

EDWARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

December 11, 2023 7:30pm

PRESENT: Supervisor Rob Kowalski, Clerk Korey Kripli (absent), Treasurer Eileen Fournier, Trustee Dan Zettel, and Trustee Todd Johnson

ATTENDANCE: County Commissioner Brenda Simmons, Zoning Administrator Bob Clayton, and Deputy Clerk Kim Glasser. Several residents of Edwards Township.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 13, 2023 Board Meeting

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Dan Zettel to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Todd Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA: None

COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

Attended a NESMA Meeting at Kirtland Community College. The meeting was about helping neglected and abused children.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:

Edwards Township issued one zoning permit. No updates on Young Residence on Greenwood Road. Primary Residence Exemption was reversed.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer report presented by Eileen Fournier. Motion by Dan Zettel, supported by Rob Kowalski to accept the Treasurer Report.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Dan Zettel to approve bills with checks #6986-7015 for a total of \$18,406.01.

Roll Call: Kowalski Y Kripli Absent Fournier Y Johnson Y Zettel Y

Motion Carried.

HALL DEPOSIT RETURNS:

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Dan Zettel to issue hall deposit returns for a total of \$350. Motion carried.

ATTORNEY BILL:

The township received a FOIA request from a FOIA Company. This didn't seem right to the Clerk or the Supervisor. Rob Kowalski reached out to the township attorney to figure out how to handle this issue. They submitted a 10 day extension and then proceeded to decline the FOIA request. The company was trying to answer FOIA requests for the township on the township's behalf.

INSURANCE POLICY:

The insurance policy is basically the same policy the township has had in the past. The township didn't want to have a lapse in insurance, so the board decided to sign the insurance policy with Municipal Underwriters. The board can always seek out other bids, cancel the policy, and sign with a new company if they so choose.

ROAD COMMISSION BILLS:

The township owes the following to the Road Commission for Green Road:

Phase 1 - \$86,280 Phase 2 - \$56,798 Maintenance Fee - \$16,681

The township does not want to carry these bills over to the next year. The work has been done and the bill needs to be paid. The attorney drew up a resolution to borrow \$125,000 from the General Fund to use for the Road Fund. The board would like to use this money to pay the Road Commission for their work. Also, the money should recoup itself when Winter taxes are received.

Vote: 4 Yays. Motion passed.

SEPTIC ORDINANCE:

The Planning Committee will be taking a look at the ordinance to make any changes before a public hearing is set. Tabled for next meeting.

LOAN GENERAL FUND TO ROAD FUND:

Issue was solved in the topic Road Commission Bills.

PONTEM AND DELL UPDATE:

The township used to use Pontem. We lost all of our software. The Supervisor reached out to Pontem spending 15+ hours. The owner of Pontem stated that somebody had surgically removed Pontem from the township laptop. This is why we are in excess of \$60,000 with our CPA. The Supervisor is still working with Pontem to uncover how our data was erased and who did it. Pontem has access to phone calls and emails.

CARPETS FOR TOWNSHIP HALL:

Motion by Robert Kowalski, supported by Eileen Fournier to buy new carpet rugs for \$914.

Roll Call: Kowalski Y Kripli Absent Fournier Y Johnson Y Zettel Y

Motion passed.

EDC:

Penny Payea from the EDC reached out to Edwards Township to hold a meeting prior to one of our board meetings. The Supervisor will do more research and figure out the best time for the EDC to attend a meeting.

BOARD OF REVIEW:

The Supervisor would like Board of Review members to receive training since there are three new members. \$100 per person. \$32.50 for books.

It will be a total of \$807 for 6 members to attend.

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Dan Zettel to spend \$807 for BOR Training.

Roll Call: Kowalski Y Kripli Absent Fournier Y Johnson Y Zettel Y

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP:

Trash needs to be collected and disposed of at the cemetery.

New cemetery sign is up! Posts will be painted next Spring.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Supervisor would like to donate the \$500 from the Tire Fund to the Shop With A Cop cause on behalf of Edwards Township.

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Dan Zettel to donate \$500 to Shop With A Cop.

Roll Call: Kowalski Y Kripli Absent Fournier Y Johnson Y Zettel Y

Dale Sheltroun brought up the raises that the board received last year. He wanted these to be brought up come election time.

Pat Miller brought up paying taxes to Kirtland Community College. Discussion ensued.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Township Board Meeting: Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:30pm
- Planning Committee: Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 7pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Rob Kowalski, supported by Dan Zettel to adjourn at 8:42pm.
Motion carried.

Rob Kowalski, Supervisor

Korey Kripli, Clerk