

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 13, 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 56th Street, Pullman, Michigan.

Members Present: Supervisor Owen, Clerk Friel, Treasurer Godlew, Trustee Galdikas, Trustee Hatfield.
Members Absent: None.

Amendments: None.

Board Comments: Clerk Friel gave an update on the May 7th election, expressing appreciation for the election inspectors who worked the day. She informed that 148 votes were counted in Lee Township, including 89 in person voters and 59 absentee voters. She continued that Proposal 1 passed in Lee Township with a count of 80 yes votes and 67 no votes, and that Proposal 2 did not pass in Lee Township, bringing in 52 yes votes and 89 no. Overall, throughout the school district, Proposal 1 passed and Proposal 2 did not.

Supervisor Owen stated that he recently attended a ground water conference regarding a 4-year study that has been ongoing.

Trustee Hatfield reminded that PHP will hold their annual fundraising auction at A Cut Above, in Saugatuck on May 20th. She continued that the funds raised at the auction provide funding for PHP and the Linking Center programs and services.

Citizens Comment: Dick Palmby expressed compliments on the renovations at the Township Hall. He suggested adding emails to the tax newsletter. He also voiced a continued concern about the timing and process of LSL invoice payments by the Township.

Pam Booth brought up concerns about the flag holders at the cemetery, stating they are looking shabby. She stated that she has someone who has volunteered to paint them and asked that Janice Curley contact her.

Guest Speaker: None.

Approval of Regular Board Minutes:

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Godlew to approve the April 8, 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 Treasurer Godlew. He informed that he has new office hours on Wednesdays, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, or by appointment.

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

Commissioners Report: None.

Deputy Report: Deputy Godsey was unable to attend the meeting due to training, but submitted a report read by Supervisor Owen. In the month of April, there were 81 calls, 15 of which were taken by Godsey. The calls included issues regarding larceny, trespassing, suspicious behavior, loose livestock and other miscellaneous calls. He encouraged anyone with concerns of suspicious activity to call it in.

Fire Department/ EMS Report: Supervisor Owen reported on behalf of Chief Chamberlain that in the month of April, there were 42 calls, including 29 medicals, 1 structure fire, 2 recreational vehicle/camper, 1 electrical fire, 2 powerlines down, 1 car fire, 1 controlled burn, 2 trash/grass fires, 2 medical assists and 1 motor vehicle accident. Training for the month was on ladders and EMS. He congratulated Mitch and Michelle Gibson on receiving their licenses as EMS personnel, which brings the number of licensed personnel to 12 on the department.

Code Official Report: Supervisor Owen reported based on submission from Code Official Jeff Olney, that there are 10 ongoing investigations that are in the clean-up stage which he needs to check on. There was 1 new vehicle storage complaint, and 2 new single family dwelling complaints that are in the works with the ACHD. There were no new citations, and one new letter for the vehicle storage issue. He informed that all residents who have been contacted regarding issues are taking care of things.

James Gardner and Danny Christopher were present and stated Officer Godsey had been out to discuss an ordinance issue at the intersection of 60th St. and Baseline Rd. They asked how they can go about fixing their issue and making things right. The Board and those in attendance thanked them for their efforts. Trustee Galdikas informed that they could begin by moving all inventory out of the road right-of-way and put a fence up to keep it out of sight to neighbors. Salvage Yard and Vehicle Storage Ordinances outline requirements.

Assessor's Report: Supervisor Owen read a report from Assessor Heather Jahr. He stated that all requests have been submitted to the state. Also, that there was a split for parcel 0312-020-005-00 at 5633 105th Ave in Grand Junction, and a combination of parcels 0312-001-010-00 and 0312-001-010-10 located at 1112 49th St. in Pullman.

Supervisor Owen expressed his thanks to Assessor Jahr and Treasurer Godlew for the cleaning and organizing they have started with the Township files.

Ambulance Reports: Trustee Galdikas reported that the Ambulance Committee met last month, and relayed that the Life EMS Lee Township staging trial did not produce the results they had hoped for, and informed that they are planning to try giving staging power to the dispatchers to try for the best coverage. She continued that for the first quarter, there were 318 requests, resulting in 221 transports, and of these 125 calls were for Lee Township. The next highest amount of calls for the 6 municipalities covered were in Saugatuck with 43 calls. Which is why we are working to stage coverage closer to Lee, for the fastest response time possible.

