

# **EDWARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**

**May 13, 2024 7:30pm**

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

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

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 8, 2024 Board Meeting**

Motion by Rob Kowalski, supported by Eileen Fournier to approve the minutes for the April 8, 2024 Board Meeting. Motion carried.

## **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA:** None

## **COUNTY COMMISSIONER:**

Brenda Simmons stated that none of the proposed millages on the May 7th election passed. A new Transit Director has been hired.

## **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:**

N/A

## **TREASURER REPORT:**

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

Motion approved.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Rob Kowalski to approve bills with payroll checks #10,000-10,016 and payable checks #7173-7193 for a total of \$41,368.18.

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

Motion approved.

## **HALL DEPOSIT RETURNS:**

Motion by Rob Kowalski, supported by Korey Kripli to issue two hall deposit returns for a total of \$200. Motion approved.

## **PAUL OLSON REFUND:**

The township received the refund check from Paul Olson for a total of \$6,751.77.

## **DINGS FINAL BILL (KATHERINE YOUNG):**

The board approved the \$10,000 quote to take down the Katherine Young residence at the last meeting. Dings took out 96 tons of debris from the house. Dings cut the township a bill for \$12,000 and gave the board a credit for \$1,465 because he thought it needed to be done for the township. Rob Kowalski told the company to submit the full bill to Edwards Township because of the great job they did.

Motion by Todd Johnson, supported by Eileen Fournier to reapprove the quote for the demolition of the Katherine Young residence for \$13,465.

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

Motion approved.

### **TREE ESTIMATE:**

A tree had split in the cemetery. Rob Kowalski reached out to a couple tree service companies. Fresh Coast Tree Service came out and gave a quote for \$500 to take the tree down and clean up everything.

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Korey Kripli to approve the \$500 quote for Fresh Coast Tree Service.

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

Motion approved.

### **SIGN DESIGN BILL:**

Motion by Korey Kripli, supported by Eileen Fournier to approve of \$339.20 for parking lot signs at the township hall.

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

Motion approved.

### **STING DONATION:**

STING sent the township an invoice for \$1,985 for a donation for their work in Ogemaw County as well as Edwards Township. After deliberation, the board decided to approve of \$1,000 just like the township approved of last year.

Motion by Rob Kowalski, supported by Todd Johnson to approve of \$1,000 to STING.

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

Motion approved.

### **GREEN ROAD PAVING:**

Construction will start in early May on the paving of Green Road.

The last payment will be required once completed for a total of \$45,217.

This will be the last road project the township does until 2026.

## **KATHERINE YOUNG LIEN LETTER:**

The lien letter for the Katherine Young Residence is attached at the end of the meeting minutes.

## **RIEGEL METALS BILL:**

Reigel Metals came out to the township hall and repaired the fascia and soffit at the hall for a total of \$313.07. This was approved at the last board meeting.

## **FAHEY BILLS:**

The township did not receive a bill from Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC last month. This is the reason why the bills are higher than normal. Most of the charges will be added to the lien for the Katherine Young Residence.

## **STATE REFUND FOR ELECTION:**

The document is posted at the end of the meeting minutes. This invoice will be submitted to the State of Michigan to be reimbursed.

## **STEPHENSON BILL:**

The township received a bill from Stephenson & Co. for the preparation of payroll taxes. This will be the 2nd to last bill now that we have switched to Mercantil Bank for payroll software.

## **MERCANTILE UPDATE:**

Korey Kripli stated that the township is now using iSolved through Mercantile Bank for the Payroll Software. The first use of it went well and it is way better than Quickbooks. Mercantile will be in charge of our 941 payroll tax forms, W-2s, and among other statements.

The “new” Quickbooks account with the correct General Ledgers is now up and running for the payables for the township.

## **SOUP KITCHEN:**

Eileen Fournier’s cousin would like to start a soup kitchen in Ogemaw County. He inquired about the Edwards Township Hall. The soup kitchen would be once a week. He is currently working out the details. The board decided to receive more information from the individual and will table this issue for next month’s meeting.

## **CEMETERY ORDINANCE/DEED BUYBACKS:**

Cemetery Ordinance was approved for the size of headstones allowed in the cemetery.

The deed buybacks are part of a program that the township has where the township can buy back grave plots that are not being used. Currently the township buys them back for \$200 per plot.

Motion by Rob Kowalski, supported by Eileen Fournier to lower buy back amount from \$200 to \$100.

Motion carried.

## **CELL TOWER:**

There is a proposal to construct a Verizon Wireless Cell Tower on Green Road. The township is waiting to hear from Chris Grobbel for more information.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mike Laier stated that he had placed 21.5 dozen flags in the township cemetery. That means there are 258 veterans in the township cemetery.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- Township Board Meeting: Monday, June 11, 2024

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Korey Kripli to adjourn at 8:50pm.  
Motion carried.

---

Rob Kowalski, Supervisor

---

Korey Kripli, Clerk