

Leighton Township Board

Regular Meeting

April 11, 2024

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Supervisor Wolbrink at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:** Present: Bonnema, Wolbrink, Fennema, Hooker; Absent with notice: Bultsma
4. **Minutes:** Motion by Hooker, support by Wolbrink to approve the meeting minutes from March 14, 2024 with correction. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Agenda:** Motion by Fennema, support by Bonnema to approve the meeting agenda with amendment to reflect that there will be no public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.
6. **Reports & Correspondence:**
 - A. **County Commissioner's Report:** n/a
 - B. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Weston reported 41 calls in March. Mentioned grant for SCBA refill station that was applied for, department purchased used Suburban to be used for St. 1 Squad.
 - C. **Deputy's Report:** Deputy reported 75 calls for March.
 - D. **Drain Commission Report:** n/a
 - E. **Planning Commission Report:** Worked on the Master Plan update.
 - F. **Board of Appeals Report:** Next meeting scheduled for 5/2/24.
 - G. **Building Inspector's Report:** 8 permits issued last month bringing the year-to-date total to 18; average cost: \$350,207.00.
 - H. **Library Report:** Faith reported on Library activities in March.
 - I. **Green Lake Sewer Report:** n/a.
7. **Correspondence:** None.
8. **Public Comment:** Heard from Mike Villar, candidate for Allegan County Prosecutor and from Emily Jipp and Elizabeth Peterson who are both running for 48th Circuit Court Judge.
9. **New Business:**
 - A. **Myrene Koch:** Incumbent candidate running for Allegan County Prosecutor.
 - B. **Frank Baker:** Incumbent candidate running for Allegan County Sheriff. Sheriff Baker recognized Deputy Damveld for a recent heroic incident.
 - C. **Public Comment for Galloway Landings PUD Request:** Heard public comment from J. Zylstra, S. VanderMeer, R. Clement, and K. Sheltema regarding their opposition to the Galloway Landings PUD. **Treasurer Bultsma joined the meeting at 7:45 p.m.**
 - D. **Change of May meeting date:** Motion by Hooker, support by Fennema to reschedule the May regular meeting from May 9 to May 2 at 7 p.m. and to include the Galloway Landings PUD request Public Hearing. Roll call vote: Ayes: Bonnema, Bultsma, Fennema, Hooker, Wolbrink; Nays: None. Motion Carried.
 - E. **Gravel 139th from 9th to 2nd St:** Allegan County Road Commission recommends new gravel on 139th Ave between 9th and 2nd streets at an estimated cost of \$90,000. Board discussed that this is an additional expense that was not budgeted for. Supervisor Wolbrink will check on cost estimates for doing part of the project this year and part next year. Tabled until there is more information.
 - F. **Millage review and discussion:** The road millage and public safety millage are both due for renewal; the board discussed growth and upcoming needs regarding both millages and what is budgeted yearly from the general fund for both funds. The increase in population was discussed and input was had from Fire Chief Matt Weston and Deputy Stephen Damveld. Motion by Hooker, support by Fennema to renew the current millage for roads and request an increase of 1 mill for roads. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bonnema, support by Wolbrink to renew the current millages for ~~roads~~ public safety and request an increase of ~~±~~ .5 mill for ~~roads~~ public safety. Motion carried

unanimously. Clerk Fennema will work with attorney to have resolution with ballot wording available at next meeting.

- G. Bills:** Motion by Hooker support by Bonnema to approve current listed bills in the amount of \$113,288.13. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Unfinished Business:

- A. Township Paving/Additional Parking meeting was June 7, update rec'd 4/2:** Discussion regarding capital improvement. Parking lot decision tabled.

- B. Laura Johnson Request:** Board discussed Laura's previously paid application fee that was later deemed an unnecessary step in the process. Since she was guided to apply in this way and pay the fee by our zoning administrator, she has requested a refund. Motion by Fennema, support by Hooker to give Ms. Johnson half of the application fee back. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Public Comment: None.

- 12.** Motion by Hooker, support by Fennema to adjourn. **Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Fennema

Leighton Township Clerk