

Leighton Township Board

Regular Meeting

October 12, 2023

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Supervisor Wolbrink at 7:04 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:** Present: Fennema, Wolbrink, Hooker, Bonnema, Bultsma
4. **Minutes:** Motion by Hooker, support by Bonnema to approve the minutes from September 14, 2023. All members voted yes; motion carried.
5. **Agenda:** Motion by Fennema, support by Bonnema 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 39 calls in September, 348 YTD. Mentioned public events and trainings that occurred in September. Gave details on a grant for equipment that was received recently.
 - C. **Deputy's Report:** New Leighton Township Deputy Steven Damveld introduced himself to the board and attendees.
 - D. **Drain Commission Report:** n/a.
 - E. **Planning Commission Report:** Trustee Hooker reported that Planning Commission discussed revisions to the Master Plan and granted two special use requests.
 - F. **Board of Appeals Report:** Meeting for tonight cancelled. Application withdrew request.
 - G. **Building Inspector's Report:** 5 permits issued last month bringing the year-to-date total to 33, with an average cost of \$368,021.00.
 - H. **Library Report:** Faith Miedema reported on library activities during the month of September.
 - I. **Green Lake Sewer Report:** n/a.
7. **Correspondence:** none.
8. **Public Comment:** Bob Genetski, Allegan County Clerk, gave an update from the County Clerk's office.
9. **Unfinished Business:**
 - A. **Recycling:** Clerk Fennema detailed the reply from Arrowaste about the inability of their recycle truck to fit down 147th, Bayview Ct. and 5th St. Board discussed other options, including having a recycle dumpster located at town hall for the residents of these roads. Decided to start with a quarterly newsletter reminder of the agreement and instructions attached to the bags we give out to those residents.
 - B. **Township Paving/Additional Parking meeting was June 7:** Steve reached out to Brandon, should be getting an update soon.
 - 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.
 - E. **Ball Park Survey:** Supervisor Wolbrink will reach out to the survey company for an update. There were inconsistencies with some of the property lines.
10. **New Business:**

- A. Snow Removal Bids:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Hooker to approve the bids from Potts Landscaping for snow removal at the Library/Town Hall, Moline Fire Station and Green Lake Fire Station. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Walinga USA, Inc. Industrial Development District:**
 - Motion by Bultsma, support by Bonnema to open the Public Hearing for Walinga USA, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Clerk Fennema read the public notice.
 - Walinga USA, Inc. presented their plan to add a \$36,000 sq. ft. addition to the facility increasing production and the need for additional employees.
 - Public Comment heard from Steve Shoemaker.
 - Motion by Wolbrink, support by Hooker to close the public hearing. Motion carried.
 - Motion by Fennema, support by Wolbrink to approve Resolution #2023-10-12 to establish and Industrial Development District (WALINGA USA IDD#1). Roll call vote: Ayes: Bonnema, Fennema, Wolbrink, Hooker, Bultsma; Nays: None. Motion carried.
- C. Farm Land Preservation Program PA116:** Motion by Hooker, support by Bultsma to approve the PA116 Farmland Preservation Program Applications for parcel nos: 13-034-005-02, 13-035-001-00, 13-027-012-00, 13-027-010-00, 13-034-022-00, 13-034-024-00. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Early Voting Plan:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Wolbrink to approve Resolution No. 2023-10-13 establishing an early voting polling location in Leighton Township for State and Federal Elections. Roll call vote: Ayes: Bonnema, Fennema, Wolbrink, Hooker, Bultsma; Nays: None. Motion carried.
- E. Township Insurance Renewal:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Bonnema to approve quote from EMC insurance for 11/01/2023-10/31/2024. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Patrol hours for Township Deputy:** Supervisor Wolbrink proposed changing the current hours of 3 p.m. – 3 a.m. to coincide with school dismissal hours. The board discussed pros and cons to the idea. Dorr Township shares the deputy so they will be asked for an opinion as well.
- G. Bills:** Motion by Bultsma, support by Hooker to approve current listed bills in the amount of \$144,413.24. All members voted yes; motion carried.

11. Public Comment: Heard from Fern O’beshaw regarding Deputy hours.

12. Motion by Hooker, support by Fennema to adjourn. **Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Fennema
Leighton Township Clerk