

Hope Township Board Meeting  
Hope Township Hall  
September 13, 2022  
7:00 pm

**Board Members present**

Rita Goul, Supervisor  
Carol Coyle, Clerk  
Starleen Eddy, Treasurer  
Mary Letts, Trustee  
Daniel Mieske, Trustee

**Visitors:**

*List with Clerk's copy*

**TOWNSHIP MEETING CALL TO ORDER:**

Township meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Supervisor, Rita Goul.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** Dave Rothman from the FLTF presented an update on the progress of repairing the dams and restoring the lakes. Please see the FLTF website for complete details. Bill G. Schuette was present and introduced himself as a candidate for State Representative. Bill gave a synopsis of his background and why he is running for office. Residents from Curtis Road (4 families) were present and asked for an update on the burned house on Curtis Road. Supervisor Goul reported the Township has been in contact with Midland County and the owner has until December to clean up the property before the Township can step in and clean it up. One resident questioned if there could be an extension granted and Supervisor Goul said no. Resident Lori Childs asked if there could be money to have the carpet in the Township Hall professionally cleaned. A motion by Dan and supported by Mary to approve up to \$500.00 to get the carpets cleaned. Roll call vote, Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, Rita YES. Motion carried. No other business from the floor.

**Roll call of the Board Members:** Dan Mieske Present, Mary Letts Present, Starleen Eddy Present, Carol Coyle Present, Rita Goul Present. Quorum-Yes

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda with two additions under new business by Mary and supported by Starleen. All in Favor 5 Opposed 0 Motion Carried

**SUPERVISORS COMMENTS:** Sidewalk along the hall has been completed. The dirt has been delivered and the new grass seed has been planted. Thank you to Dennis Goul for doing this work. In addition, Dennis has been coming to be sure to keep the area watered. There was an outdoor faucet installed at the back of the hall. In addition, the main water shutoff is located inside the Township Hall. The parking lot project has been completed. There will be a charge next year to put a sealant on the pavement. After that, there will be a need to have this done every 3-5 years. Looking for snow removal companies to submit bids for the 2022-23 winter season.

**CLERK'S MINUTES:** The Board packets were distributed to all board members on Monday, September 12, 2022. Motion to approve the minutes as written by Rita and supported by Starleen.

In Favor 5 Opposed 0 Motion to accept Clerk's minutes --carried.

Special thanks to Dennis for doing the landscape work and donating not only his time, but the plantings, mulch, and edging. There was a call from a resident about damage to a foundation in the New Hope Cemetery. The resident said this was first reported in 2020 right after the damage was done. This has not been fixed, so the Clerk asked for funds to fix/replace this foundation. The cost will be \$302.40. The insurance deductible is \$500.00 so the money would need to come from the General Fund. Motion by Rita and seconded by Dan to replace the foundation. *Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen, YES, Carol YES Rita, YES.* **Motion carried.** Work on the cemetery is approaching completion. At this time, a copy of the people buried in both cemeteries was given to Floyd Andrick to get posted at the cemeteries. There is still work to be done, but at least, there is some information available. In addition, the list

Hope Township Board Meeting  
Hope Township Hall  
September 13, 2022  
7:00 pm

of lot owners has been updated and new map available. This was done with the help of Wilbur Havens. The 2021-22 budget year audit is in process. The new playground equipment has been added to the insurance policy.

#### **TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Treasurer's financial report was presented with the ending bank balances as of August 31, 2022. Taxes are coming in. The last day to pay is tomorrow, September 14<sup>th</sup>. The office will be open from 9:00-5:00 and snacks will be provided. There were 2 point and pays for August.

Motion by Rita and seconded by Mary to **accept and file the Treasurers report as presented.**

*Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. **MOTION CARRIED.***

#### **ARPA update:**

Slide repair at the Park has been completed. The ship has come in at the Park. The payment was from the Michigan Baseball Grant and the balance from the ARPA funds. The parking lot has been completed and payment to Yeager Asphalt has been done. Waiting for the windows to be installed. A down payment has been sent to ~~Laurent~~ **Laurence** Smith. ~~Laurent~~ **Laurence** Smith will take care of any minor damage around the windows when installing the new windows. If there is major damage, then a contractor will need to be called. A thank you from Starleen to the ARPA committee for allowing the purchase of the BS & A tax cloud program to be implemented. The training has taken place and the program is "amazing in everything it does." Waiting for the invoice from Coggins for the installation of the sidewalk and dirt out front of the Township Hall. To date, once the windows are installed, all the programs the ARPA committee has approved, will be completed. The next ARPA committee meeting is September 28, 2022.

