

Duplain Township

January 8, 2025

The January 8, 2025 regular meeting of Duplain Township 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 the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Guests Present: Nichole Fickes – County Commissioner; Destinee Bryce, Dorothy Ornelas & Todd Carroll – Village of Elsie

Agenda: The January 8, 2025 agenda was presented for approval with the addition of budget 2025-26 discussion and wage increase of 2.5% increase. It was moved by R. Boots to approve the agenda as amended. Supported by A. Bowen. Approved.

Minutes: The minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting were presented for review and approval. It was moved by R. Ladiski to approve the minutes as printed, supported by R. Boots. Approved.

Special Reports: None

Financial Reports: The monthly financial reports were presented by Amy Bowen, Duplain Township Treasurer.

- General Fund \$289,689.09
 - Money Market \$61,674.62
 - Savings Account \$185.00
 - CD \$14,469.42
- EMS Fund \$1,493.54
 - Money Market \$69,975.19
 - Savings Account \$5.00
- Dam & Fish Passage Project Fund \$50,140.00
 - Money Market \$142.25
 - Savings Account \$5.00
- Roads \$59,229.52
 - Savings Account \$5.00
- Tax Account \$595,941.14
 - Savings Account \$5.00

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

Communications: Charter Communication.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: No comment.

Old Business:

1. Road/Bridges/Dam Grant Update
 - a. January 29, 2025 USFWS will survey the dam area in preparation for the mussel studies
 - b. EGLE Dam Risk Grant application has been pushed on to a final complete grant application, requesting 1.7 million dollars.
 - c. In the process of setting up accounts for the project so expenditures can be paid and reimbursements requested.
 - d. There are questions regarding a line of credit for the project. More investigating and contact with MDNR and EGLE – Still seeking a municipal funding source that meets all criteria.
2. Lock Change Update – No Report
3. PA233 – Foster Swift – Duplain Township signed as a designated municipality due to a communication error, thus the cost will be more than anticipated. Direction from the Board. Checking into the possibility of withdrawing from the litigation or check the total financial commitment. Keep officials updated.

New Business:

1. Fire Update:
 - a. Letter from the Village of Elsie – Copy available upon request. Village of Elsie would like an updated agreement prior to the March 31, 2025 deadline. The building lease must be in place by November 24, 2025 or the department will have to seek another housing location.
 - b. Meetings of the Elsie Area Fire Association will be moved to the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm.
 - c. Discussion – Included the lease of the building/housing the department and \$500 per run charge only Duplain Township is paying. So many unknowns to determine before the 2025-26 budget is completed.
 - d. New leadership is doing well, vehicle maintenance has improved. Staffing and department moral is much better.
2. CAAS Update
 - a. Minutes provided. 4300 runs for 2024/up 8% from 2023.
 - b. Budget presented for approval – available upon request. Per capita will remain \$15.00. It was moved by R. Boots to approve the 2025-26 budget and per capita, supported by A. Bowen. Approved.

3. Informational Clinton County Utility Scale Energy Systems Noise Ordinance was given to officials. Noting that the ordinance does not meet the Public Service Commission criteria.
4. 2025 Road Projects – Chip seal on this side of the county in 2025. More details at the February meeting.
5. Green Space Update – 1/3/25
 - a. Elsie Dam Project update was provided to the committee.
 - b. Recommended that Duplain Twp consider applying for a Michigan Endowment Grant to study and design the bridge project. Cannot be used for construction, noting that there is not a match for these funds.
 - c. 2025 Spring Tree Sale – Order Forms Available
6. 2025-26 Budget Discussion – a recommended 2.5% wage increase for officials – difficult discussion when approving your own compensation.

County Commissioners Report: Nichole Fickes – Business card provided. Officers: Bruce Delong, Vice Chair Zach Rudat. Meeting dates and committee assignments provided. There are openings on the Clinton County Office on Aging Board, contact the Clinton County Clerk.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: No comment

Expenditures and Clerk's Report – It was moved by A. Bowen to pay expenditures totaling \$15,761.46, supported by R. Boots. Approved. Budget amendments will be presented at the February 2025 regular meeting.

Things That Need to be Talked About:

Adjournment – It was moved by R. Boots to adjourn, supported by R. Ladiski. Approved. 8:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn D Levey

Duplain Township Clerk