

Newfield Township Board

3890 198th

Hesperia, Michigan 49421

May 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by our Supervisor, Joan David. A roll call was taken and the following board members were present: Rick Roberson, Wayne Ferris, Joan David, Nancy Conley and Deputy Treas. Barb Wright . Absent was Mary Martin Hopkins.

Rick Roberson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Wayne Ferris approved it. The motion carried 4 to 0. p

Rick Roberson made a motion to approve the Reconvened Meeting minutes from May 3, 2024. Joan David seconded it. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Rick Roberson made a motion to approve the Board minutes for April 16,2024. Nancy Conley seconded it. The motion carried 4 to 0.

No Public Comments on Agenda Items

Rick Roberson made a motion to approve the bills as presented: checks #15337 thru 15374, including several EFTS for a total of \$38,896.89. Joan David seconded it. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Barb Wright, our Deputy Treasurer, gave the April treasurers report. A total of \$41,691.03 in deposits, with \$25,751.67 in withdrawals for a total cash available of \$692,181.35.

Correspondence

Joan received information on Scrap Tire Collection sponsored by the Conservation district, with a collection container at the Oceana County Road Commission Building in Hart. It will take place June 29, from 9-Noon. Limit of 50 tires per person. Limit on size of tires. Call 873-4226 for more information.

Nancy presented two articles from local newspapers on happenings in Hesperia. The first was from the Echo with an article about the dedication of the new Veterans Memorial Garden. The second was from the Oceana Herald announcing the election of our Supervisor, Joan David, to the Board of Directors of the State MTA organization.

Nancy also presented a letter from Oceana Herald-Journal explaining the position of the Herald on being a qualified paper for publication for municipalities.

We received an update from WMSRDC on helping communities working with GIS and mapping ideas.

Old Business – none at this time

New Business

We jumped to #2 on the Agenda as Stephanie Moore was waiting for several folks to help with her presentation.

The board received information from the County Board of Commissioners on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. We decided to bring it back to the table at next month's meeting.

Nancy Conley made a motion to approve the following officials : Nancy Conley, Barb Wright, and Jane Bostrom , to attend a training on Election Prep. Beyond the Bureau. This is being put on by the state MTA and will take place in White Cloud, Mi at the Shack, on June 17, 2024 from noon until 5 p.m. The total cost is \$100.00 per person. Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Joan David sent bid requests to three companies in the area for work to be done at the West Hesperia, and Catholic cemeteries. There was no response from one, another would supply the gravel but not the work, and the third would do the prep work and excavating , laying of 4inch thick by 9 foot wide gravel in the roadways, plus put in the new roadways in the part that has been plotted yet not developed. The total cost submitted was \$45,145.00. Wayne asked about what grade of gravel they were going to use. Joan was going to contact Nick Nielsen from White River Excavating Company to go over the information. Rick Roberson make a motion to go with Nick Nielsen from White River Excavating for the \$45,145.00 that will be taken from ARPA funds. Nancy Conley seconded it. A roll call vote was as follows: Rick Roberson, yes – Wayne Ferris ,yes- Nancy Conley, yes- Joan David, yes. The motion carried 4 to 0. This will use the ARPA funds left that need to be committed by the end of 2024. Nick is planning on starting on the job mid June.

Stephanie Moore from the Oceana Council on Aging presented an overview about the organization ,and the many services they provide for the county. They provide some mobile clinics around the county , and a wide range of services at the agency in Hart. She along with her associates talked about transportation across the county for seniors and others and other programs. A mileage renewal is on the ballot for this coming up election. They left an assortment of materials at our township offices for the public.

Reports:

MTA- Joan reported the next MTA Oceana Chapter will meet Wednesday, May 29th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. here at Newfield Township Hall. All county elected officials are invited.

Planning Comm.-June 11,2024-The first draft should be ready for our Master Plan. 5 people attended the Zoning workshop in Hart.

Cemetery – Wayne Ferris presented questions concerning the maintenance of equipment at the cemetery. Joan had given us a handout concerning maintenance on stones in the cemetery. Thank you to Dennis and Barb Wright and the area girl scouts on placing 483 flags on the veterans graves here at West Cemetery and the Catholic cemetery. Dennis placed 10 on the veterans graves at Gale cemetery.

Wayne Ferris made a motion for Dennis to start the process of working on the stones that need work. He will go through the process of contacting families where available etc...The motion was seconded by Joan David. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Zoning – Steve handed out his monthly report. He also noted that Rick Martin our Cannabis Enforcer inspected the four facilities with no violations.

Roads- We received a bill after the work was done from the Oceana County Road Commission on 172nd Zimmer. The bill was what was quoted to us last summer. Also last Saturday the work was done on 164th from M-20 to Loop Road.

Public Comments- There were several comments.

Board discussion-

Steve thanked Wayne and Barb for stepping up to help fill two vacancies. He thanked Wayne for all of his time on the Planning Comm.

Joan asked that the members to review the IT coordinator request for wages. If they have any suggestions please get them to Joan before the next meeting.

Rick Roberson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wayne Ferris seconded it. The Meeting was dismissed at 8:22 p.m.

Nancy Conley

Newfield Township Clerk.