Building Inspector's Report: Supervisor Owen reported that in the month of April there were 8 electrical permits, 3 mechanical permits, 0 plumbing permits and 3 building permits. Bringing a total of \$66,291 in improvements to the Township.

Cemetery Report: Supervisor Owen informed that spring cleaning went well, and lasted 3 days. He stated that everything is looking good, and that with the extra day AC was able to clean up at Ravenswood Park as well.

Library Report: None.

Transfer Station Report: Treasurer Godlew reported that for the month of April the transfer station brought in \$1,369 and 87 tickets.

Supervisor Owen stated that the re-graveling and driveway work has been completed, and looks great. Pam Booth informed that the south side of the driveway seems to be washing out already, from the heavy rain. Supervisor Owen stated that he will get on this issue. Trustee Galdikas informed that the first free dump day of the year will be held this coming Saturday, May 18 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Lake Board: Supervisor Owen read a report submitted by John VanGessel, informing that Consultant will visit the lake on May 21 for an algae treatment and shoreline treatment for any native or invasive species that have developed. They will also provide recommendations for the 2024 milfoil treatment. He continued that the treatment should occur Monday, June 17th, and will likely be the western half of the

lake, this will also include a second algae treatment. He stated that treatment at this time would allow time for the treatment to work and improve for the 4th of July.

Dick Palmby spoke about his concerns with the payment process for Lake Board expenses. He also gave an update on a family of swans living on the lake.

Clerk Friel explained that the Lake Board requires 3 board representative signatures to be acquired before the Township Board can approve any payments. She continued that the current bill in question was not paid in April because the 3rd signature was not submitted to the Township until April 12, 4 days after the Township's regular meeting on April 8th. This meant the bill could not be approved for payment by the Township Board until the following meeting. She reminded that she and Treasurer Godlew have explained this process to the Lake Board, and have asked that they work to get their approval signatures in in a timely manner, to have payments approved before their due dates.

Newsletter Report: Trustee Galdikas stated that the next newsletter will go out in Mid- June and will be available on the website and community kiosks.

Holiday Committee Report: Trustee Galdikas noted the VFW there will be sponsoring the annual Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service on Monday, May 27th. She stated that anyone who wishes to participate in the parade meet at 1:30, as the parade will begin at 2:00 pm.

Pullman Pride Report: Trustee Galdikas reminded that Pullman Pride Day will be held the weekend of July 19-21, adding there is for everyone including, but not limited to a live band on Friday, at the Pullman Tavern. Saturday includes a pancake breakfast at the Fire Hall, a craft show, car show, fishing tournament, disc golf, games for kids, music and more. She reminded that the event is held to raise funds for scholarships for graduating Lee Township Seniors. She informed that this year there were 4 scholarship winners, two of which will receive \$1,000 and two will receive \$500. Winners' names will be announced at the next meeting, after the winners, themselves, are informed at the HS honors night.

Road Committee Report: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Road Millage Paving: Supervisor Owen informed that the bid for paving 58th street from 106th to 105th and 105th from 58th St to 56th street was higher than anticipated, and that the board would need to consider approving the bid for \$8,104.03 more than they had.

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas increase the approved road expense by \$8,104.03 to cover the paving of 58th St from 106th to 105th and 105th from 58th St to 56th St. Roll call vote taken. "Yes" - Hatfield, Galdikas, Godlew, Owen, Friel. Motion carried.

Discussion was had regarding the expense for crack sealing of Fourth St from Ravenswood Ave to Highland Ave and Ravenswood Ave from 3rd St to 55th St. The cost of which would be \$5,000.

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Owen to table the issue of the crack sealing of Fourth St from Ravenswood Ave to Highland Ave and Ravenswood Ave from 3rd St to 55th St until a special meeting to review budget considerations can be held. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Gravel Roads:

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Owen to table the issue graveling until a special meeting to review budget considerations can be held. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Approval:

A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to table budget adjustments regarding road expenditures until a special meeting can be held. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Tax Newsletter Approval:

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Galdikas to approve the expense of \$450 to cover the cost of printing the tax newsletter. Roll call vote was taken. "Yes" - Hatfield, Galdikas, Godlew, Owen, Friel. Motion carried.

Payment of the Bills: Presented by Clerk Friel, totaling \$291,680.47, which include a couple late additions to the General Fund.

A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Hatfield to approve the payment of the bills for a total of \$291,680.47, with adjustments presented by Clerk Friel. Yes –Hatfield, Galdikas, Godlew, Owen, Friel. 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 8:36 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Heather Friel, Clerk