

Duplain Township

June 12, 2024

The June 12, 2024 regular meeting of 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 the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Guests: Charles Smith, Spicer Group; MaLissa Schutt. Clinton Transit; Val Vail-Shirley, County Commissioner; Phil Hanses, Nichole Fickes and Gail Wadell

Agenda: The meeting agenda was presented for approval with the addition of Clinton Transit, Clinton and Letter of Preservation. It was moved by R. Boots to approve the amended agenda Supported by R. Ladiski. Approved.

Minutes: The minutes of the May 8, 2024 regular meeting and the May 20, 2024 special meeting were presented for approval. It was moved by R. Boots and supported by R. Ladiski to approve the minutes as presented. Approved.

Special Reports:

1. Clinton Transit – Malissa Schutt, executive director, reported that the service has seen an 8% increase in ridership by Duplain Township residents. The Blue Bus is focused on meeting the needs of the community. Use 52% employment transportation, 18% medical, and 30% recreational and shopping. A representative will be attending meetings approximately twice a year to keep officials informed. Millage is up for renewal on the August 6, 2024 ballot, .6824 and an increase of .0076. The complete plan is available on mybluebus.com. A survey was conducted that revealed that there were three service improvements requested – service on Sunday, expand availability on Saturdays; a scheduled route; micro transit similar to Uber.

Financial Reports: The monthly financial reports were presented by Amy Bowen, treasurer. It was moved by R. Boots to approve the financial reports as presented, supported by R. Ladiski. Approved.

- General Fund \$293,653.93
 - Money Market \$111,049.40
 - Savings Account \$ 185.00
 - CD \$ 14,141.36
- Emergency Services \$ 12,538.54
 - Money Market \$ 87,227.69
 - Savings Account \$ 5.00
- 1. Roads \$127,848.93

o Savings Account	\$	5.00
2. Tax Account	\$	0.00
o Savings Account	\$	5.00

Correspondence: None

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Old Business:

3. Roads: B. Levey reported that the road graveling has been completed and the first chloride application completed as well.

Elsie Dam/Fish Passage Update:

- o Grants awarded: EGLE 1.2 million; MDNR \$225,000, FWS National Fish Passage Program \$400,000, for a total of 1.825 million.
 - o Timeline was reviewed.
 - o Action items:
 - It was moved to add Russell Hicks to the Elsie Dam Project committee. Russell brings a wealth of expertise and contacts to the project. Supported by It was moved by R. Ladiski and supported by R. Boots to add Hicks to the committee. Approved.
 - The bid document for the project manager was presented for approval. It was moved by R. Boots to post for a project manager for the project, supported by R. Ladiski. Approved. Amend to extend the deadline to August 14, 2024.
 - It was recommended that a separate checking account be established for the grant funds and that \$50,000 from the American Rescue Funds be deposited in the account. It was moved by A. Bowen to establish the account with the following signatories A. Bowen, D. Levey, and B. Levey. Approved. The account will designated as: Elsie Dam and Fish Passage Project. Approved. Note that the account will be a Money Market Account until the account becomes active.
4. **Election Update:** D. Levey – Election inspectors are attending training June 11, 12, and 13. A meeting of the Duplain Township Election Commission is slated immediately following the regular meeting to approve the inspectors and special dates. The security camera has been installed above the ballot box and a security door chime on the entrance door.
 5. **Friendship Park** – The Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School students were thanked for applying mulch at the park. Mint City Handyman has been contacted and the park repairs are on the schedule. Also, the replacement swing has been ordered and should arrive this week.

New Business:

6. Fire Update – A. Bowen . Changes are in progress. C. Ormes Chief will retire effective August 1, 2024. Special meeting Monday, June 17, to prepare for interviews. Fire Department cleanup and out so the department is looking good.
7. Letter of Preservation received from an attorney indicating that there is the potential for a law suit involving the fire department, the fire association, and officials. All materials and communications must be retained.
8. CAAS – Clinton Area Ambulance is financially healthy with a current general fund balance of \$1,559,340, on hand for operations \$106,179. Action was taken to establish a committee to establish guidelines for the personnel committee: E. Thelen, D. Levey, and B. Gurski with the assistance of L. Weber. CAAS has received 5 applicants for assistant director position, L. Weber with the assistance of T. Cross and B. Moore will vet the applicants and narrow the field to three and then at the June meeting the board will conduct a second interview. Runs to date 1,519 and Rescue 54

Commissioners Report: Val Vail-Shirley reported that the Stand Alone Battery Storage Ordinance, failed at the Board of Commissioners 4-3 vote, 5 must vote in favor to pass. Val Vail-Shirley reported that she has been appointed to Regional Agricultural Consortium representing Clinton County. Planning Commission will take up 14 ordinances to amend, June 13, 2024.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

Phil Hanes, A candidate for the Drain Commissioner. 630 County Drains, 1,000 of additional infrastructures and works with a staff of six. Served for nineteen years, plus twenty years in the drain officer. Advancing the use of technology within the office. Total of 39 years of experience.

Gail Wadell – Updated officials on the leases and the location of the air fields in the area and adjoining counties. Informational.

Nichole Fickes – Running for District 1 Commissioner. Has served Victor Township for three years.

Clerks Report: D. Levey requested that a budget amendment, \$1,000 be moved from 101.101.801 Professional and Contractual to 101.101.910 Insurance and Bonds – due to the annual insurance premium coming in higher than projected. It was moved by R. Boots to approve the budget amendment request, supported by R. Ladiski. Approved.

Expenditures totaling \$25,680.47 were presented for approval. It was moved by A. Bowen and supported by R. Boots to approve the payment of bills.

Adjourn – It was moved by R. Boots and supported by A. Bowen. Approved adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn D. Levey

Duplain Township Clerk

DRAFT