

Lee Township  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:30 pm via Zoom Meetings.

**Members Present:** Trustee Hatfield, Trustee Galdikas, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Owen and Clerk Friel.

**Amendments:** Supervisor Owen to add property exemption guideline, and asset test.

**Board Comments:** Supervisor Owen happy to see vaccines are coming out in Michigan, hopeful that up to 70% of Michigan may be vaccinated by the end of the year. Also reminded everyone that the crisis hotline is available for help or direction at any time. Just dial 211 for help or to be directed to someone who can help.

**Citizens Comment:** Bernadette and Joseph Dooley are against the variance that is on the agenda, later in the meeting.

**Guest Speaker:** None

**Approval of Regular Board Minutes:** Supervisor Owen asked to have minutes corrected with a strike through “Lee Township” on page 3, and replaced with “area 4”.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to approve the regular board meeting minutes dated January 11, 2021, with necessary corrections. All voted: “Aye.” Motion carried.*

*A motion was made Galdikas and seconded by Owen to receive the treasurers report. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Galdikas, Lowery, Friel, Hatfield and Owen. Motion carried.*

**Commissioners Report:** None

**Deputy Report:** Deputy Tatrow gave a report, in January there were 134 calls for Lee Township, for varying reasons.

**Fire Department Report:** Fire Chief Chamberlain reported that January was a slower month, with 10 runs. Training continues on new air bags.

**First Responders Report:** Pam Rawson reported that in the month of January the first responders had 35 total calls (32 medical, 2 fire assists, 1 PI).

**Assessor’s Report:** Kyle Harris reported on upcoming BOR meetings, discussing options for in-person/virtual setting. Dates for meetings are: Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021, 2:30 pm (organizational meeting); Monday, March 8th, 2021, 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Thursday, March 11th, 2021, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

**Ambulance Reports:** Trustee Galdikas reported, the quarterly meeting took place January 14. Don Nagel will be stepping down as committee chair soon. Life EMS presented a list of repairs needed for the building, which they brought to the City of Fennville. City of Fennville requested financial assistance from the Ambulance Committee for repairs.

**Building Inspector's Report:** Supervisor Owen reported in the month of January, there were 6 electrical permits, 3 mechanical, 1 plumbing, 3 building, totaling \$104,972.00 in improvements for the month.

**Community Center Report:** Due to state orders, the Center was not used in January.

**Cemetery Report:** Spring cleanup will be held May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Library Report:** Clerk Friel passed on a report from Debbie Laraway. Volunteers continue to catalog the books; they are grateful for the volunteers. Encourages everyone to check out the Facebook page, created by volunteers. No additional information was provided regarding the \$11.00 per month charge for a new Dewey Decimal System purchased, which the library committee wants the board to pay. The board asked for more information on what that charge will include for the library and for what period of time.

**Transfer Station Report:** Treasurer Lowery reported for J. Rawson, the transfer station brought in \$874, and collected 39 tickets.

**Lake Board:** Supervisor Owen reported about an \$800.00 bill for weed treatment, otherwise not much happening on the lake. Treasurer Lowery questioned if that bill should be \$800 or \$8,000? The received bill presented as \$800.00.

**Newsletter Report:** Trustee Galdikas asked that all information for newsletter be submitted by May as the next newsletter should be out in early June.

**Holiday Committee Report:** None

**Pullman Pride Report:** Trustee Galdikas reminded everyone that the deadline for scholarship applications is April 15 and application is on the township website.

**Road Committee Report:** None

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Lawrence Ave Variance Request-** Supervisor Owen reported that the request was officially withdrawn by the property owners, until they can find a more agreeable arrangement with the neighbors. Joe and Bernie Dooley requested notification if there is another request for a variance.

**Road Millage-** Supervisor Owen sent out several bids regarding 103<sup>rd</sup>, between 52<sup>nd</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup>.

*Supervisor Owen motioned to approve the resurfacing of 103<sup>rd</sup>, between 52<sup>nd</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup>, at \$100,000-\$110,000, and seconded by Treasurer Lowery. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Galdikas, Lowery, Friel, Hatfield and Owen. Motion carried.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Township Property Maintenance-**Supervisor Owen discussed rodent issues at township buildings, discussed bid from pest control company to fix and/or maintain. Trustee Galdikas suggested assigning a person(s) to be in charge of checking the buildings for needed repairs, like broken windows. Tim Kotas suggested keeping a running list of maintenance issues, that can be addressed as they come up.

**Salary Resolution-***Supervisor Owen motioned for an increase for the Supervisor position, per required 30 days prior to annual meeting. Proposed \$1,250.00 increase to \$19,000.00 annually, seconded by Treasurer Lowery. Roll call vote was taken: Yes- Galdikas, Lowery, Friel, Hatfield, and Owen. This will come before the electors at the annual meeting in March.*

Supervisor Owen suggested discussion on regular raises for others in the organization. Treasurer Lowery recommended discussing prior to, or at the budget meeting.

**LSL Spillway-**Supervisor Owen discussed hiring a contractor to work on the Lower Scott Lake Spillway, as an ongoing issue for the past 5 years.

*A motion was made by Supervisor Owen to hire Pavlak to work on the Lower Scott Lake Spillway, with a budget not exceeding \$55,500.00, as long as it is completed within 90 days of this meeting. Seconded by Treasurer Lowery, Roll call vote was taken, Yes- Lowery, Owen, Friel, Hatfield, Galdikas. Motion carried.*

**Library Upgrade Fee-**The board requested more information on what the \$11 per month fee will get the library. Clerk Friel to reach out for more information.

**Tax Penalty Waiver-***Treasurer Lowery motioned to waive the 4% late fee through March 1, especially this year due to delays in USPS delivering bills. Seconded by Trustee Galdikas. All vote “Aye”, motion carried.*

**Master Plan-**Trustee Galdikas suggested dates for Master Plan meetings for April 19, 2021 and September 20, 2021, at 6:30 pm. She encouraged board members to seek out residents interested in working on long term goals for the Township.

**Poverty Exemption and Asset Test-***Treasurer Lowery motioned to adopt the maximum federal guidelines for asset test, seconded by Supervisor Owen. All vote “Aye,” motion carried.*

*Supervisor Owen motioned to adopt a resolution to allow residents to submit protests to the BOR in writing, seconded by Treasurer Lowery. Roll call vote was taken, Yes- Galdikas, Hatfield, Friel, Lowery, and Owen. Motion carried.*

Kyle Harris will keep the same hours, and Supervisor Owen will be available for phone calls. Harris will collect signatures of BOR members.

**Payment of the Bills:** Trustee Galdikas questioned the payment through the fire department account to Tishhouse Electric, Inc. Treasurer Lowery believed this fee is for generator maintenance. State of Michigan and 5/3 check duplicates need to be voided.

*A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to approve the payment of the bills presented by the Clerk, with necessary corrections. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Lowery, Hatfield, Galdikas, Owen and Friel. Motion carried.*

**Correspondence:** None

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to adjourn the meeting. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Minutes submitted by:  
Heather Friel, Clerk