

**Lake Township-Roscommon County  
Regular Board Meeting  
January 11, 2022 @ 7pm**

The Lake Township Board met on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 for a regular board meeting. Keith Stiles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America was recited.

**Present:** Tony Farhat-Trustee, David Russo Jr.-Trustee, Keith Stiles-Supervisor, Pam Surprenant-Clerk and Harry Trier-Treasurer.

**Motion:** Trier to approve the January 11, 2022 agenda. **Second:** Russo Jr. Discussion: *Farhat questioned on the last item, the OEO is not here, will there still be a conversation about that? Keith stated if the OEO is not present the item will be tabled. Farhat asked for the item to be removed from the agenda. No action was taken by the board.* **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Motion:** Surprenant to approve the December 14, 2021 minutes with corrections, adding "front yard" to Stile's comment relating to zoning amendments. **Second:** Farhat **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Approval to Pay the Bills:** Surprenant provided the public with the credit card distribution report as well as a report of all payroll and accounts payable checks, including descriptions. **Motion:** Trier to approve the bills and payroll checks #44343 through #44383 and post audit of bills presented on EFT check register. **Second:** Russo Jr. Discussion attorney bills – Keith to follow up on attorney credit and \$95.00 charge. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Budget Amendment: Motion:** Surprenant to approve budget amendment of \$7,630.50 as presented to the board. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Old Business: NONE**

**Supervisor Correspondence:** Stiles stated received an email from Northern Exposure.

**Financial Report:** Trier went over financial report and stated the clerk and treasurer balance. Trier provided detailed information relating to the CD's. Trier appointed Pat Ryan Deputy Treasurer effective March 1, 2022.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Fire Chief Wrzesinski provided a written report to the board. Wrzesinski stated Clare Travelbee resigned in good standing. **Motion:** Farhat to accept resignation in good standing. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.** Discussion regarding downed trees on phone lines. Fire Department receives calls to respond to downed trees on phone lines and are not able to clear them due to liability issues. Multiple phone calls have been made to phone and cable companies; no party will take

on responsibility of tree maintenance in this area of the township. Trier to look into acquiring permission from EGLE to cut the trees down in this area.

**Ordinance Enforcement Officer Report:** OEO department provided a written report to the board.

**Planning Commission Report:** Riss provided a written report to the board.

**ZBA Report:** None.

**Assessor's Report:** None

**Supervisor's Report:** None

**Deputy Supervisor's Compensation: Motion:** Stiles to approve \$200.00 a month in wages for Deputy Supervisor effective November 9, 2021. Retroactive to appointment.

**Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Russo Jr.-Abstains. Motion Carries.**

**Rental of Hall: Motion:** Surprenant to cancel rental of hall until building maintenance (drain field) is completed. Once building maintenance is completed meeting space only would be available to rent. Kitchen/office area excluded. **Second:** Russo Jr. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Annual Meeting Date:** Stiles announced annual meeting date of March 26, 2022 at 11:00 am, at the township hall.

**Department Head Budget Submissions:** Stiles indicated the budget worksheets will be sent out tomorrow. Complete and return by January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**2022 State Standard Mileage Rate:** Surprenant stated the 2022 mileage rates were sent to the board. The IRS standard mileage rates for 2022 is 58.5 cents per mile driven for business use, up 2.5 cents from the rate for 2021.

**Special Use Approval GLNR:** Surprenant stated the Planning Commission approved the special use for site plan 4443-21 on December 17, 2021. **Motion:** Surprenant to approve special use of Marihuana Provisioning Center for site plan #4443-21, Great Lakes Natural Remedies. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Northern Exposure Court Case:** Stiles stated the email is threatening a lawsuit, on this whole situation. Stiles stated he contacted him about six months ago to see if could settle out of court and that did not work out. Stiles feels we should not collect. Trier stated the township has been awarded this money to recoup the cost the township spent to take him to court, there is no way he should be excused from paying those costs. Stiles stated trying to avoid another lawsuit. Russo stated he would have like to see that move to the planning commission and does not feel we should collect. Farhat stated it would be a mistake. The township spent tax payer money to take him to court to enforce the ordinance and the judge said it was so egregious he gave the township money. Surprenant stated potential future consequences for the township relationship

with Roscommon County legal system would not be favorable. **Motion:** Stiles to waive the attorney fees. **Second:** Russo Jr. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – Yes, Trier – No, Surprenant – No, Farhat – No, Stiles – Yes. **Motion Fails.**

