

Newfield Township Board
3890 198th Avenue
Hesperia, Michigan 49421
August 15, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.
231-854-4702

Joan David our supervisor called the meeting to order. The pledge was stated. A roll call of the board was taken as follows: John Clark, Rick Roberson, Amanada Hunter, Joan David and Nancy Conley. All were present.

Amanda Hunter made a motion to approve the agenda. John Clark seconded it. The motion carried.

Rick Roberson made a motion to approve the 2023, July 18th board meeting minutes. John Clark seconded it. The motion carried.

John Clark made a motion to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes from August 2, 2023. Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion carried.

There were no public comments on action items.

Amanda Hunter made a motion to approve the bills as presented, checks #14987-15025 including an EFT to Shelby Bank for \$2,253.84 for a total of \$39,838.24. Rick Roberson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Amanda Hunter gave her treasurers report. Total deposits for the month of July were \$6,114.00 with checks paid out \$48,170.12 for a total cash available of \$869,779.07.

Amanda also reported that she has transferred her system over to the new Quik Books Software that we purchased. The first three months is for \$15.00 and will continue at \$30.00 per month after that.

Correspondence-

Nancy presented a letter and copy of a check from our Liability Insurance Co. for dividends paid out to their members.

Joan received a letter from DTE that included a check for \$3,700. She is following through with that letter. It ended up being a property tax check.

Old Business:

Amanda reviewed the information she received through a meeting with the Text my Gov – Co. It is a system you could use on your phone for alerts and updates and notifications from the township. You would be able to ask a question on the system and it would send you a link on the information needed. The cost quoted would have a \$1750.00 installation fee along with a yearly cost of \$3500.00 . The fee is based on population. The board asked if she could check on maybe pro rating this cost. She is to check with them and get back with us.

We have had the used office furniture posted on our website for sale. We have sold the conference table but nothing else. Amanda Hunter made a motion seconded by John Clark to post on our website and in the Hi- lites , that we will take sealed bids for the furniture and equipment. The deadline for the bids will be 24 hours before the September 19th meeting day at 5:00 p.m. The bids will be opened at the September 19th meeting. The motion carried.

New Business- none

Reports

MTA – Joan David gave a report on the last meeting. Ryan Coffey reported on solar energy. She reported Bumstead and Vanderwall were both present and have been very supportive.

Planning Commission- Steve Micklin reported on the last Visioning session, the stakeholder meeting and McKenna on the Master Plan. Good food and good discussion led to a very good meeting. We had a lot of input from residents and business people as well. Our next public input meetings will be Sept. 21, 2023 for our evening meeting and September 30th for day time meeting. Time and details will be worked out at a later date.

The information and input for the online survey presented by McKenna should come together by then also.

Rick Martin will start his next round of Cannabis grow inspections this next week.

Sexton- Reported 2 headstones placed and 1 burial. He also reported lots of maintenance and mowing.

Zoning- Steve handed out his report. He heard from our attorney on Blight and Safety information that has been sent to him for review. He and Joan have a phone conference scheduled on the 16th to go over that with him.

Nancy Conley made a motion seconded by John Clark to have a special Planning Commission meeting followed by a special board meeting to discuss a zoning request and the blight/safety ordinances. The meeting will be September 7, at 6:30 p.m. followed by a Special Board Meeting. The motion carried.

Saturday, September 9th will be our Fall Clean Up here at the hall. 3 dumpsters have been ordered and Mike Mayo will compact the garbage in the dumpsters. Tim Smith will be collecting scrap. It will be from 8 -1 unless the dumpsters fill early. We are always in need of volunteers.

Roads – The roads behind and around Hi-Tower lake have been paved. Also finished is Baker Road off from 200th. Our second brining is scheduled to be done soon. 176th has been staked and is on the schedule for work. Joan is looking at the Fish Road question with Mr. Timmer.

Public Comments-

There was one resident with a public comment.

Supervisors Report- Joan thanked Sandy Hunt for her offer of the use of one of her big Hunt Implement Buildings to house our old fire truck until it can be sold. She stated that Bob Eichenberg contacted Sandy and the fire truck is now there.

Diane Hazen has donated 2 benches that Dennis and Joan are going to go look at. They are getting the benches in exchange for doing some yard work Diane needs done at her house.

Fire Board – Joan reported that the Fire Dept. had 23 runs, 22 medical assists and 1 departmental assist. The dept. has increased the workers to 17 on the force.

Joan thanked Ali Townsend for the great job she did painting the inside of our building.

Joan checked into the management of the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund. Through a resolution the board can redirect the funds use.

Joan went over the lawsuits that have been directed towards the board. We have been sued , we have not sued. She also went over an infraction that a resident stated was directed personally towards him , and the first infraction was filed long before all of the Board directed commotion started over 2 years ago.

Board Discussion- Joan is checking into some property by the Fire Department building that edges up along 2 acres that is owned by the township. She is discussing with the owners, the Forbes family , as possibly them donating enough property in conjunction with what we own to put on several ball fields. They could call it Forbes Fields. The Little League has lost its ball fields that have been by the Catholic Church in town. The land has been sold to a developer. They are down to what is at the swimming hole and the school. She will report back in September her findings.

Next months agenda items could include: Board Policies, Text My Gov. report, Sealed bids for old office furniture, and quotes next month on inquiries for a new auditor.

John Clark made a motion to adjourn. Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion carried and the meeting was dismissed at 7:52 p.m.

Nancy Conley

Newfield Township Clerk