

Leighton Township Board

Regular Meeting

September 14, 2023

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Supervisor Wolbrink at 7:02 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:** Present: Fennema, Wolbrink, Hooker, Bonnema; Absent with notice: Bultsma
4. **Minutes:** Motion by Hooker, support by Bonnema to approve the minutes from August 10, 2023 and September 7, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried.
5. **Agenda:** Motion by Fennema, support by Hooker to approve the meeting agenda as written. All members voted yes; motion carried.
6. **Reports & Correspondence:**
 - A. **County Commissioner's Report:** n/a.
 - B. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Weston reported 37 calls in August, 309 YTD. Mentioned public events and trainings that occurred in August. Demonstrated the new guardian angel lights that were recently purchased with funds from donations. New firefighter/paramedic Tim Newton was hired and Andrea Pringle, EMT recently signed on with WAEMS to run medical calls in Leighton Township.
 - C. **Deputy's Report:** n/a.
 - D. **Drain Commission Report:** n/a.
 - E. **Planning Commission Report:** Trustee Hooker reported that Planning Commission discussed revisions to the Master Plan. The process could take a matter of months.
 - F. **Board of Appeals Report:** Shoemaker reported at the last meeting on August 17, one variance was granted regarding side yard clearance. The ZBA would like to request that the Planning Commission and/or township provide them with a somewhat recent land survey when considering setback requirements.
 - G. **Building Inspector's Report:** 5 permits issued last month bringing the year-to-date total to 33, with an average cost of \$368,509.00.
 - H. **Library Report:** Faith Miedema reported on library activities during the month of August. The library received two grants recently which will fund a "library of things" available to check out and a new community garden.
 - I. **Green Lake Sewer Report:** Green Lake Sewer delinquent accounts will be turned over to the county to go on tax bills this month.
7. **Correspondence:** Clerk Fennema mentioned correspondence with the local resident whose property is the pick-up location for recycling for a nearby private drive. The residents of 147th, Bayview Court and 5th St. have been abusing the agreement with the property owner for recycle pick-up by not abiding by the dates that recycle material can be dropped off and by not properly using the bags provided for recycling. The result is recycling material that is on the resident's property for longer than necessary and potentially blowing around and needing to be picked up. The clerk has sent letters to the offending residents in the past, but it only fixes the problem temporarily. The board will have the clerk follow up with Arrowwaste to discuss other options for picking up the recycling like a dumpster or driving through the private drive.
8. **Public Comment:** David Young asked the board to comment on rumors that Leighton Township is pulling out of the Wayland Area Emergency Medical Services. The board responded that Leighton Township approved the subsidy payment to WAEMS in April of 2023 and has no intention to leave the service at this time.

9. Unfinished Business:

- A. Township Paving/Additional Parking meeting was June 7:** Waiting to hear an update from Brandon.
- B. Potholes in Driveway:** Repairs were completed on 8/30/23
- C. Township Lakeside Park - Deers:** Steve and Becky Deer have been caring for the custodial needs at the township park on Green Lake next to their home. The Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer will create a job description and agreement to ensure that they are being compensated regularly and fairly.
- D. Township Generator Update:** The generator is ready to be installed.

Treasurer Bultsma arrived at the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

10. New Business:

- A. Farm Land Preservation Program PA116:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Hooker to approve the PA116 Farmland Preservation Program Applications for parcel nos: 13-026-006-00, 13-026-007-00, 13-035-002-00, 13-206-001-10, 13-026-007-10, 13-034-013-00, 13-034-015-01, 13-034-016-00. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Fennema, Bonnema, Wolbrink, Bultsma, Hooker; Nays: None. Motion carried.
- B. Bills:** Motion by Hooker, support by Fennema to approve current listed bills in the amount of \$504,289.30. All members voted yes; motion carried.

11. Public Comment: None.

12. Motion by Hooker, support by Fennema to adjourn. **Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Fennema

Leighton Township Clerk