

Newfield Township Board  
3890 198<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Hesperia, Michigan 49421  
June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.

Joan David our Supervisor called the meeting to order. The pledge was stated and a roll call was called. The following board members were present: John Clark, Amanda Hunter, Rick Roberson, Joan David and Nancy L. Conley.

Rick Roberson made a motion seconded by John Clark to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

Joan David made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2023 meeting, Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion carried.

#### Public Comments on Agenda Items

Amanda Hunter made a motion to approve the bills as presented with checks 14918 – 14955 and 2 Efts totaling \$3996.02, for a total amount of disbursements for \$31,376.13. There were several questions asked on wage sheets and how they were processed by John Clark. The procedure was explained. Rick Roberson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

#### Correspondence

Nancy presented the renewal of this years liability insurance and the differences we have from last year in coverage and cost.

Amanda Hunter gave her treasurers report ending in May. The total deposits were \$21,415.00, with \$18,120.28 in withdrawals for a total cash available of \$897,627.87.

#### Old Business:

Amanda Hunter made a motion to approve the ordering of a second credenza in the office and a 3 drawer file cabinet plus a set of master keys for all office furniture from Uline. Joan David seconded it. The motion carried.

Joan brought up additional information with some input from Michael Jansma on an electronic sign for the hall. After more discussion, Nancy Conley made a motion to purchase a 1 sided electronic sign, with electrical done by Nieboers, Michael Jansma will install it along with Jonathan Yates doing the stonework as was bid by him previously, for a total overall of not more than \$15,000. The funds are to come out of ARPA monies. It was seconded by Rick Roberson. The motion carried.

Amanda had been asked to look into Banking institutions to possibly transfer some of our excess money into so they would be covered by the FDIC rules and regulations. The two companies she brought up were Choice One and Michigan CLASS. Michigan CLASS is an investment institution that the county uses but does not use FDIC to cover their accounts. Choice One is offering us a 3.75% interest rate on any in-house funds and a 3.5% interest rate on any funds that they invest into other banks on our behalf to

ensure FDIC insurance compliance. Rick questioned if we were locked in at that rate for any period of time. Amanda said she would check and report back. Amanda made a motion to transfer all cannabis funds to ChoiceOne with the funds that were currently allocated to various projects staying in the 3.75% interest bearing account and any excess funds would be placed in the 3.5% interest bearing account. John seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Amanda also mentioned that we would still have over \$250,000 in our Shelby State Bank account after the cannabis money when transferred to Choice One. After some discussion about the upcoming road projects, it was decided that we would wait until the end of summer to determine if we needed to look for another bank with FDIC insurance.

Nancy gave an update on our Recycling Center. She met with Lola Harmon Ramsey from American Classic this week. The slab has been poured. Mike Rosema and Mike Mayo who did the work on the slab also recommended that we not have the chip and seal that was originally planned to be done to the parking lot. They feel it would be a waste of money for the shape the parking lot is in.

Lola is willing to train volunteers needed for the opening and closing and manning the Recycle center. Anyone interested please contact Nancy Conley. We are looking at a possible Grand Opening of September 1<sup>st</sup>. The arrival of the dumpsters will determine this. We will be receiving 3 brown dumpsters for paper and cardboard and 3 green for the rest. It will not need to be separated out as this will happen in Newaygo and the center there. Suggested days to be open could be Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to Noon. Two large gates will open to give access to the trucks for dumping. These gates will be locked except for the open hours which will be posted. Charges for the tips right now are quoted at \$55.00 each per tip for the brown dumpsters and \$62.00 each per tip for the rest. We are estimating 2 tips per week of each dumpster for a total of \$702.00 per week times 52 weeks for a total estimated cost of around \$36,504.00 per year. This will be billed under resident services and of no cost to residents at the time of drop off. A donation box will be available for anyone who wishes to donate to off set the costs. As the grant was written to include Newfield Township, the Village of Hesperia, Denver Township and Greenwood Township any and all contributions from the governments mentioned would be accepted and appreciated.

Lola is going to do a work up of Flyers explaining the process and we have allowed for that and signage in our grant amount. American Classic has recently hired a marketing agent who will help with this process which includes printing.