Starleen asked to have an item tabled at the August meeting, to be discussed. She had requested a one-time stipend of \$1200.00 to be paid to the Deputy Treasurer. After discussion, the following motion was made. Move to pay the Deputy Treasurer a one-time payment of \$1200.00 by Carol and supported by Starleen.

*Roll Call Vote: Dan NO, Mary, NO, Starleen YES, Carol NO, Rita, NO. **MOTION FAILED.***

#### **OUTSTANDING BILLS:**

The bills from the General Fund, Park Fund, Fire Fund, and Solid Waste fund were distributed earlier. Motion to approve payment of the bills by Mary and supported by Dan.

*Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES. **MOTION CARRIED.***

The Board members had been given the Expense/Budget report. Supervisor Goul reminded everyone to look at the report to stay on track with expenditures.

Reconciliation on all accounts had been completed. Outstanding checks from June and July for Park refunds were noted. Also, one paycheck from the Fire Dept still outstanding and Brian will follow up with that person.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Brian Solomon reported things are quiet for now at the Fire Department. October is Fire Prevention month with a reminder for everyone to check their smoke/fire detectors in their home. The lifespan of all detectors is 10 years. Staffing is doing ok and still looking for more volunteers.

**PARK COMMISSION:** David Yahr reported the new ship has arrived at the Park. It will need to be stained every year for upkeep and David will be sure to budget that next year. David had a zoom call with a playground safe

Hope Township Board Meeting  
Hope Township Hall  
September 13, 2022  
7:00 pm

surface company and will revisit in the spring. Update on Disc Golf: Trees to be cut by the end of this month. There has been one bench purchased. Trunk-n-Treat will be Saturday, ~~September~~ **October** 29<sup>th</sup> from 2-4. There was a situation where BB or Pellet gun(s) were used inside the Park. David is reviewing the tape to see what/when that may have happened. The Park now has their own Facebook Page.

**PLANNING:** Wendy Faber stated the 5-year plan is almost complete. A question about restoring the road end of 5 mile for access to the lake. Nothing will be done until the lake is returned. Asking if the Park has thought about putting in Pickle Ball Courts. This is a popular sport that all ages would enjoy.

**CHAPEL/CEMETERY:** Floyd Andrick thanked Carol Coyle for all the work getting the cemetery records updated. The records have not been addressed for several years. The new records will be posted at the New Hope Cemetery. The records for the Old Hope Cemetery will be printed and put in the display case that Floyd has fixed. September 16<sup>th</sup>, Floyd will be presenting "The History of Hope" at the North Midland Community Center as a fund raiser for Mills Township. The cost is \$10.00, and lunch is included. Call 989-633-3788 for reservations. Floyd and Carol will evaluate removing the carpet in the restroom at the Chapel. Bids will be obtained before doing any work. The "Jolly Hammers and Strings" may be performing live music on Saturday afternoons in November through April. Details to follow. The Civil War Cemetery Tour of Old Hope Cemetery will take place on September 24th. There will be a great grandson of one the Veterans present that day. Call 989-631-8250 for reservations for this great event. A resident asked to have the information of burials on the website. Carol will check into the possibility of providing this service. Floyd shared a compliment from a police officer on how nice the Cemetery and Park look.

**TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY:** Dan was present and stated one mechanical permit. Next meeting is September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**WIXOM LAKE ASSOCIATION-** Bob Kelley reported spraying to begin on test plots for effectiveness on the growth on the lake beds.

**ROAD ADVISORY COMMISSION:** The roads scheduled to be repaired this year have been completed. A list of repairs for next year is in the works. The ditches are being sprayed and will be cleaned this winter. The next meeting is January 5, 2023.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The potential for changing the IT support still in the works.

**NEW BUSINESS-** Resolution no. 2023-1 was presented by Starleen.. Motion by Rita and supported by Mary to adopt the resolution. *Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES.* **MOTION CARRIED.** Starleen requested the approval to purchase a new printer for the office. Carol stated there is \$500.00 in the Treasurers budget for the purchase. Motion by Rita and supported by Dan to approve the purchase.

*Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES and Rita YES.* **MOTION CARRIED.** There will be a Craft/Vendor fair at the hall on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 10-4. A food truck will be on site. Volunteers are needed for raising the pins at the cemetery. The work will be done on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00. Please bring a shovel and be ready to help. Motion to adjourn by Rita and supported by Mary. *All in favor 5 Opposed 0.* Adjourned at 8:58pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Coyle