**Motion:** Trier to have OEO contact Edwards Law firm and follow up with court costs granted in the judgment. **Second:** Farhat. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – No, Trier – Yes, Surprenant – Yes, Farhat – Yes, Stiles – No. **Motion Carries.**

**2022/2023 Wage Resolutions:** Surprenant offered Resolution 2022-01; Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary, Supervisor, current wage \$22,100.00, no wage increase requested. Supported by Farhat. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – Yes, Trier – Yes, Surprenant – Yes, Farhat – Yes, Stiles – Yes. **Resolution Adopted.**

Surprenant offered Resolution 2022-02; Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary, Clerk, current wage \$22,100.00, \$2,000.00 wage increase requested. \$24,100.00 annual salary for FY 2022/2023. Supported by Stiles. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – Yes, Trier – No, Surprenant – Yes, Farhat – Yes, Stiles – Yes. **Resolution Adopted.**

Surprenant offered Resolution 2022-03; Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary, Treasurer, current wage \$22,100.00, no wage increase requested. Supported by Russo Jr. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – Yes, Trier – Yes, Surprenant – Yes, Farhat – Yes, Stiles – Yes. **Resolution Adopted.**

Surprenant offered Resolution 2022-04; Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary, Trustee, David Russo Jr. current wage \$5,077.68, no wage increase requested. Supported by Trier. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – Yes, Trier – Yes, Surprenant – Yes, Farhat – Yes, Stiles – Yes. **Resolution Adopted.**

Surprenant offered Resolution 2022-05; Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary, Trustee, Tony Farhat current wage \$5,077.68, no wage increase requested. Supported by Trier. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – Yes, Trier – Yes, Surprenant – Yes, Farhat – Yes, Stiles – Yes. **Resolution Adopted.**

**Alternate Starting Date Board of Review:** Resolution 2022-06 Alternative Start Date for Board of Review offered by Stiles supported by Farhat. **Roll Call Vote:** Farhat – Yes, Russo Jr. – Yes Trier – Yes, Surprenant – Yes, Stiles – Yes. **Resolution Adopted.**

**Move 200K to Capital Improvement Bridge/Grant:** Surprenant stated Rowe is working on the grant for the Muskegon River Bridge. This is an 80/20 grant opportunity. Surprenant would like the board to put the 200K, in a capital improvement budget line, so the general ledger reflects the township has funds available should the grant be awarded. Trier explained the two accounts funds could be moved from. Discussion. **Motion:** Russo Jr. to move 200K from the Sewer account to the Capital Improvement account. **Second:** Surprenant. **Roll Call Vote:** Russo Jr – Yes, Trier – Yes, Surprenant – Yes, Farhat – Yes, Stiles – Yes. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**MTA Conference & BOR Training:** Russo Jr. expressed interest in attending the conference. **Motion:** Russo Jr. to attend conference expenses incurred no more than \$1000.00. **Second:** Trier. **All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

**Caregiver Cooperatives (Marijuana):** G. Mika provided an overview of a cooperative, House Bill 5300 and 5302. He explained how other communities in Michigan are using Ordinances and or moratoriums relating to Caregiver Cooperatives. **Motion:** Farhat to *have board* engage with Fahey to discuss crating a moratorium for Lake Township to understand if moratoriums are successfully defended in court, not spend more than than \$500.00. **Second:** Trier. Russo Jr. to contact attorney. *Discussion: Farhat requested to inquire if township could go straight an ordinance without doing the moratorium. Russo Jr. acknowledged would get price for both.* **4 Yay, 1 Nay. Motion Carries.**

**OEO Issue:** *Stiles stated OEO is out of town, tabled until next month.*

**Board Comment:** Trier brought up realtor in area advertised home for sale with short term rental potential. Trier did contact company.

**Public Comment:** Comment regarding Cooperatives. Comment regarding license/regulations for cooperatives. Comment regarding legal bills. Comment regarding in favor of township working on Capital Improvements for community.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Surprenant, Lake Township Clerk

*Approved with Corrections at 2/8/22 Bd Mtg.*