#### New Business:

The Planning Commission met on June 8<sup>th</sup>, and have sent the following recommendation to the board, their approval of the site plan modification for RQMI OG1 on 186<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hesperia, Michigan 49421. Joan David made a motion to accept and approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Discussion followed. John wanted to know if they were adding 3 buildings. It was explained they are requesting adding a hoop/greenhouse & Pole building. Rick Roberson seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: John Clark-yes, Amanda Hunter-yes, Rick Roberson-yes, Joan David-yes and Nancy Conley-yes, The motion carried.

Joan has filled out a survey to DTE on the interest of a possible natural gas line along 198<sup>th</sup>. If approved the cost per customer would be prorated and added to the customer's billing. She will keep us up to speed on the progress.

Nancy Conley made a motion to rescind the motion of last month to chip and seal the parking lot. Amanda Hunter seconded it. The motion carried. On the advice of several contractors who have worked on the Recycle project she feels it will be a waste of money. With the slab being almost 2 ft off from one end to the other along the parking lot and the shape the current parking lot is in, more needs to be done. Mike Mayo has offered to bust up and remove and dispose of the current asphalt on the parking lot for \$200.00. He and Mike Rosema have offered to remove the asphalt on 18 to 20 feet on the northside of the lot and bring in crushed concrete to build an approach to the slab for the Recycle center, for under \$2,000.00. After some discussion amongst the board members Nancy and Joan will check into bids for the 1. Asphalt removed – cost of crushed concrete over all 2. Asphalt removed – cost of a new asphalt parking lot 3. Possible leaving the parking lot gravel. When the bids are received Joan will call a special meeting of the board to speed this along.

Joan presented a plan to have the inside of the building painted. She will return with the bids to the board in order to proceed. If approved the ARPA funds would be used,

Steve presented the board with a Public Safety Ordinance rewrite. He did an overview of the update proposed on Civil Infraction Ordinance. He suggests to separate out the Public Safety from the Public Safety Ordinance and Blight Junk vehicles. We then can deal with it from in house. Nancy made a motion seconded by Rick Roberson to send it to John Schrier our attorney to look it over before a Public Hearing is scheduled. The motion carried.

#### Reports-

Joan reported on the county MTA meeting that was held the last Wednesday in May at Elbridge. Discussed was the 211 number and questions answered by the United Way. There was an informative discussion on using Grants in our communities. The next meeting will be the last Wednesday in July at Ferry Township hall.

Planning Commission- They gave their recommendation to the board on the site change for RQMI OG1.

Amanda made a motion to have a joint meeting with the Township Board and the Planning Commission Board, on July 20 that will be published, concerning an overall area stakeholder meeting with the McKenna Group on our Master Plan. It was seconded by John Clark. The motion carried. It will include other townships, area businesses and the school. It will be at 6:30 p.m. here at the hall.

Marijuana Enforcer – The burms are up and Rick will check on the planting of the trees on them at the M-20 grow. He will also start his next inspection process for all grows.

Cemetery – Dennis did 2 burials this last month. He wanted to make sure it is understood that although he does a lot for the township he is not the township maintenance man. He offers when he can to save the township money at times.

Zoning – Steve handed out his report. He also wanted us to know we had a very successful Dump Day here on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. He wants to thank all those that helped including representation from all 4 Cannabis grows. Three young men who work for the grow on M- 20 lent a lot of back muscle when and where

needed. He also noted that Dennis and Joan hauled 4 trailer loads of garbage along with the help of the owners of the property to the dumpsters. A complaint had been filed on this mess and Joan and Dennis offered to help out because they had no way to haul it. Steve had sent letters out to landowners letting them know about the Dump Day and several responded by bringing in garbage. We will be holding a Dump Day in the fall.

Steve also noted he handed out 4 new permits, one which included a new home on Newell Lake.

Public Comments: Several comments were stated.

Board Discussion- Amanda would like two topics added to the agenda for next meeting, changing the IT Person to salary and relook at trustee wages. John Clark asked about roads to be done at Hi-Tower.

Supervisors report – Joan addressed the questions on the roads at Hi-Tower. She met with the OCRC and they figured out in the bidding that we should have enough set aside to be able to repair all the roads.

She also addressed the disrespect of township officials by several in the township on dealing from roads to radios. She asked that everyone be more kind and respectful at the meetings and addressing township issues.

Joan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Rick Roberson. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Conley

Newfield Township Clerk