

March 2024

The New Haven Township Board met on March 11, 2024 at New Haven Township Hall located at 2705 Easton Rd Owosso, Mi. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Supervisor Hill, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A roll call was taken. Members present: Trustee Buginsky, Treasurer Eickholt, Trustee Gray, Supervisor Hill, and Clerk Wirwicki.

Absent: None

Guests: Colleen Horton, Marjarie Westerlund, Larry Senk, Fred Riley, Bill Spike, Katie Riley, Tammy Dasen, David Eickholt, Steve DeLong, Cody Baker, County Clerk Caroline Wilson and Commissioner Gary Holzhausen.

Motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported by Treasurer Eickholt to approve the agenda with the following amendments: Road, Qualification Statements, Sexton lot check, General Appropriations Act, Passwords, Planning Board Appointment and clerk update. All ayes. Agenda approved.

A motion by Treasurer Eickholt, supported by Trustee Buginsky I to approve the February 12, 2024 meeting minutes with amendments. All ayes. Motion Carried.

A motion by Trustee Buginsky, supported by Treasurer Eickholt to approve the February 17, 2024 meeting minutes with amendments. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Treasurer Eickholt presented the Treasurer's Report as of February 29, 2024. General Fund: Horizon \$332,092.69; Mi Class \$667,128.11; MSU Credit Union \$124.25; For a General Fund Total of \$999,345.05.

Other Funds:

Perpetual Care Account: Horizon: \$3,972.01, Mi Class: \$37,696.01; Two Mil Road Account: \$125,961.92; Ambulance Account: \$35,419.75; Fire Account: \$49,983.97; SATA Account: \$6,648.53; ARP Funds: Horizon: \$1,860.52, Mi Class: \$73,590.03; Tax Checking Account: \$40,235.85

A total of all funds: \$1,374,713.64.

Motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported by Trustee Gray to approve Treasurer's Report as presented. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

A motion by Trustee Buginsky, supported by Treasurer Eickholt to add Budget workshop minutes approval to the agenda. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Delegates:

Cody Baker from Waste Management discussed the future requirement of municipalities offering trash and recycling. The board asked him several questions about their service and how much it would cost to contract with them to have community wide pick up. Should the board go with this option the trash service would be assessed on property tax as a per household bases. We would be required to sign a 5-year contract with their company.

Commissioner Holzhausen updated the board on happening at the county level. Condominiums are going to be built in Owosso. The Parks Commission applied for a grant for improving Kerby Park.

Old Business:

Clerk Wirwicki notified the board that a budget amendment for the 2023-2024 General Fund Budget was not added to last month's agenda. The account 101-101 was \$714.78 over budget. The cost of the IT service plan approved in 2023 was not included in the budget. We spent \$3,820.12 in service contracts for technology updates. Clerk Wirwicki noted none of the 31,000.00 budgeted for roads in the General fund was used.

A motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported Supervisor Hill to move \$1,000 from 101-445 (General Fund, Road account) to account 101-101 (General Fund, Township Board account). A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

A motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported by Supervisor Hill to add Budget Hearing to the agenda. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Clerk Wirwicki updated the board on the February 2024 Election. Two election inspectors and the clerk worked on our voter registry list. They searched every name on the list looking for obituaries after hearing there was a deceased person from 2014 on the list. They were able to get through half of the 1039 voters on the list and removed 6 deceased persons.

A motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported by Supervisor Hill to close the regular meeting at 7:41pm and move into the Budget Hearing. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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Supervisor Hill read the General Appropriations Act 2024-25 Resolution 2024-12. Corrections such as the date, adding ship to the word town, adding \$ to two wages and moving cemetery to the line below (Cemetery Temporary) were made to the General Appropriations Act. Comments from the public **Buginsky motioned, board majority approved: for names to be added stating names are required to address the board. (*Added note by clerk: names are not required to address the board, no names were given*.)** were made pertaining to board raises. Clerk Wirwicki questioned if SATA should be included in the Act since some board members wanted to rescind their motion to adopt the Sata Resolution.

A motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported by Trustee Gray to close the Budget Hearing at 8:14pm and move into the regular meeting. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Trustee Buginsky requested a clean copy of the General Appropriations Act before adopting it and the budget. Clerk Wirwicki advised the board that the General Appropriations Act must be approved before April 1st or we could forfeit the Revenue Shares from the State of Michigan. ~~No action was taken on the General Appropriations Act or the Budget.~~ **Buginsky motioned, board majority approved to add the following: Supervisor Hill would call a special meeting for an attorney opinion on the contract.**

A motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported by Trustee Gray to approve the following road projects for 2024: Seymour Rd from just south of Henderson rd to Six Mile Creek Road (bridge) for \$66,000 and Mineral Well Brine two applications for \$37,300 from the Road Fund Account and Henderson Rd from M-52 to just east of Seymour rd for \$66,000 previously approved to be paid with APRA Funds. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Trustee Gray advised the board that the culvert on Henderson Rd needs inspection. Trustee Buginsky asked for a price to have Easton Rd paved from State Rd to the Hall. The board agreed to get a price for Easton Rd from State rd to the first section of McCaffery rd.

