

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:32 pm at the Lee Township Hall located at 877 56th Street, Pullman, Michigan.

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

Amendments: None.

Board Comments: Clerk Friel spoke on the May 3rd election, that it went well, although no voters came to vote. She thanked the Election Inspectors, Shirley Kay, Pam Booth, Renee and Tim Looman for their hard work and dedication throughout the long day.

Supervisor Owen thanked everyone for coming out, and stated that he was grateful for the summer-like weather.

Trustee Galdikas reminded that the first free dump days of the summer will be held this coming weekend, May 14 & 15. She stated that the other dates will be held June 4th and 5th, during Pullman Pride weekend, and September 17th and 18th.

Citizens Comment: Shirley Kay informed that the PAP Organization will be holding a Candidate Forum Presentation for Q&A. She continued that the Democratic representatives will meet on May 17th, and the Republican representatives were scheduled for June 14, but are being rescheduled. She stated that the Q&A will be held at the Linking Center, and that anyone who would like to come is welcome.

Guest Speaker: Brett Ensfield from the Allegan County Sherriff's Department presented two Life Saving Awards to Lee Township's Deputy Jackson for his heroic, and selfless actions performed on February 4th and April 3, 2022, which resulted in saving the lives of two different Lee Township residents. He also presented a Life Saving award to Allegan County's Sergeant Baker for his participation in the same incident that occurred in Lee Township on February 4, 2022, assisting to save a Lee Township resident's life. Ensfield informed that Allegan County Sherriff's Department is currently working on rolling out body cameras for the officers. He stated that they should be out within a couple months.

Approval of Regular Board Minutes:

A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Hatfield to approve the regular board meeting minutes dated April 11, 2022, pending the correction of the date. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: The treasurer's report was Treasurer Lowery.

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

Commissioners Report: Tom Jessup spoke in support of the police department's body camera roll out. He informed that the County will be holding a survey, it will be sent out and held online. He stated it's regarding a 5-year plan for spending. Regarding broadband, he spoke on the survey that the county is currently asking residents to compete. Also, that there will be money coming from the federal government for broadband, potentially \$1 billion. He updated that the State is working on a plan, and creating a department to manage everything. He stated that when that is complete, they will release their funds, but it will likely be at least a year before that happens. Tom reminded that he is running for commissioner again this year. He stated that he has one opponent in the August Primary as Republicans, and there is only one Democrat on the ballot. He informed that the county hired a lobbyist firm to tap into grants for the county's wants and needs, and that there may be a possibility to inquire with them on the township level as well.

Deputy Report: Deputy Jackson reported that for the month of April there were 162 calls, 48 of which were taken by him. Of those, 2 were breaking and entering/larceny, there were 69 traffic stops, which lead

to 13 warrant arrests. He informed that they are investigating the vandalism/graffiti issue in town. He stated that they have leads.

Code Official Report: Ben Hustafa reported that in the month of April there were 23 open complaints, including 12 SFR and 7 blight. There were 4 new complaints logged, including 2 single family resident, and 2 blight. He issued 6 initial or warning letters, 4 for blight and 2 for SFR, and issued 4 verbal warnings, 3 for blight and 1 SFR. He stated that 2 complaints are waiting on ongoing police and/or fire investigations. He updated that the garbage on 111th has seemed to stop, but the tire dumping continues to be a growing issue.

Dick Palmby spoke in appreciation of the board and Ben's initiative on this issue throughout the township.

Fire Department Report: Chief Ted Chamberlain reported for April there were 26 runs, including 3 building fires, 2 suspicious fires, a wire down, 3 medical assists, 7 rubbish/grass fires, 1 authorized burn and 1 carbon monoxide. Training was on pump training and EMS training. The First Responder class is now just tactical and testing, and everyone is still enrolled. He updated that truck 55 is still planned to be done by Memorial Day. They have been having a lot of contractor issues, but he feels confident in the finish date.

First Responders Report: None.

Assessor's Report: None.

Ambulance Reports: Trustee Galdikas informed that the Ambulance committee met on April 14. She informed that Lee Township continues to lead the area in calls, taking 86 of the 293 requests for service and 60 of the 180 transports. The average response time was 8 minutes 59 seconds. She stated that Life EMS has purchased hydraulic cot lifts in an effort to retain employment, which will be fully installed within 3-4 months. She informed that Life EMS will be hosting a hybrid EMS course with free tuition, for those interested in going into the emergency medical field. She updated that there continues to be a struggle with getting AMR to respond to calls in the area when Life EMS is unavailable, and repercussions are being looked into.

