

EDWARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

March 11, 2024 7:30pm

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 12, 2024 Special Board Meeting and February 12, 2024 Board Meeting

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

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Motion to add 20A Tee Lake and 13A Demolition of Katherine Young Residence to the agenda by Korey Kripli, supported by Eileen Fournier to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA: None

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: None

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:

Attended training that was very helpful. Four citations this week for blight.

TREASURER REPORT:

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

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Dan Zettel to approve bills with checks #7093-7131 for a total of \$15,482.54.

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

Motion Carried.

HALL DEPOSIT RETURNS:

Motion by Korey Kripli, supported by Eileen Fournier to issue a hall deposit return for a total of \$200. Motion carried.

ROAD COMMISSION:

A resident of Edwards Township had reached out to the Township Supervisor about Lehman Road. He was concerned about the road being paved. Rob Kowalski reached out to the Road Commission and they were in attendance at the board meeting. They stated that it would cost over a million dollars per mile.

Green Road will be paved. Cost will be a total of \$110,000 total. 75% will be paid by the township and 25% by the Road Commission.

LOAN REPAYMENT TO GENERAL FUND:

The repayment to the General Fund for the loan to the Road Fund has been completed.

FAHEY SCHULTS:

We received a bill for \$1,102.50. This will all go on the lien against Katherine Young's property. All of these bills will be added to the cost of the demolition. She can pay it off and get her property back or the township will take it over. There are already three residents who are interested in the property.

DEMOLITION - KATHERINE YOUNG RESIDENCE:

Zimmerman Excavating - \$23,000

Dings Excavating - \$10,000

This figure for Dings is based on the amount of fill it will take to complete the job.

Sterling Excavation - \$27,060

Motion by Robert Kowalski, supported by Eileen Fournier to approve up to \$12,000 for Dings Excavating to demolish the Katherine Young residence once approved.

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

Motion carried.

PAUL OLSON - CANCELLATION:

Ken Lind from Ted Hartleb Agency sent a cancellation letter to Paul Olson. The township will receive a refund check. The township will now be insured by the Ted Hartleb Agency.

MERCANTILE BANK - PAYROLL ESTIMATE:

Mercantile Bank presented a payroll software to members of the board. The township will save \$102 per month by using the software instead of Quickbooks Payroll. The township will open a Payroll Account at Mercantile Bank. This will be cheaper than BS&A and works effectively with the pension plan.

Motion by Korey Kripli, supported by Eileen Fournier to use Mercantile Bank Payroll Software and to create a payroll account at Mercantile Bank.

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

AMENDMENT OF CEMETERY ORDINANCE:

Insurance companies will not cover cemetery headstones. With this information, the board would like to add an amendment to the original cemetery ordinance for headstones to not exceed 3 feet high and 3 feet wide. No above ground vaults are allowed. Ted Hartleb Agency added \$50,000 to our policy for the above ground vault that is located in the cemetery. This issue will be tabled for the next meeting after talking with the township attorney.

FIREARMS BILL 4127 FOR ELECTIONS:

During elections, you can no longer be within 100 feet of a polling place and 40 feet of a dropbox with a firearm.

MASTER PLAN UPDATES - POSSIBLE COSTS:

The Master Plan needs to be updated every 5 years. In order to have your own zoning for the township, the Master Plan must be updated.

There following four issues must be updated:

1. Update Demographics
2. Update Transportation Profile with complete streets listed
3. Future Land Use Map and GPS Mapping of Streets
4. Must be done by the end of the year 2024

Quoted by Chris Groble for \$7,000.

Motion by Rob Kowalski, supported by Eileen Fournier to approve \$4,000 down payment to lock in Chris Groble to complete the Master Plan for Edwards Township.

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

Motion carried.

TILE FLOOR ESTIMATE:

The board has not received any feedback from nine different companies to fix floor tiles in the township hall. Rob Kowalski reached out to Home Depot for an estimate. This issue will be tabled for the next meeting when Home Depot gives a quote to the board.

GRASS CUTTING CONTRACTS:

The Township Clerk will put an advertisement in the paper for grass cutting contracts for the township hall and cemetery. The issue will be tabled for the next board meeting when the township receives bids for lawn cutting.

TEE LAKE:

The board will be sending out letters that explain the new wastewater ordinance to residents that live on any lake in Edwards Township. This issue stems from the wastewater issues at Tee Lake.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pat Miller asked about the budget plan. Township Supervisor stated the board is working on the budget and will have a Special Meeting soon to go over the budget and then amend a budget before April 1st.

Korey Kripli stated that the February 27th election went well. Thank you to Kimberly Glasser for being Election Chair. Thank you to Richard Stillwagon, Janet Groulx, Ginger Kowalski, and Robert Kowalski for being election workers.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Township Board Meeting: Monday, April 8, 2024

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Rob Kowalski, supported by Eileen Fournier to adjourn at 8:32pm. Motion carried.

Rob Kowalski, Supervisor

Korey Kripli, Clerk