

Almira Township

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2024

I. Supervisor Roper **called the meeting to order at 6 pm** at the Almira Township Hall 19639 Maple Street, Lake Ann

II. Pledge to the Flag Recited

III. Roll Call

Present: Tammy Clous, Mandy Gray Rineer, Mark Roper, Matt Therrien, Lori Florip

IV. Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda: Under New Business add: Item E: Fire Department Purchases

V. Approval of Meeting Agenda: *Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to approve the meeting agenda as amended. All ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed.*

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Clous, supported by Therrien, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed.

VII. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer MG Rineer provided the Financial Report for the end of January 2024. Property taxes are due this Wednesday. The \$96,000.00 in real estate proceeds was invested in a CD per previous Board action. We also got a \$50,000.00 bond returned.

VIII. Brief Public Input: None

IX. County Commissioners

Commissioner Art Jeannot submitted his written report and discussed a couple of items in more detail. Art asked if there were any questions.

X. Dept. Heads:

Tom Vinette, Chairman of the Recreational Resources Committee, stated that a representative from the Benzie Conservation District attended the January meeting. Benzie Conservation District is looking for volunteers to help with water testing of area lakes.

Fire Chief Drury reported that for the month of January, the Department responded to a total of 36 incidents, including: 23 ambulance requests in Almira Township, 2 ambulance requests in Lake Ann Village, 2 weather-related incidents, 1 false alarm (search & rescue), 1 airboat request to Wexford County, 3 assists to Cedar Area Fire in Cleveland & Kasson Townships, 2 assists to Inland Township, 1 assist to Long Lake FD and 1 assist to another agency.

XI. Guests: John Morse, Chairman of Benzie Transportation Authority, presented the Benzie Bus annual report.

Meeting recessed at 6:23 p.m.

Public Hearing opened at 6:23 p.m.

Supervisor Roper presented highlights of the 2024/2025 budget items. Roper read the Millage Rates for Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

Rineer read the Salary Resolution 2-2024 #1. *Motion by Roper*, supported by Clous, to adopt Salary Resolution 2-2024 #1 as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Rineer, aye; Clous, aye; Therrien, aye; Florip, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, no one absent, no one abstained, motion passed. Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Clous read Salary Resolution 2-2024 #2. *Motion by Clous*, supported by Therrien, to adopt Salary Resolution 2-2024 #2 as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; Rineer abstained, no nays, no one absent, motion passed. Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Roper read Salary Resolution 2-2024 #3. *Motion by Rineer*, supported by Therrien, to adopt Salary Resolution 2-2024 #3 as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Florip, aye; Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; Clous abstained, no nays, no one absent, motion passed. Supervisor declared resolution adopted.

Rineer read Salary Resolution 2-2024 #4. *Motion by Rineer*, supported by Clous, to adopt resolution 2-2024 #4 as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Florip, aye; Roper abstained, no nays, no one absent, motion passed. Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Public Hearing closed at 6:38 pm.

Meeting reconvened at 6:38 pm.

XII. Old Business:

- A. Mistwood Greens:** The last holdings have been sold so this item can now be taken off the agenda.
- B. Master Plan:** Public hearing date is set for March 5, 2024 at the regular Planning Commission meeting.
- C. ARPA Funds and Townhall Steps:** Roper still waiting for information on townhall steps. Dallas Wirtz, from Gosling Czubak, presented information regarding Ransom Lake project. Discussion took place. *Motion by Roper*, supported by Therrien, to rescind the previous Gosling Czubak contract from January. All ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed. *Motion by Roper*, supported by Therrien, to accept the Contract for Services with Gosling Czubak for Ransom Lake Natural Area Improvements through the Michigan DNR Recreational Passport grant system as presented in the amount of \$8,000.00. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Roper, aye; all aye, no nays, no one absent, motion passed.
AARP fund projects are being worked on; Roper with new park bathrooms, Florip with dog park, fencing companies are being contacted, Therrien and Rineer will meet regarding townhall after tax season.
- D. Tennis/Pickle Ball Resurfaced:** Roper presented the information from Hentco, LLC regarding the work to be done. Discussion took place about the options presented. *Motion by Roper*, supported by Rineer, to move ahead with the Hentco LLC bid to furnish material and labor to complete converting double tennis court into one tennis and four pickleball courts in the amount of \$30,160.00. Roll call vote was as follows:

Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; Therrien, nay; four ayes, one nay, no one absent, motion passed.

- E. **Michigan CLASS:** Rineer stated that there was nothing new at this time.
- F. **Website Quotes:** Rineer stated that she has is still waiting on the third bid that the Board requested she get.
- G. **Social Security and Pension:** Clous stated that she has emailed State of Michigan Social Security Coordinator but still has not heard from that office.

XIII. New Business

- A. **February Election:** Clous read the Resolution to Establish Absent Voter Counting Boards 2-2024 #5. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Rineer, to adopt Resolution to Establish Absent Voter Counting Boards 2-2024 #5 as presented. Vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Florip, aye; Roper, aye; Rineer, aye; Clous, aye; all ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed. Clous presented the recommendation from the Township Election Commission for approval of election inspectors for the Presidential Primary Election if all applications and trainings have been completed. *Motion by* Therrien, supported by Florip, to approve the Township Election Commission recommendation of election inspectors for the Presidential Primary Election if all applications and trainings have been completed. Roll call vote was as follows: Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed.
- B. **Recreational Plan:** Discussion took place with a copy of the Recreation Plan to be sent to Dallas Wirtz from Gosling Czubak.
- C. **Maintenance Trailer Update:** Roper explained the situation. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clouse, to amend their motion from August 2023, to now purchase a 2024 trailer from Michigan Trailer in the amount of \$4,850.00. All ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed.
- D. **Deputy Treasurer Resignation:** Rineer informed the Board that her Deputy Catherine Ohlfs, submitted her resignation as Deputy Treasurer effect February 15, 2024. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to accept the resignation of Catherine Ohlfs from the Deputy Treasurer position effective February 15, 2024. All ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed.
- E. **Fire Department Purchases:** Discussion took place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Florip, to purchase two (2) Bad Land Farm Jacks in the amount of \$180.00. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to purchase two (2) V-Struts in the amount of \$2,758.00. Roll call vote was as follows: Florip, aye; Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Clous, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Florip, to purchase a Dell OptiPlex 7010 for the Assistant Chief's office in the amount of \$1,023.42. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, no one absent, motion passed.

XIV. Extended Public Input: Derek Smith thanked the Board for their efforts to expand uses of the Township Park. He suggested contacting Elk Rapids and/or Bellaire for ideas for cost recovery of some uses. Chief Drury thanked the Board for approving purchases for the Fire & EMS Department.

XV. Board Comments: Therrien stated that one of the US Marine's killed in a recent helicopter crash has connections to Lake Ann. Florip thanked the community for their support. Rineer wished Florip a Happy Birthday. Clous stated that early voting would be starting this Saturday. Roper thanked everyone for attending.

XVI. Adjourn: Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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