

## GREENBUSH TOWNSHIP MINUTES

Monday April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

\* All Board members were in attendance.

**Call to Order:** The Greenbush Township meeting was called to order by Supervisor Thelen with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion was made by Smith to accept the agenda as presented with the addition of zoning pc-13-23 SLU to new business. And a Fire Dispute in new business

\* Seconded by Graham

\* Motion passed

Clinton County Sheriff Report: No representative was in attendance , but a monthly e-mail report was given to each Board member to review. The report seemed to verify that our Township is being well taken care of by the number of tickets given out and the overall protection given to our residents.

**Briggs District Library:** Guest speaker Sara Morrison, Library Director. Morrison was asked to come to the Township's monthly meeting to give some in depth summary of the new programs that were being initiated at the Library. Morrison stated that improvement in programs have been able to move forward much in part with the addition of them becoming a District Library . The Library is in the processes of a renovation project that would enable them to utilize the back warehouse that is connected to the Library. They hope to make more meeting rooms, expand reading area and enhance more public availability. There has been concerns about the front entrance and the front parking area that they hope to take care of in the near future. There was questing by Board members that not enough communication is coming forth to the Township from the Library being that is funded by our tax payers. Morrison replied when the meetings were and that we were always welcome to attend and that she would relay back to the Library Board that a quicker response would be appreciated. Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thursday of the month. In addition a new Board member will be joining and it happens to be one of Greenbush Township resident , Kim Kellogg. We the board congratulated her and asked to keep us informed on any Library progress.

**Clinton Area Transit:** Guest speaker Malissa Schutt, Director . The Township Board welcomed Schutt and asked her to speak on the availability of the transit bus system. The Board felt residents should take advantage of this bus system if needed and to be more aware of there services. Schutt spoke a little on the back ground of the service and her background as the director. She spoke on how the service has progressed over the years and how vital they are to the surrounding area. The rides are free for Vets and they are in the process of trying out a phone APP to make rides more available. The Transit has recently completed a new office area and a new garage

facility for bus repair. Schutt explained that their service has helped in so many various ways that she is so impressed with the community support.

**CAAS Report:** Supervisor Thelen's monthly meeting with CAAS came back to the Board with a report of how well things were going with our Ambulance coverage. There are three full crews now, Ambulances are in good working conditions and the program as a whole is running financially well. There is always hope that the community paramedic program would be reinstated but a lot of State regulations are up in the air and a lot of legal hoops to jump through. The board of directors are always holding on to hope because they feel this is so beneficial to many residents.

**County Commissioners Report:** Vail- Shirey was in attendance and gave various reports , one in part was the fact that Doug Riley from zoning will be retiring the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2023, and how he should be commended for his fine and loyal service to our County. A reminder that on may 11th at 6:30 pm in the Commissioners room at the Court House will be the next public hearing for the voting of the moratorium and possibly an advisory committee in concerns with solar and wind turbine applications in the County. Vail-Shirey strongly recommended that there be a good showing from our Township. There has been numerous discussion from many townships on the development of Townships own Zoning Boards. It is with much interest to Vail-Shirey on the funding of this and if a Township could afford to do so? She would be available to help with any question a Township would have. The Township Board conveyed to our residents how important it is to keep informed on the County level of the action that the Commissioners are taking. In those regards resident Gifford asked about the M-21 corridor given to LEAP Agriculture Technologist .Vail-Shirey did respond and said the County was involved in that to some extent.

**Assessor Report-Beth Botke:** Botke was in attendance and reported that all is well in Assessor land and she was at the meeting or support and if any resident had any questions or concerns. Again the Board complemented Botke for her work and the support she gives to our residents with her knowledge of Assessing.

**Reading and Approval of Prior Months Minutes:** Motion by Kindel to accept prior months minutes as presented and to dispense with their reading.

\* Seconded by Graham

\* Motion passed

**Treasurer Report and Bill Payment:** Treasurer Roof presented the balance sheet, profit and loss sheet . Roof also presented the checks to be payed numbering from 14325-14328 , ACH, State of Michigan, and EFTPS.

Motion by Kindel to accept the Treasure's report as presented and to pay bills as presented.

\* Seconded by Graham

\* Motion Passed

**Correspondence:** Supervisor Thelen commented that Former Supervisor Gary Hyde was having some health issues and would appreciate a card, Clerk Smith reported that the application had been submitted to the health department so we could get the go ahead for a new well. Smith also reminded residents that burn permits are on a yearly basis now and the St. Johns Police Department still issues them.

**Public Comment( Anything Other Than Agenda Items) :** Resident Whitford is still concerned with the speed of trucks on Welling Road going through Eureka. The Township Board assured Mr. Whitford that the Solar speed signs that are going to be put up by the Township should help this situation out. We as a Board want safety for our residents also. Resident Owens is concerned that the 11points that were needed to progress with the solar applications was not enough, more tightening down of rules . More discussion will take place in new business.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

\* Road Report: The contracts for FY 2023-2024 have not been signed yet do to the fact that some of the monetary amounts came in at a higher than expected cost by the Board. Supervisor Thelen and Kindel will be meeting with the RC. \* Motion was made by Kindel that if contracts came in at corrected amount before the Boards May meeting that Thelen, Roof and Smith could sign them.

\* Seconded by Graham

\* Motion passed

The chloride is on order but there is a set back due to some EGLE controversy on the nature of the application of chloride getting into water supply ect.... This should be resolved quickly. Kindel has offered to get the prices for the solar speed signs. The Township Board is very satisfied that the road projects for 2023-2024 will be of great importance for all of our residents and that we will be transparent with the monies that we are spending on roads. Supervisor Thelen said the route between Hyde Rd. And Maple Rapids Rd. Is going to be a big advancement to our Township when it gets paved. That is one of the contracts that we are working on.

\* Solar Up date: The best way to keep informed of the proceedings is to attend zoning meetings and let your voices be heard. It is still up in the air on the all the talk of Townships having there own zoning board. This Township has heard what their residents want but we have to be realistic on cost and other factors . Botke spoke on the master plan you have to have in place for a zoning board and how long it takes to achieve this action. Again the meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> is very important.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

\* Budget Amendments: Motion by Graham that Budget Amendments for the FY 2022-2023 may be made so that FY can be closed out.

\* Seconded by Kindel

\* Roll call vote was taken by Clerk Smith - All Ayes

\* Motion passed

Zoning -PC-13-23SLU: Discussion by Board on the request submitted from Jim's Amish for a special land permit to have United Power Sports Outlet on site. Request for zoning review was in order. Clerk Smith is to respond to zoning with a go ahead from Greenbush Township.

\* Fire Dispute: Clerk Smith reported that she had received a fire run dispute for payment from a resident that had a structure fire. Smith sent the letter to the St. Johns Fire Dept. to get their perspective on the situation. Chief Whitford said it was up to the Township on the billing. He assured us that the Fire dept. had done all they could to handle the fire in an appropriate way. After discussion from the Board a \* Motion was made by Kindel to go forth with the billing to the resident.

\*Seconded by Graham

\* Motion passed

**Additional Public Comments-None**

**Meeting Adjournment:** Motion made by Kindel to adjourn the meeting

\* Seconded by Graham

\* Motion Passed

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:40 PM**

**Next Meeting , May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 7pm**

-----  
Supervisor Lee Thelen

-----  
Clerk Ramona Smith