

Lee Township  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 9, 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, Treasurer Godlew, Trustee Hatfield.  
**Members Absent:** None.

**Amendments:** None.

**Board Comments:** Treasurer Godlew announced that the annual audit has been completed and successfully submitted to the State. He reminded that property taxes are due Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, and that he will be in the office that day, from 9am- 5pm to receive payments.

Supervisor Owen gave credit to Treasurer Godlew for the work put in to ensure the audit went well. He also thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting.

Trustee Galdikas informed that Tom Jessup has been appointed to fill the vacant position as the County Commissioner for our district for the remainder of the current term.

**Citizens Comment:** Kris LaPoint informed that Beautify Pullman will be holding a Bike Rodeo on Saturday, October 5, from 11am- 1pm, in the park and on North Street. They will provide a bike safety course for kids to participate in, and will have representatives from different local entities helping.

**Guest Speaker:** None.

**Approval of Regular Board Minutes:**

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Galdikas to approve the August 12, 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.

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

**Commissioners Report:** None.

**Deputy Report:** Deputy Godsey reported that for the month of August there were 178 calls. He informed that he has assisted with enforcement of ordinance violations. He stated that Trustee Galdikas did a ride along with him to observe the day-to-day activity in Lee Township. He reminded that the process for ordinance enforcement begins with contacting the Board to file a complaint, and he becomes involved if efforts by the Township Ordinance Officer are unsuccessful, at which time he is contacted to become involved. He continued that he hadn't been out to deal with the issue at the cemetery yet, but was going there after leaving the meeting.

Trustee Galdikas stated that the ride along was interesting, explaining how one call takes a very long time to resolve after many stops and the proper documentation. She expressed gratitude to Deputy Godsey for the work he does, and was very impressed by how well known and appreciated he was by residents at each stop they made.

**Fire Department/ EMS Report:** Zack Clark reported that for the month of August there were 45 calls, including 33 medical calls, 6 canceled enroute, 1 alarm, 3 down powerlines, 1 rubbish fire, 2 false alarms, 2 medical assists and 2 brush fires. Training for the month was for use of the jaws of life. He reported that

Dan Ciokiewicz, Sr. began his training for medical first responding. He asked the Board to approve the expenditure of \$500 for fire prevention materials for this year's event with the school.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Hatfield to approve the expense of \$500.00 for fire safety and prevention week material. "Yes"- Galdikas, Godlew, Hatfield, Friel Owen. Motion carried.*

**Code Official Report:** Trustee Galdikas reported that Code Official Jeff Olney was unable to attend the meeting, but that he has been working with Deputy Godsey on the issue on 60<sup>th</sup> Street, and is following up with a couple other issues.

**Assessor's Report:** Supervisor Owen read a report from Assessor Heather Jahr. Work continues to ensure the mandates set forth in the PA 660 of 2018 audit are met and that Lee Township is compliant following the close of the 2025 March BOR.

Jahr again asked that anyone interested in a BOR position, please reach out. Supervisor Owen asked the BOR members present, Sally Lacy, Shirley Kay and Kris LaPoint, if they are interested in continuing their positions on the BOR and if they are willing to complete the required training. To which they all responded yes.

Jahr's report also noted that the issues from requested split for parcel 03-12-012-007-01 had been corrected and the split has been approved. The parcel is owned by Geerlings Hillside Farm, LLC. The split will create 1 child parcel of approximately 9.53 acres, and the remainder parent parcel contains approximately 120 acres.

Jahr reminded residents that recording legal documents (deeds) may cause changes to the taxable value of a parcel. That in most cases legally altering ownership in any way will cause an increase in taxable value. The exemptions allowed must be claimed by filing a property transfer affidavit with Lee Township.

**Ambulance Reports:** None. Next meeting will be held in October.

**Building Inspector's Report:** Supervisor Owen reported that in the month of August there were 8 electrical permits, 11 plumbing permit, 2 mechanical permits and 6 building permits. Bringing a total of \$355,473.66 in improvements to the Township.

**Cemetery Report:** AJ Canfield reported that 2 of the 3 varmints at the cemetery have been taken care of. Otherwise, all was well at the cemetery.

**Library Report:** None.

**Transfer Station Report:** Treasurer Godlew reported that for the month of August the Transfer Station brought in \$2,168 and 74 tickets.

**Lake Board:** None.

**Newsletter Report:** None. Next issue will go out in November.

**Holiday Committee Report:** None.

**Pullman Pride Report:** Trustee Galdikas reported that the committee will meet next on Monday, September 16 at the Township Hall, at 4:00 pm. Anyone interested in helping is welcome to join.

**Road Committee Report:** Chuck Pugh informed that the big jobs that are planned on 105<sup>th</sup> from 56<sup>th</sup> to 58<sup>th</sup> and 56<sup>th</sup> from 109<sup>th</sup> to Baseline Rd have not begun yet. He expressed gratitude to the residents who continue to vote yes on the road millage, allowing continued funding for road upgrades. He continued by suggesting that the board consider proposing a bond for more funding for roads, to make needed upgrades to even more roads.

Mr. Brock requested consideration of paving 58<sup>th</sup> Street from 109<sup>th</sup> to 113<sup>th</sup>. Which would connect 2 paved roads and provide another paved option heading north to the next Township.

Supervisor Owen reminded that the same proposal to pave 60<sup>th</sup> Street from 109<sup>th</sup> to 113<sup>th</sup> had been suggested in the past, but the cost was astronomical.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Water Hydrants Cemetery:** Supervisor Owen informed that he received 3 estimates to fix the 5 nonworking hydrants at the cemetery. He read the details of each proposal. A bid from West Shore Well Company, LLC in Zeeland came in at \$3,410, or \$682 per hydrant. A bid from Compton's came in at \$7,225 or \$1,445 per hydrant. A bid from Jensen's Excavating came in at \$6,080 or \$1,216 per hydrant. The board discussed the concerns in the drastic difference in price between the bids. They expressed their confidence in Compton's and Jensen's as being more local, and having done work for the Township in the past.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Hatfield approve the bid from Jensen's Excavating at \$1,216 per hydrant or \$6,080 total, to replace the 5 broken hydrants at the cemetery. Roll call vote was taken. "Yes"- Hatfield, Galdikas, Godlew, Owen, Friel. Motion Carried.*

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Townhall Parking Lot Lighting:** Supervisor Owen presented 2 estimates to replace the outdoor lighting in the parking lot of the Township Hall. He explained the specifics of the job. A bid was received from Roland Electric for \$725.99 and a bid from Marr Electric, LLC for \$1,118.

*A motion was made by Owen and seconded by Godlew to approve the bid from Roland Electric, not to exceed \$725.99, to replace and fix the Township Hall parking lot lighting. Roll call vote taken. "Yes"- Hatfield, Galdikas, Godlew, Owen, Friel. Motion carried.*

**Payment of the Bills:** Presented by Clerk Friel, totaling \$58,616.40.

*A motion was made by Galdikas and seconded by Hatfield to approve the payment of the bills for a total of \$58,616.40 presented by Clerk Friel. Yes -Hatfield, Godlew, 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 8:26 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Heather Friel, Clerk