

**Lee Township**  
**Annual Budget Meeting Minutes**  
March 25, 2023

The annual budget meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 10 am at the Lee Township Hall located at 877 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Pullman, Michigan.

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

Absent: Trustee Hatfield

**State of the Township:** Supervisor Owen reported on “the state of the Township” and what accomplishments took place in the past year. He started by stating that it has been an honor to serve the people of Lee Township. He commended his fellow board members for the hard work they commit to our community and their dedication to helping to improve Lee Township. He commented with sincere condolences to all those who had lost loved ones this past year and recognized our community’s great losses of Eve Pacholski and May Davoren. He spoke about each of their efforts within the Township, expressing how missed they will be.

He spoke about the board’s persistence in maintaining fiduciary standards, striving for financial solutions, and enforcing our ordinances, and working to remove blight and dangerous buildings.

He discussed the grant obtained from EGLE to remove scrap tires from the Transfer Station and the security grant received from our Michigan Township Participating Plan for secure security cameras. He added as time allows, we will continue to search for grants for Township improvements.

He noted ARPA funds have been committed to broadband, based on our Master Plan’s primary concern by residents. He acknowledged the preparedness of the Township, which earned us the first ARPA funding match commitment from the County, thanks to support from our committed community members working on this project. He invited everyone to attend the next mater plan meeting, which will be set once the new census information has been received and reviewed.

**Relevant Reports:**

Road Construction: Supervisor Owen spoke about the current road construction being completed at the downtown intersection of 109<sup>th</sup> Ave and 56<sup>th</sup> St by Allegan County Road Commission. He expressed appreciation to the ACRC for funding the construction, as it would have been impossible for the Township to replicate and for their accommodations and availability to residents.

Emergency Services: Supervisor reminded that Lee Township moved from our previous ambulance service of AMR to LIFE Ambulance service in 2020 and are very pleased with the service the Township has been receiving. He stated that the Lee Township Fire Department and EMS are now officially merged and working cohesively to serve the Township. He gave updates on the improvements and replacements of equipment necessary to do their life saving jobs. He informed that the last year was the busiest year ever for the Department, and expressed appreciation for the men and women who volunteer and work so hard to keep our residents safe, adding that the volunteering does not end with resident’s care, but extends to working on buildings and vehicles as a means to save the Township funds.

Broadband: Supervisor Owen spoke about the need for broadband in our Township, acknowledging the gross unavailability for the majority of our residents. He discussed funding opportunities and programs being used to resolve the misrepresentation of coverage. Currently there are 4 providers working to secure State and Federal funds to provide service within Lee Township.

Roads: Supervisor Owen stated that the board approved two applications of Dust Control in the Township. He recapped that the board continued to use every dime of our Road Millage funds to pave and preserve another 1.36 miles within the Township, thanking the Lee Township voters who helped to

continue the Road Millage. Since the implementation of the millage in 2012, the Township has been able to apply chip coat, fog seal and overlay asphalt on over 17 miles of our 26 miles of asphalt roads.

He finished with a reminder that residents can dial 211 to find help with any crisis, stating that there are operators that will direct and connect you with the right person for your situation.

**2023-24 Budget Review:**

The Board reviewed the proposed budget and the clerk answered questions.

*A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Galdikas to adopt the budget with adjustments discussed. Roll call was take: Yes – Galdikas, Lowery, Owen Friel. Motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Galdikas to adopt and sign the General Appropriations Act as presented. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.*

*A motion was made by Supervisor Owen and seconded by Galdikas to adjourn the meeting at 11:20. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.*

Minutes submitted by:  
Heather Friel, Clerk

**Lee Township**  
**Meeting of the Electors**  
**March 26, 2023**

The meeting of the Electors of Lee Township was called to order by Supervisor Owen at 11:30 am at the Lee Township Hall located at 877 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Pullman Michigan.

**Appoint Chair:** There were four residents in attendance. Tim Kotas was appointed as the Chair by the residents.

**Public Comments:** Kotas spoke about the community, stating he feels blessed to be part of it, and that everything he does in and for the community is with gratitude for those in the room at this time. He expressed appreciation for the board's hard work and dedication to the community. He acknowledged all of the board's accomplishments in the past year, including handling complaints gracefully, commending them for being great stewards of the Township's money.

Ted Chamberlain expressed that there are many residents who support the efforts of the board, from whom the board does not hear from regularly.

**New Business:**

Treasurer Salary Resolution: Discussion was had regarding the resolution. Kotas expressed his opinion on the resolution, and stated that all positions should be receiving pay increases, recommending the consideration of the board's compensation annually. Resident Hoffman stated she supports the treasurer salary increase. A vote was taken by the chair and the majority ruled in favor of resolution.

*A motion was made by Kotas and seconded by Hoffman to adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Minutes submitted by: Heather Friel, Clerk