

Meeting Minutes

Montcalm Township Board Meeting

February 14th, 2024

7:00 PM



Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Quorum Determination; Present; Blomstrom; Hyde; Cousineau; Foley; Hansen

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda as presented by Hyde, Seconded by Cousineau; Motion Carries

Approval of Meeting Minutes for: January 10, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, January 25, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes and January 31, 2024 Election Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve all 3 Meeting mins as presented by Hansen; Seconded By Hyde; Motion Carries.

Treasurer's Report: Hyde: All accounts are balanced. Motion by Cousineau to approve; Second by Foley; Motion Carries.

Payment of Bills & Allocation of Budgetary Resources: Motion by Hyde to approve; Second by Hansen; Motion Carries.

Supervisor Comments: Blomstrom: Another busy month working on a proposed budget for FY 25; Working with Blaine (Trusted Solutions) very good shape with CIP growing; finalizing a new noise ordinance tonight which has been a long time coming; working on 2 other ordinances regarding the Blight and the vehicle; furnace issue the last month which is the reason for the special meeting; Working with Holiday Beach Association; trying to have the Truth in Taxation meeting at the next board meeting; hopeful we are far enough along to have it then.

Nathan Johansen: Eagle Scout Presentation: Completed Eagle Scout Project at Monroe Cemetery; Sept 2022; Book provided gave all the details of the project and reviewed with the board; Cleaned up a great amount of rocks, dirt and debris; moved extra dirt to cemetery plots that were missing dirt; 5 generations are buried in Monroe cemetery and thanks everyone for allowing him to complete his project; 118 hours to complete project with help of Grandpa (John Johansen) Concerns with Ants attacking trees, fence damage and not contaminating the wetlands.

Committee and Individual Reports:

Planning Commission: Richard Palmer: No meeting last month

Zoning Board of Appeals: John Johansen: ZBA 3 meetings April, Aug and Dec; next meeting will have new person and will have a re-org meeting; addition books and fliers' avail in the Supervisors office.

Library: Meeting Currently.

Cemeteries: Foley: Great update previously for Monroe; 75% of the way of creating the structure to be able to enter the owners to enter the burials for E.Montcalm; Meet with the web designers 2x a month as we progress.

Zoning Administrator: Mike Nelson: Jan is slow for construction; 1 pole barn; have a hot one might be a ZBA as soon as funds are turned in; email from the under-sheriff's office about progress; Mike didn't see progress on properties on properties viewed.

County Commissioner: Adam Petersen: Not present and sent report to Blomstrom; Some may of read the Daily news that I brought up to spend down some of the General fund balance at the county; however needs to last until next FY; need to be sure what needs to be paid, review the carryover; as a taxpayer I don't like the idea of my tax money sitting somewhere not doing anything; We could spend 3-4 mill and still be ok; all ears what my constituents think and open ears to ideas; last meeting lasted 24 mins.

Fire Department: Clif Dickenson; Changing the way he is reporting; past always reported board meeting to board meeting not will be reporting previous month; Day after last board meeting to the end of January; 7 fire runs; at 20 calls into the new year; most storms; 1 structure fire/ mutual aid to Lakeview; 1 dispatched/ cancelled in route for Greenville Fire; 1 downed power line; 1 powerline arcing in the trees; 1 CO alarm and 1 camper fire; Jan training was Heart Saver and First AID PPE gear inspections; Feb training did pumps opps; dry hydrant inspection; back flushing; Fireman's banquet this Sat at the township hall; hosting a Feb 24 an Ice rescue 2 class; beginning year burn permits need to be renewed for the year reminder; let Clif know if your are burning to prevent unnecessary calls; ISO inspection coming up, almost complete; hoping for a better rating currently rated at 7 for 5 mile radius.

Trustees: Cousineau: Nothing to report. **Hansen:** Nothing to report.

Clerk: Foley: Busy month and happy election season; describes new election laws and if you received a letter asking for party affiliation or local; ballots are split; also sent postcard for reminders and ways to chose ballots; Feb 27th is the

Primary election; Sunday before election Feb 25th 9am to 5:30 pm in case anyone wants to come into to register to vote.

Public Comment for Committee and Individual Reports:

Richelle Lentz; asked about the tax account and trying for it to make sense; only line item on the report that doesn't have a beginning balance; or a rolling year to date; check marks next to other accounts and not next to tax; next question is budget to actuals report and curious why with only a few days left in the tax season we only show 50% of the tax have been collected; Hyde has taken over a million dollars in the last 2 weeks so yes; line item not understood show Admin fees and it shows we should of received \$36k only received \$136 for .4% and are we balancing our Tax account and are we balancing that at the end; next question about "Other services and charges" there is \$9700 income and a lot of money to be unclassified; 5/3rd statements every 3 months; Foley on the tax accounts doesn't have visibility of balance or nothing in clerks books to reconcile the tax account; admin fees have been dispersed.

Rick Campbell: About 4H and have to pay \$150 deposit and \$150 cleaning fee kids can pay this kid of money; Sidney lets their 4H gets to use a room; Blomstrom answered we have a set fee for everyone so its fair across the board; need money to replace things like items in the kitchen; Board set the fee; even the school notified depending on the days needed may receive a bill.

Chuck Rau: Regarding the treasury report; message from the someone the Township is not with-holding funds; but they are holding funds until we get the agreement set up; wonder why is it not showing of TR where the funds are and what they are; Ask Hyde and will give balance.

Old Business:

Update – Holiday Beach Association road boards / use of funds; HBA was provided with a draft agreement from the attorneys; response yesterday with a few pages of request of changes to the addendum; have submitted to attorney for review; resolution in front of the board for review for next meeting; draft resolution to repeal 2015-3 Special Assessment for the Holiday Beach Association; if we cannot come to agreement in the next 30 days and then a request to the board to discontinue our partnership; drafted by attorney as the request at hand.

