liquid. Financials are extremely solid. A few moments were dedicated to addressing the upcoming grant revenues the clerk was directed to forward grant agreements to the auditor.
- b. Elsie Junior High Project - Ken Davis - updated officials of the project. A history was given followed by the current status of the project. This was a courtesy extended to the Township. Harris noted that to assist with abatement a Brownfield Authority will be created by the Village. This is a 3 million dollar project. Harris developed the FC Mason Building in St. Johns.

**Correspondence:** Volunteer Spotlight Russ Hick's

**Financial Report:** The monthly financial reports were presented for review and approval. It was moved by R. Ladiski to approve the financial reports pending audit, supported by R. Boots. Approved.

● General Fund	\$283,978.65
○ Money Market	\$61,364.23
○ Savings Account	\$185.00
○ CD	\$14,281.47
● Emergency Financial	\$2,493.54
○ Money Market	\$69,623.01
○ Savings Account	\$5.00
● Roads Financial	\$117,726.35
○ Savings	\$5.00
● Dam Fund	\$50,143.45
○ Savings Account	\$5.00
● Tax Account	\$106,933.07
○ Savings Account	\$5.00

**Public Comment on Agenda Items: None**

**Old Business:**

A. Roads - EB Ridge area is very dusty, Chandler Road, maybe next year consider a third application. When is overbanding going to take place (R. Boots)? B. Levey will check into it.

B. Dam Project Update - Grant and financial paperwork has been completed for the MDNR Fish Habitat Grant which includes the MiGrant Account; and the USFWS Fish Passage Grant which involves - GrantSolutions and ASAP.Gov. Still waiting for the final document on the EGLE Dam Risk Grant. Also, the year end report was completed for the MDNR grant.

- The Spicer Agreement was presented for approval. It was moved by R. Ladiski to approve and sign the letter of agreement with the Spicer Group, supported by R. Boots. Approved.

C. Election Update - Reimbursement paperwork for the State Primary has been submitted and preparations are underway for the 2024 General Election. The tabulator is at the Clinton County Clerk's office so that HART can complete an update.

**New Business:**

A. Fire Update - A. Bowen. Lots going on. Approved an agreement with Spectrum for internet and telephone. FOIA - update, provided documents to the attorney for review and then will be forwarded. To date \$30,000 in legal fees has been spent.

There has been positive feedback regarding the new chief, Zachay McNamra, and new officers and recruitment is up. No missed runs in August. Lukas Machine had a save, worth the investment. The Celebration Ceremony is slated for October 5, during the Fall Festival, supported by the Red Cross.

B. Ambulance Update - Financially solvent collections are up as are expenses. There are issues being addressed between the Board and the Supervision at CAAS. Action is being taken to resolve issues and to develop policies. Runs to date Ambulance: 2,645 and Rescue 85.

A special meeting was held 8/23/24 to address board and leadership issues. HR service being considered.

C. Approval L-4029 - Signed by the clerk and supervisor. M. Holley reported that the upcoming audit must map out farms, 159, a very large task, proposal to be completed over a two year period to reduce the financial burden on the township. Will begin in 2025, 80 farms and then 80 farms in 2026. Proposal will be included on the October 2024 agenda.

D. Tree Removal Colony Cemetery - It was requested that permission be granted to remove a tree near the fence at the Colony Cemetery for safety reasons. It was moved by R. Ladiski and supported by R. Boots to have the tree removed at the Colony Cemetery. Approved.

E. Pare Down the Dam Project Committee to two board members. B. Levey recommended that Dawn D. Levey, Bruce, Levey with Robert Ladiski as an alternate be appointed as the committee. The rationale is - the committee will need to meet during the day and to avoid over-time hours the change be made. Also, the third committee member is Russell Hicks. Brief discussion followed.

F. Village Lease Agreement for the Elsie Area Fire Department - The Elsie Fire Area Fire Authority will be waiting to make a decision on the lease until after January 2025 because of township and village changes in officials. This is informational only.

G. Library Generator Request: Discussed followed after reviewing the request. Questions regarding the staffing, gas service upgrade, electrical upgrade, insurance questions (commercial grade ?) It was moved by B. Levey, not to approve the library generator project because the Elsie United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall is the designated cooling center and warming center in the case of an emergency and power outage, it is a larger facility with a kitchen, multiple bathrooms and expanded space to accommodate more individuals. In addition, it is readily accessible and handicap accessible as well. Supported by R. Boots. Approved.

**County Commissioners Report: No report**

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

**Clerk's Report and Expenditures:** It was moved by A. Bowen to pay the expenditures totaling \$10,956.89, supported by R. Boots. Approved.

**Things That Need to be Talked About -**

**Adjournment:** Moved by R. Boots to adjourn and supported by A. Bowen, approved.  
Adjourned at 9:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dawn D. Levey  
Duplain Township Clerk

DRAFT