

Douglass Township Board Meeting
3521 McBride Rd.
Stanton, MI 48888
April 3, 2024

Call to order: 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call Present: present-Laper, Huff, Shick, Bunting, Tester

Approval of minutes 3/6/2024- Motion Bunting, 2nd Tester. Approved 5-0

3/20/2024- Change amend to discussion. Motion with changes- Tester, 2nd Shick. Approved 5-0

3/22/2024- Change Public hearing from phone call to none. Motion with change-Laper, 2nd Bunting. Approved 5-0

Approval of agenda Motion Switch 8B and 8C. Motion Tester, 2nd Bunting. Approved 5-0

Public comments on agenda items - No comments

Reports **Amy Stedman-New White Pine District-** Old building on Walnut Street being sold. New library on 514 N New Street, Stanton. Many programs being offered to public. Telescopes borrowing, downloading books on your tablet, hotspot and laptop borrowing. Fund raisers for parking lot and sign. Public question about first aid kits the libraries are giving out.

Treasurer report- Laper- Total income-\$40,951.77. Expenses \$30,426.49. Motion-Huff, 2nd Bunting. **Approved 5-0**

Clerk report- Huff- April bills- \$9252.13 Bills already approved for March - \$10525.28. Motion to approve April bills Motion Laper, 2nd Tester. Approved 5-0. Training classes coming up- Class in Mt. Pleasant in April for \$50. Yearly 4 day conference in April is offering on line viewing for 10 of the programs offered at conference for \$150, which can be viewed in May. Motion Shick, 2nd Tester . Approved 5-0. Wendie Switala will be resigning as Deputy Clerk and being replaced by Carol Andersen.

Township Trustee- PC Liaison- Tester- Pay raises for PC and ZBA secretaries due to extra time being spent researching. Develop new application for Zoning permit-not enough info being required on form. Special meeting in April for info from Lawyer on changes for Lake front or back of homes, steel siding on homes, building on land with no homes. PC request –Resolution to support for Citizens fight to take back control for Local townships and cities for wind and solar energy projects. Discussion from board regarding Resolution was already made to support local ordinances which can be copied from the Douglass Township website. New application to be developed by the PC with assistance from ZBA and board will then vote.

Township Trustee- Fire Liaison- Bunting- No fire meetings

Administrator Report-Dave Kelsey -3 permits approved

Supervisor- Shick-will discuss in old business

Old business – Buy one get on free on dirt road work and \$20,000 off Briggs road paving. Discussion for gravel resurface project, Cannonsville rd. will be added. The \$20,000 will be saved for possible over run cost of the projects this year. Motion- Bunting, 2nd Tester- roll call- Laper, Huff, Tester, Bunting, Shick- Approved 5-0

Attorney Update- responsibility for feasibility study for the sewer system is with the landowner. The must send information to Township Board for any requirement we may need to add. Shick met with Spicer group for update on what was already done. Shick met with Matt with Fleis & Vanderbrink. Must consider- 7 entities involved, feasibility study, ask for 2/3 vote. Township is not the funding portion of this project. Cost of project will have to be on Petitions.

Sewer System- Township board to decide on what we want to see on feasibility study. Public needed would need to take place. Once the lake residents make the decision, the Township board will discuss what we would require.

Fire Millage- .6 mil renewal for Fire Departments. 2 year renewal request for election with no increase. Will decide at next renewal if we need to increase. Laper- Taxes are already going up so wait for 2 years if approved with Attorney, and see what the needs are then. Motion Laper, 2nd Tester. Roll call-Laper, Huff, Tester, Bunting, Shick. Approved 5-0.

New Business - Montcalm MTA meeting to be held at Douglass Township Hall. April 16th, 2024. Please let clerk know if you will be attending.

Items for disposal- 10-8 foot banquet table and 4-6 foot banquet tables. Will place up for auction on website for 1 week. Highest bid wins.

Announcements Next meeting 7pm May 1, 2024.

Calendar for April- ZBA Special Meeting 6pm April 10, 2024.

PC Meeting- public hearing and meeting -6pm April 24th, 2024

Spring cleanup day, 9am to 1pm. Saturday, April 27, 2024

Public comment – Tables, Is new budget on internet, sewer system

Disagreement with those recently chastising new board supervisor- election officials working for the citizens.

MTA public act 223, Association of counties.

Board Comments -Ken will contact school sports to hire help for the spring cleanup day at \$500 to help load trucks.

Adjournment Motion Laper, 2nd Tester. Approval 5-0.