Update on Ordinance 109 – Attorney Shaydon Weaver working on inputs: Vehicle ordinance that we already have plus the proposed ordinance from changed a while ago; Combining them, reviewing the language; stall out due the County ordinance.

Request for credit card by Chief Clif Dickinson: Clerk not seen anything; Clif stated he left information of Hydies desk; request to remake requirements from the bank.

Consideration to approve Planning Commission meeting dates for 2024-2025 of April 16, June 18, August 20, October 15, and December 17: received by Palmer via email; budget allocates 10 meetings; Blomstrom made a motion to approve the Planning Commission meeting dates for 2024-2025 of April 16, June 18, August 20, October 15, and December 17; Hyde seconded; Motion Carries.

Book order – The Township Guide to Planning and Zoning – 7 books not to exceed \$750 – from Supervisor's line item – order placed: Books have been order waiting for arrival.

FY25 Budget – completed and available for review: Located in the doorway for review; more descriptive where the money is going and breakdown ex. Cemeteries; thankful to Foley and deputy Ladermann for her feedback from last years budget; on pg 2 is CIP is \$436k; will be broken out on what we can plan for next year; subtract \$33k for the DTE for property taxes; met with Mark Christensen and will have upcoming road contracts March 1st; Use CIP for some of the road fund; Split with Pine twp; and driveway seal/line; 10% raise for Supervisor, Clerk and Treasure and additional funds for Board who attend other meetings like ZBA and PC, Fire, Accessor.

I'm Rick Hillman and I approve this message as comment from the crowd.

Consideration for adoption of Ordinance 20-24: Noise / repealing Ordinance 20: Up to board review rom last week; cleans it up and allows tickets to be written easier; biggest change is civil infraction; you can call the sheriff and sign the ticket if stopped before arrival; tiered approach \$100 1st offense, \$150 2nd and \$250 or sub offense in 2 years and replaces misdemeanor court and attorney fees; Foley asked if this has reviewed been reviewed by the Sheriff? Blomstrom stated they requested as a civil infraction; Foley made a motion adopt Resolution 2024-20 Noise and repealing ordinance 20; Cousineau seconded; Role Call vote: Cousineau: Yea; Foley: Yea; Hyde Yea; Hansen Yea; Blomstrom Yea.

Public Comment for Old Business:

Mike Nelson: Asked is the if the Noise Ordinance is dubbed Foley Ordinance. Explained what we had to do to clean up the past ordinance to move forward with the new.

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Richelle Lentz: Addressed CIP but asked about the new budget \$120K higher than the old budget and wondered if that is the sealing and paving talked about; extra money as proposed and line item 0 and moved around so we have a current and future. Election wages are the same with a big election year; noticed prior totals for repairs and maint curious; review the past 2 budget years; PC and Zoning totals increase of \$10k; set aside \$10k for coding; Twp hall wages and reviewed the split of Clif's work of prior 75%-25% vs current 60%-40%. Treasure increase will show in new business.

Public Comment for New Business: No public comment.

New Business:

New BS&A software for the Treasurer: New software our assessor moving to cloud-based BS&A our quote will be about \$15K; phased out approach and CSZ will migrating; Hyde went another twp that had it to review the changes and said training is optional potentially \$10,400 range.

Ordinance 108 – Junk/Bight – sent to Attorney Shaydon Weaver: Updating in 2 ways; pulling vehicle discussion out any correlations to 109, Improve language for blight and junk issues, also sent the proposed county language to attys and update 109 by a police power ordinance.

Procurement/Spending Policy (separate from salary/compensation standards): Next month for the new budget to bring forward a new spending policy a hiccup when came to spending money to replace the furnace; and with a \$300 spending limit could find nothing on anything for an emergency purchase for equipment; work on a procurement and spending policy; also take the \$300 out of the resolution and move to procurement.

Consideration to appoint Helen Kay Kennedy to full ZBA member: Blomstrom made a motion to move Helen Kay Kennedy from the alt position to a full ZBA seat completing her term on 10-31-2026; Hyde Seconded motion; Motion Carries.

Consideration to appoint Marie Kutzli to the ZBA alternate position: application was opened, and letter was sent in by Marie Kutzli; Blomstrom made motion to appoint Marie Kutzli to an alternate ZBA position with her term ending on 2-28-2027; Foley Seconded; Motion Carries.

Consideration to reappoint Steve Sprague to the ZBA alternate position: Blomstrom made a motion to appoint Steve Sprague to an Alternate position on the ZBA term ending 2-28-2027; Hyde Seconded; Motion Carries.

Overall Public Comment:

Mike Nelson: Rep from Point Broadband rep came around asking if we would partner with them instead of Charter. Told rep to get ahold of Supervisor to review in a board meeting.

Brenda Lademann; Clarification for cost for Spectrum vs Casair and costs difference; Costs are way higher for business; depends on amount of users.

John Johansen: MTA is next Tuesday night; reservations need to be in by tomorrow; speaker is Eric Smith from EMS; thank Board for the Alternates.

Rose Hyde: Asks about the disbursements for the checks she has for Holiday Beach and Johansen Beach because there are bills that have to be paid and need to do something; Johansen beach isn't part of that and need to be resolved.

Pam Hemmes: Commented about the nonprofit Citizens for Local Choice; read an article about this; petitions out to get a vote on the Nov 2024 ballot; signatures are being collected; plan setting up signing events.

Dick Karnatz: Reading up on mins for PC and Dec not avail; can't open Nov mins; noticed in Google Docs; not sure if you can open if you don't have a google account; Clerk will look into files.

Adjournment: Hyde made motion to adjourn; Foley seconded; Motion carries.