

Lee Township  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
July 8, 2024

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:** Supervisor Owen, Clerk Friel, Trustee Galdikas.

**Members Absent:** Treasurer Godlew, Trustee Hatfield.

**Amendments:** None.

**Board Comments:** Trustee Galdikas spoke on behalf of the board, offering prayers and support to the Kasinger family, for Alexis Kasinger as she fights her battle after being in a serious car accident. She also voiced appreciation to the community to coming together and showing support for the family by helping to raise funds and the outpouring of support in other ways.

Supervisor Owen hoped that everyone enjoyed a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Clerk Friel reminded that there will be an election on August 6, 2024. At which all board positions are up for a vote, along with many County, State and Federal positions. She reminded that there are many ways to vote including, in person at the Township Hall on August 6, 2024, with an absentee ballot (by request to the Clerk) and during the 9 days of early voting required for all Federal Elections. She recapped that EV will be held at the Fennville City Hall, as it had been previously, by contract between Lee Township, City of Fennville, Manlius Township, Ganges Township and Clyde Township. She asked that no matter which avenue chosen that everyone get out and vote.

**Citizens Comment:** Pam Booth stated that she is upset about what is going on with the Pullman Free Library. She stated that she has heard rumors, but has not seen anything official from the board about it, and asked why there is nothing public about it. To which a response was stated that the events transpiring with the library can be found in the June, 2024 minutes, as it was discussed at the previous meeting.

Cathy Hoffman asked who gave the library permission to give away books.

Deputy Godsey reiterated what was stated in the previous month's minutes that the building and its contents are privately owned, but sit on Township owned property.

**Guest Speaker:** None.

**Approval of Regular Board Minutes:**

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the June 10, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.*

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

**Treasurer's report:** The Treasurer's report was read by Trustee Galdikas in the absence of Treasurer Godlew.

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

**Commissioners Report:** None.

**Deputy Report:** Deputy Godsey reported that in the month of June there were 158 calls, a quarter of which he responded to personally. He stated that he responded to many calls on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, mostly for noise complaints. He spoke about an increase in complaints about parties/events being held by residents

who are violating the 10:00 pm noise ordinance. He informed that no more warnings will be given, and that citations will be issued to violators from here out.

Sandy Anderson asked how long people can shoot fireworks off. To which Deputy Godsey informed that it is expected on and around the 4<sup>th</sup>, but must comply with the 10 pm noise ordinance requirements.

**Fire Department/ EMS Report:** Chief Ted Chamberlain reported that for the month of June there were 50 calls, including 37 medical calls, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 1 public assist, 1 vehicle fire, 1 alarm, 2 cancel enroute, 2 down powerlines and 2 rubbish/trash fires. For the month the training was for pumps and drafting. He informed that 2 more people passed the Fire Fighter 1 & 2. Stating that Daniel Ciokiewicz and Allison Gibson both graduated from the academy. He went on to talk about all that goes into this course, stating that it is the same required training that all Fire Fighters go through to be certified. He expressed how big a commitment and accomplishment it is for the two recent graduates and the 23 of 28 other members of the crew who have completed the certification. He also boasted that 14 of the 28 members are medically trained, as well.

Supervisor Owen complimented the commitment and willingness to do this dangerous work of our department, expressing his pride in what they do.

Trustee Galdikas spoke about how proud Pam and Albert Rawson would be of the departments' growth.

**Code Official Report:** Supervisor Owen reported by submission from Jeff Olney that there were 10 open cases for the month of June, including 2 new letters sent out. He stated that Olney continues to work with the case on Baseline and 60<sup>th</sup> St. The board recommended the Deputy go out and speak with them as they have been stating they will be taking care of the issue for several months now. Continuing that they need to fill out a salvage yard application, which they can obtain from the Supervisor.

**Assessor's Report:** Supervisor Owen read a report from Assessor Heather Jahr. He stated that there has been no further communication from the State regarding the status of the audit.

The BOR will be held Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at the Township Hall. The July BOR is held to correct errors and omissions only. He continued that they are looking for interested people to serve on the BOR, and complimented the current members who have served for many years.

There were 2 approved splits for parcel 03-12-009-083-10, owned by Alan and Barbara Baugus and 03-12-021-004-00, owned by Community Action of Allegan County.

**Ambulance Reports:** None.

**Building Inspector's Report:** Supervisor Owen reported that in the month of there were 4 electrical permits, 2 mechanical permits, 0 plumbing permits and 5 building permits. Bringing in a total of \$264,297.49 in improvements to the Township.

**Cemetery Report:** AJ Canfield stated that there were many trees down at the cemetery, from recent storms. He requested that the board accept an estimate submitted to the board to remove a hanging branch, which could cause injury or damage.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve a bid for \$250.00 from Dave's Tree Service to take down a falling branch at the cemetery. Roll call vote taken, "Yes", Galdikas, Owen, Friel. Motion carried.*

Canfield also requested to get bids to work on the water situation at the cemetery. It was agreed that Supervisor Owen and Canfield will assess exactly what needs to be done in order to receive bids for the work or look into available grants.

Sandy Anderson stated that she contacted the Sexton about headstones that were moved, and informed that the issue had been fixed by Canfield, who also found other headstones that needed adjusting.

**Library Report:** None.

**Transfer Station Report:** Supervisor Owen stated that for the month of June the transfer station brought in \$2,308 and 91 tickets.

Trustee Galdikas reminded that the next free dump day will be held July 13<sup>th</sup>. She also passed on compliments received on the transfer station's updates.

**Lake Board:** None.

**Newsletter Report:** Trustee Galdikas stated that the next newsletters went out the end of June to all registered voters in Lee Township, and that they can be found in the kiosks in town at the Office, Intercare, PHP and online. The newsletter had the schedule for Pullman Pride Day printed on it, but was missing that the smoke house will be on North Street.

**Holiday Committee Report:** None.

**Pullman Pride Report:** Trustee Galdikas reminded that Pullman Pride Day will be held the weekend of July 19-20. She reminded that there will be a band playing Friday night at the Pullman Tavern, and the majority of activities will be Saturday beginning at 8:30 with the pancake breakfast, with activities for everyone throughout the day. She stated that there is a schedule available, and will circulate more as the date grows nearer.

**Road Committee Report:** None.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

##### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Special Event Ordinance:** Supervisor Owen spoke about the special event ordinance, stating that there have been some events properly organized, but that many have not taken the proper steps to apply for an event hosting more than 100 people. He stated that the Board is committed to doing a better job of enforcing ordinances than has been done in the past. He suggested a 90-day advanced notice be given to the board for any event exceeding 100 people, but that the more time the better.

He continued with speaking about applications received, which he had provided to the board members. He stated that there were some conflicting details in the applications that will be cleared up.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Friel to approve the application for events to be held on July 28, 2024 and August 11, 2024 pending they pass all required inspections. All voted "Aye". Motion Carried.*

**Payment of the Bills:** Presented by Clerk Friel, totaling \$194,688.18, which included two additional invoices for the General Fund.

*A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Owen to approve the payment of the bills for a total of \$194,688.18, with adjustments presented by Clerk Friel. Yes –Galdikas, 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 8:27 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Heather Friel, Clerk