

Newfield Township Board

3890 198th Ave.

Hesperia, Michigan 49421

231-854-1432

March 19, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

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

John Clark made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting. Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion carried.

Our Supervisor Joan David read through the proposed 2024-2025 budget. There were no questions or discussion.

Rick Roberson made a motion to approve the Feb. 20,2024 meeting minutes. John Clark seconded it. The motion carried.

There were no Public Comments on action items.

Nancy Conley made a motion seconded by Joan David to approve a Budget Amendment for \$4208.32 to the Board Line and \$1309.04 to the Treasures line for a total of \$5517.36 to be transferred from the Unallocated line. The motion carried.

Amanda Hunter gave the treasurers report for the month of February, 2024. The total deposits are \$60,723.13, with withdrawals totaling \$49,629.53 for a total cash available \$659,718.00. Amanda reported that we are having some problems with the switch over at Shelby Bank, with 3 deposits. Also the county treasurer has changed the method of settlement at the county level.

Correspondence

Joan received information on the training at the county level for Planning and Zoning board member in May.

Old Business

Nancy Conley made a motion seconded by John Clark to give The Hazardous Waste collection \$100.00 to use for their program. The motion carried.

Joan David made a motion by Resolution 03-1924 to adopt the ORV ordinance # NT2024-3 that was pulled as a stand alone ordinance rather than be included with a previous combined ordinance. The board at a workshop, reviewed it and agreed to do this. Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion passed with the following Roll Call Vote: Rick Roberson, yes- Nancy Conley, yes- John Clark ,no-Amanda Hunter ,no -Joan David, yes.

In reviewing the changes to the new budget ,Nancy Conley made a motion seconded by Joan David to give the Zoning Administrator a raise to \$18.00 per hour while in court and mileage at the current federal rate. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Rick Roberson, yes- Nancy Conley, yes- John Clark, yes-Amanda Hunter, yes-Joan David, yes.

Joan David made a motion, and Rick Roberson seconded it to change the BOR wages and salary to \$75.00 per hour for the first 4 hours and then \$15.00 per hour thereafter. The motion carried with the following roll call vote: John Clark, yes- Amanda Hunter, yes-Rick Roberson, yes-Nancy Conley, yes- Joan David, yes. It was also agreed that BOR will get paid \$15.00 per hour for the Organizational meeting. Amanda made a suggestion that we pay them for the March board of review 2024 at the new rate, so that pay will be adjusted next month.

Dennis David has started mixing foundations at the cemetery instead of purchasing them . John Clark made a motion seconded by Amanda Hunter for us to pay Dennis David 20 cents per square inch and 5 cents per square inch to the township effective as of March 1, 2024. Family's will pay 25 cents per square inch all together. The motion carried with the following roll call vote: Amanda Hunter yes- John Clark yes- Rick Roberson yes-Nancy Conley yes- Joan David yes.

Amanda Hunter made a motion to approve the new 2024-25 Budget for the township as presented. Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion carried with the following roll call vote: Rick Roberson yes- Nancy Conley yes- Amanda Hunter yes- John Clark yes- Joan David yes

Joan brought up the need of two new appliances at the Ox Bow Park Scout building. She quoted several prices on a new small refrigerator and cooking stove. Under discussion Amanda didn't feel we should use public funds to replace for the scout usage. Nancy suggested we use the window air conditioner that we have in the back room down there for the summer months. It was suggested opening it up to the public for rental. A decision to table it until April meeting was reached.

Joan David presented bids on several roads to be looked at for repairs the 2024 year. John questioned whether they had finished the work on Zimmer from last year. Joan was going to check with Jeff on where they were on that. Last year we had also talked about Warren and Gale roads to possibly be worked on this year. Joan made a motion, seconded by Rick Roberson to do 164th from Loop to M 20. This estimate came in at our cost of \$197,953.80, which is significantly less than was quoted last year. This would be paid for out of our general budget. The motion carried with the following roll call vote: Rick Roberson yes- Nancy Conley yes- John Clark yes- Amanda Hunter yes- and Joan David yes. The second road Joan presented was Buchanan Road from 176th to 160th for an estimated cost of \$325,125.90 to be done with Cannabis money. This estimate was also down considerably from last year because of the decrease in the cost of asphalt. Joan also stated she had received information from the state that do to their excess of Cannabis permit money in the state budget they would be putting the extra monies in the state road fund. Amanda had concerns for what she felt was the grey area on Cannabis money spent at the township level. Nancy Conley made a motion to fix Buchanan Road from 176th to 160th with Cannabis money. Rick Roberson seconded it. The motion carried 3 to 2 with the following roll call vote: Rick Roberson yes- John Clark no- Nancy Conley yes- Amanda Hunter no- Joan David yes. Joan will send the contracts to Hart for the 2024 season.

Nancy Conley made a motion seconded by Rick Roberson to join membership in the National Council on Municipal Cannabis. We will use Cannabis funds for the \$120.00 membership fee. This would be helpful

to our Zoning Admin. and Cannabis enforcer and the board. The motion passed with the following roll call vote :John Clark yes-Rick Roberson yes-Nancy Conley yes- Amanda Hunter yes- Joan David yes.

Rick Roberson made a motion to approve the bills, checks # 15261- 15300 with the deduction of check # 15270 for \$32.16 for a total of \$25,602.85. Joan David seconded it. The motion carried.

Reports

Joan gave an update on the County MTA meeting that is scheduled for March 27th at 6:00 p.m. at Walkerville Wesleyan Church.

Cannabis Enforcer – Talked with several of the grows and they are starting the small plants in the greenhouses so he will start checking making sure the plants are numbered accordingly and everything is running smoothly.

Dennis has started making and placing the new foundations.

Steve handed out the new monthly zoning report, updating us all on new developments in the township.

There were several Public Comments.

Board Discussion

There were some updates on the Master Plan. Joan has received word from another township about their help in the new GIS layering system. John Clark had a question on if any estimates were received on placing gravel in the driveways at the cemetery. Dennis is still waiting for them. April 5th is the date after publishing the new ordinances on Blight and Civil infractions that we can start action from the board on violations. Nancy quoted from an article that the percentage of registered voters in the state that took advantage of the 9 day early voting was only 0.09%. In the county of Oceana we only had 200.

Nancy made a motion to adjourn. Rick seconded it. The meeting ended at 8:11 p.m.

Nancy Conley

Newfield Township Clerk

