

Lee Township  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 10, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Lee Township Hall located at 877 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Pullman, Michigan.

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

**Amendments:** Supervisor Owen added Trick or Treat hours, and Land divisions for parcel numbers 12-007-047-20 and 03-12-026-015-20.

**Board Comments:** Trustee Galdikas informed that Dick Palmby's mother recently passed away, and stated that our thoughts and prayers are with him.

Supervisor Owen thanked everyone for coming. He informed that there had been a water line hit during the digging for fiber, on 109<sup>th</sup> Ave near the Sawmill Diner. He reassured that it will not affect any residents' water, and will be fixed first thing in the morning. He welcomed Deputy Tyler Jackson back.

Clerk Friel spoke regarding the upcoming November 8, 2022 Election. Stating that anyone who requested a ballot by application should receive their ballot any day. She asked that anyone who wishes to vote absentee may reach out to her by calling the township office, or more quickly by emailing her at [clerk@lectwp.org](mailto:clerk@lectwp.org).

**Citizens Comment:** Ben Lewis- stated that he heard fiber optics was being installed by Bloomingdale communications on 105<sup>th</sup> Ave, and suggested that it be installed throughout the entire Township.

Angel Jacobsen- requested to see new business items on the Township website before the meetings, and volunteered to help with posting, if someone is needed.

Patty Conway- informed that the State of Michigan has recently made a lot of money available to help with blight issues. She continued that the Township could apply directly, stating that it would be a great opportunity for Lee Township to tackle some of the blight concerns.

**Guest Speaker:** Ben Wakely from Bloomingdale Public Schools asked township residents to support the school district by voting in favor of the **Bloomingdale Public School District No. 16 Operating Millage Proposal** at the upcoming November 8, 2022 election. He informed that the millage will restore the operating millage. Also, that the district can levy up to 18 mills, but is currently rolled back to levy 17.2 mills. He stated that the proposal appears as a request for 2 mills to protect from future roll backs, but the district can only use up to 18 mills. He reported that the proposal will not affect primary residences or qualified Ag. Only businesses and non-primary residencies will be taxed as a result of the millage. He continued that those affected will be taxed about \$13 per month for every \$200,000.00 of taxable value.

**Approval of Regular Board Minutes:**

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Friel to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting dated September 12, 2022. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.*

**Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes** None.

**Treasurer's report:** The treasurer's report was read by Trustee Galdikas.

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

**Commissioners Report:** None.

**Deputy Report:** Deputy Tyler Jackson reported that in the month of September there were 125 calls, including 1 breaking and entering, 1 larceny, 2 malicious destruction of property and lots of running dogs. He requested that everyone leash their pets.

**Fire Department/ EMS Report:** Chief Chamberlain reported 57 calls for the month of September, including 3 rubbish/trash fires, 1 cancel enroute, 2 powerlines down, 1 gas leak, 2 motor vehicle accidents and a breakdown of light ballast. There were 47 emergency medical calls. EMS training was on individual needs. Company training was on jaws of life hoses, and training for the new jaws of life would be Tuesday, October 11. He informed that it would cost around \$1,700.00 to replace old hoses that need to be replaced. He informed that then new hoses will be 70 feet long, which should help keep them off the ground, and make them last longer. He spoke about the need for a new Fire/EMS software. He is researching a couple, which will automatically send reports where they need to go and track training records. He stated that the old software is obsolete and does not work anymore. Both programs he had been looking at cost about \$2,500.00- \$3,000.00 upfront, and per year. He stated that he will continue to research to find the best fit for our department.

Fire Prevention Day will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, 8:30 am-2:30pm with Pullman Elementary School students coming to the station for a hands-on presentation. He welcomed anyone who would like to observe to stop by. He said the department looks forward to hosting this each year, and plan to do a presentation with the Jaws of Life this year.

**Code Official Report:** None

**Assessor's Report:** Kyle Harris informed that he has been keeping up with phone calls and emails as usual. He updated that tax PRE corrections can be made right away now, and residents do not have to wait for the next BOR to make corrections. He stated that he had 2 splits for the board to approve.