The board requested to have the Sata Millage Resolution rescinded. Clerk Wirwicki advised the board that the residents signed a petition to have it on the ballot 4 years ago and ~~we~~ **the board** should allow the voters to decide if they renew the millage by having the option on the ballot. **A motion by Buginsky, board majority approved to add the following: The SATA discussion centered around the language of the current contract and concerns about that affecting taxation for the township. (*Added note by the clerk the discussion about the wording of the contract, and the taxation took place at the Special Meeting, no one had a copy of the contract at this meeting, quantity of riders compared to cost, and possible other entities stopping the service affecting our cost was discussed.)**

A motion by Supervisor Hill, supported by Treasurer Eickholt to rescind Resolution 2024-04 SATA Millage Renewal. A roll call was taken. Ayes: Buginsky, Eickholt, Gray, Hill. Nays: Wirwicki. Motion Carried.

Treasurer Eickholt spoke about the Township's F65 Report and the Disqualified Opinion from the State of Michigan on their website. **A motion by Buginsky, board majority approved to add the following: This discussion was in response to a prior meeting when the Clerk presented documents of the Disqualified Opinion from the State of Michigan with no discussion with the Treasurer.** Eickholt listed the delinquency percentage of near 4% for our township property taxes for each year between 2017-2023. It is still unclear where the state received their information that our township has over 18% delinquency as discussed last meeting.

Trustee Gray proposed the Sexton use a computer to update the cemetery records and we could move to digital records rather than the paper books. The clerk advised the board that she currently has a software for the cemetery records but for several years records were not entered into the software and the paper books. It is questioned if we have the burial permits for everyone buried during the previous Sexton's tenure. No vote was taken.

New Business:

Motion by Supervisor Hill, to approve Resolution 2024-06 Establish Township Officers Salary, Clerk to be \$18,500 for a \$3,500 increase. No support. Motion Failed.

Resolution 2024-07 Supervisor's salary was not presented at request of Supervisor.

A motion by Trustee Gray, supported by Treasurer Eickholt to approve Resolution 2024-08 Establish Township Sexton's Salary to be \$250 monthly. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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A motion by Trustee Gray, supported by Treasurer Eickholt to approve Resolution 2024-09 Establish Township Planning Commission Salary to be:

All members: \$50 per meeting, Chairman: \$75 stipend per meeting, Secretary: \$50 stipend per meeting, \$50 per meeting for Chairman to attend County meeting on behalf of Township. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

A motion by Treasurer Eickholt, supported Trustee Buginsky by to approve Resolution 2024-10 Establish Township Board of Review Salary to be \$25 for Organizational meeting, and \$20 per hour for regular Board of Review meetings. Treasurer Eickholt gave reasons this raise should be approved. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

A motion by Trustee Buginsky, supported Trustee Gray to approve Resolution 2024-11 Establish Township Officers Salary Treasurer to be \$15,000 a \$3,000 increase. Treasurer Eickholt gave reasons this raise should be approved. A roll call was taken. Ayes: Buginsky, Gray, Eickholt. Nays: Hill, Wirwicki. Motion **Carried**. ~~Failed due to the following: A person must remove him or herself physically from participating in any discussions, hearings, deliberations and abstain from voting when a board member has a conflict of interest of direct financial interest in the matter before the board.~~

Trustee Buginsky requested Clerk Wirwicki give Supervisor Hill all passwords for the computer in a sealed envelope so the township doesn't lose all the information.

Trustee Buginsky inquired if Ms. Wirwicki used a security setting on the Township laptop while at work in a public school as, if you google this practice, schools open risk to our platform.

A motion by Supervisor Hill, supported by Clerk Wirwicki to reappoint Mr. Dan Winters as Chairman of the Planning Commission and Mr. Larry Senk as a member of the Planning Commission Board for a three-year term ending March 31, 2027. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried

Clerk Wirwicki advised the Board that the woodchuck is damaging graves at West Haven. Sexton McAllister flagged an area and set traps.

Clerk Wirwicki read an email from 7th day Adventist Church. They will be knocking on doors in our township this summer spreading the word of God.

Clerk Wirwicki questioned the pay of ambulance meetings. Trustee Buginsky has not submitted any minutes like Trustee LeCureux did. Clerk Wirwicki provided screen prints showing all the meeting of the Corunna Ambulance per their website and printed all the minutes. According to their website, Buginsky attended September, and October. No meeting minutes were posted for November. Buginsky did not attend December, or January. Buginsky received payment for one meeting in October and two meeting in December. Clerk Wirwicki requests that Trustee Buginsky present meeting minutes for all meeting attended as has been done in the past.

Clerk Wirwicki notified the board that On February 19th she received a phone call from another township saying they was returning my call from last week. I told them I didn't call them. On February 20th I received an email from a different township saying they were following up on our phone conversation from last week. I did not talk to this township. On February 20th I received another township comment that they were talking to someone who they thought was our clerk. I notified our Supervisor and the County Clerk of the situation.

Call to Public:

Colleen Horton requests a General Fund Report be made available to residents. Reports will be available on the new website.

Tammy Dasen informed the board and public that she has a petition to amend the clean and renewable energy and energy waste reduction act. If enough signatures are collected this petition will be on November 2024's ballot.

Payment of Bills:

A motion by Clerk Wirwicki, supported by Treasurer Eickholt to pay the bills in the amount of \$8,228.04 from the General Fund. A roll call was taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried

The next regular board meeting will be April 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm at New Haven Township, 2705 Easton Rd Owosso, Mi.

A motion by Treasurer Eickholt, supported by Trustee Gray to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 pm. All ayes. Motion carried.
Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Wirwicki, New Haven Township Clerk