Building Inspector's Report: Supervisor Owen reported in the month of April there were 7 electrical permits, 1 mechanical permit, 0 plumbing permits, and 3 building permits. Which brought in a total of \$91,270.00 in improvements to Lee Township. He informed that the equalized value of Lee Township ranked number 5 of 24 municipalities, moving us up significantly.

Cemetery Report: None. Trustee Galdikas asked that everyone keep May Davoren in their thoughts and prayers, as she is dealing with ongoing health issues, which will keep her from coming back to cover the cemetery report.

Library Report: Clerk Friel reported by submission from Debbie Laraway, that the library volunteers are excited to welcome Fayth Stone to the group. Please check out the hours and events on their Facebook page. As always, thank you to Robert and Nicole DuShane for their faithful stewardship of our library.

Transfer Station Report: None.

Lake Board: None.

Newsletter Report: Trustee Galdikas reported that the spring/summer newsletter is at the printer, and will be out after May 18, when the Pullman Pride Scholarship recipients are informed they will receive the scholarships. She stated that the newsletters will include the broadband survey.

Holiday Committee Report: Trustee Galdikas stated that Sandy Anderson is planning the Memorial Day festivities with the VFW.

Pullman Pride Report: Trustee Galdikas informed that the flyers are out with the schedule of events on them. She encouraged everyone to follow the Facebook page for updates. She listed some of the planned events, including the Fire Department's pancake breakfast, Saturday, including takeout orders again, the

FD will also have the fire safety house from 12pm-3p at the Linking Center, so bring your kids over to experience that. She informed that there are still spaces available for the flea market and car show, if anyone is interested, please contact Ann Hatfield. She reminded that the events will take place all weekend, beginning Friday night, with a drive-in movie, and ending Sunday with a unity service at the baseball field.

Road Committee Report: Chuck Pugh is still out of state, but reminded the board to check on the road millage information for the upcoming election, in August.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Patrol Vehicle Sale: Supervisor Owen spoke regarding the proposal sent to the board from Allegan County, for the purchase of the patrol vehicle. Conversation was had weighing the pros and cons of the proposal. Supervisor Owen informed that the board is responsible for 75% of the cost to employ the deputy in Lee Township, including equipment and insurance needed to do so. The proposal showed AC paying \$9,187 to Lee Township for the vehicle, and Lee Township paying \$549.19 to AC for 18 months to cover the 75% cost of employment coverage. The proposal left questions from the board regarding what exactly was covered under the payment from Lee Twp to AC, if fuel, maintenance and insurance are included in this cost. Also, what happens after the 18 months are up, and how payment would proceed beyond that point.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to table the patrol vehicle sale until future meeting to have further questions answered. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.

Land Split 12-013-001-00: Supervisor Owen presented the land split submitted by Assessor Harris.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Friel to approve land split 12-013-001-00. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.

Land Split 12-030-011-10: Supervisor Owen presented the land split submitted by Assessor Harris.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Hatfield to approve land split 12-030-011-10 pending the markings on the map say ("") feet. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.

Special Event Ordinance: *A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to approve to send the Special Event Ordinance to print, not to exceed \$500. Yes –Galdikas, Hatfield, Lowery, Owen, Friel. Motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Dokey Drain Resolution: Supervisor Owen spoke regarding information presented to the board regarding the Dokey Drain Resolution via email, prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to approve the consolidation fo Dokey Drain/Baselind Lake Intercounty Drain/Wright Drain. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.

Road Millage Resolution: Supervisor Owen spoke on the importance of the road millage, and keeping our roads up. He informed that it is up for renewal on the August 2, 2022 ballot.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Friel approve the resolution for the road millage. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.

Broadband Survey: Trustee Galdikas spoke regarding the county broadband survey that is available now, and that it will be coming out with the newsletters, and is available throughout town. She encouraged people to participate in the survey to help the county move forward with supporting projects.

Gravel Road Program: Supervisor Owen spoke on gravel road rankings sent over by the Allegan County Road Commission. The ACRC ranked areas of 50th St and 54th St poorly, and suggested getting bids to have them fixed. Conversation continued with the board and included opinions from the Township Deputy and First Responders on other roads that may require attention more urgently.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Lowery to get a bid for graveling ~~50th Street, between 111th and 112th~~ 101st between 50th and 51st St and 58th Street, between 109th and 111th. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills: Presented by Clerk Friel.

A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Hatfield to approve the payment of the for a total of \$39,150.86, as presented by Clerk Friel. Yes –Friel, Owen, Lowery, Hatfield, Galdikas. 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 9:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Heather Friel, Clerk