Parcel 03-12-026-015-20 at 250 51<sup>st</sup> St Grand Junction requesting a split. Harris stated that it meets all requirements, but is waiting for MTS approval.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Hatfield to approve the split for parcel number 03-12-026-015-20, pending MTS approval. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.*

Parcel 007-047-20 at 2730 60<sup>th</sup> St in Fennville requesting a split. Harris stated that it meets all requirements, but is waiting for MTS approval.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the split for parcel number 007-047-20, pending MTS approval. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.*

**Ambulance Reports:** Trustee Galdikas had no report, but informed that the next meeting will be held on October 13th.

**Building Inspector's Report:** Supervisor Owen reported in the month of September there were 10 electrical permits, 5 plumbing permits, 8 mechanical permits 1 demolition permit and 6 building permits, resulting in \$523,106.00 in improvements to the Township.

**Cemetery Report:** None. The board is looking for a volunteer to fill the vacancy of Cemetery Chair.

**Library Report:** Clerk Friel reported by submission from Debbie Laraway that Robert and Nicole held a book sale for Oktoberfest. With the proceeds they plan to put a free little library next to the library building, and a similar structure in the back with hats and mittens for children who have forgotten theirs. She also thanked an anonymous doner for offering to make the new lettering for the new door on the library after it is painted.

**Transfer Station Report:** Supervisor Owen reported that for the month of September, the Transfer Station brought in \$737.00 and 65 tickets.

**Lake Board:** None.

**Newsletter Report:** Trustee Galdikas reported that the Fall newsletter will be sent out in the next week or two. She was unsure if it would be out before the election, in hopes to include fall activities in the update.

**Holiday Committee Report:** Trustee Galdikas reminded that the Annual Holiday Social will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8pm at the Linking Center. She invited everyone to come by for refreshments, a visit with Santa and gifts for children age 11 and younger.

**Pullman Pride Report:** Trustee Galdikas reported that scholarship information will be out to the schools by winter break. Information can also be found on the website. The deadline is April 15. The Committee has secured a date for next year's Pullman Pride Day festivities to be held on Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Road Committee Report:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Surety Bond/State Application Fee:** Supervisor Owen reported that the Transfer Station can now house over 500 tires, and filing the state application is the next step. The application requires a \$200 one-time fee to the state, and he has been waiting to hear from a representative for final approval for the Surety Bond.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the expenditure of \$200 for the State required application fee. Roll call vote was taken: Yes –Friel, Hatfield, Galdikas, Owen. Motion carried.*

**Townhall Improvements:** Supervisor Owen stated that the board has submitted suggestions and requests to be included in the bid process for renovations at the Township Hall. He informed that many suggestions were common, including repairs to the roof, parking lot, bathrooms and ADA compliance, insulation, flooring. Other requests included the possibility of rooms for storage, election storage and an AV Counting Board room that covers all requirements for elections. A suggestion was made by Clerk Friel to utilize the available space in the garage area to create meeting/storage rooms using movable walls.

Ben Lewis asked how the renovations would be funded, to which Supervisor Owen replied that the funds from the sale of the Community Center and possibly grant funds would cover the costs. Ben also suggested using the Hall for a Chamber of Commerce or interactive information and update board. Supervisor Owen informed that unfortunately legal restrictions will not allow the use of the Township Hall for anything other than official Township business.

Trustee Galdikas asked how to go about getting bids for the improvements. Supervisor Owen suggested prioritizing the issues based on most urgent needs, then request bids starting at the top. The board agreed that the roof, ADA compliant bathrooms and interior and flooring would be a good place to start.

Sandy Anderson asked if there was a projected time frame for when to expect the project will be completed, as the township continues to grow and she believes the building should grow as well. Supervisor Owen stated that it will all depend on funds and availability at this point in time.

*A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to approve up to \$750 for plans for repairs to the bathroom, kitchen and bay areas. Roll call vote was taken: Yes –Hatfield, Friel, Galdikas, Owen. Motion carried.*

**Trick-or-Treat Hours:** Supervisor Owen suggested that trick-or-treat hours should be held on Halloween, Monday, October 31 between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Trustee Hatfield informed that the Linking Center will hold their fall festivities on Thursday October 27, between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

Trustee Galdikas informed that there will also be events held at the VFW and Sawmill Diner's parking lot, and to find details she suggested checking the Facebook page.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Hatfield to set trick-or treat hours for October 31, 2022, between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.*

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**Payment of the Bills:** Presented by Clerk Friel, including quarterly payroll for the Fire Department and EMS, totaling \$96,067.37.

*A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Hatfield to approve the payment of the bills for a total of \$96,067.37, as presented by Clerk Friel. Yes –Galdikas, Hatfield, Friel, Owen. Motion carried.*

**Correspondence:** None

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Friel to adjourn the meeting. All voted: "Aye." Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Heather Friel, Clerk