Rita Goul, Supervisor

Carol Coyle, Clerk

Wendy Faber, Trustee

Daniel Mieske, Trustee

Chuck Hudler, Treasurer

**Visitors:** *List with Clerk’s copy*

**TOWNSHIP MEETING CALL TO ORDER:**

Township meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Supervisor, Rita Goul.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:** Dan Mieske Present, Wendy Faber, Present, Chuck Hudler, Present, Rita Goul, Present, Carol Coyle, Present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda, with two additions, was made by Rita and supported by Carol. No additional discussion. All in favor 5, Opposed 0. Motion carried

**SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS:**

1. January Birthdays – No January birthdays were reported.
2. Blight Update – Rita stated the court date has been set for February 3rd, 2025 at 3:30 pm for the blight case on Stark Rd.

**CLERK’S MINUTES:** The Board packets were distributed to all board members on Monday, January, 13th, 2025. A motion to approve the minutes from the December Board meeting with one correction, was made by Rita and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. All in favor 5 Opposed 0. Motion carried.

**TREASURER’S FINANCIAL REPORT:**

1. Treasurer’s Report – Chuck presented the Treasurer’s report as of December 31st, 2024. The ending balances were reconciled to the Bank Statements and reviewed by Rita. It was noted the one outstanding tax check was cleared on January 7th. Chuck noted a transfer of money from the Park Fund to Michigan CLASS was made to capture a better interest rate. In addition, money from the General Fund was also moved to Michigan CLASS. A motion to **accept and file the Treasurer’s report** was made by Rita and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy* **YES**, *Chuck*, **YES,** *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. Motion carried.
2. Tax Update – Winter taxes are being paid. Corelogic and Lereta have made the tax payments on approximately 170-180 parcels. Disbursements are being made to appropriate entities.
3. Point-n-Pay – There were 6 Point-n-Pay for December. There has been a slight increase in the number of taxes being paid by credit card. Chuck will be working with BS&A to set up the credit card module through BS&A.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:**

1. Payment of Bills - In the Board packet was a copy of the bills from the General Fund, Fire Fund, Road Fund, Tax Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Water Fund and Lakeshore Fund. Carol noted 4 additional bills for approval. One to Orkin in the amount of $146.00 for the quarterly service. One to Midland Daily News in the amount of $152.00 for the Board of Review notice. One to Valley Electric for a ground fault replacement at the Park. Those three were from the Pooled Account. The last one was to Lois Devericks for November and December in the amount of $100.00 from the Fire Fund. A motion to pay the bills was made by Rita and supported by Chuck. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy* **YES**, *Chuck*, **YES,** *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. Motion carried.
2. Budget vs. Expense report was provided to all members. The budget was reviewed with recommended changes noted. (A copy is on file in the Clerk’s office). Resolution 2025-1-14 was read aloud, a motion to amend the budget, with the recommended changes, was made by Rita and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Wendy asked what the Swampland Tax was? Chuck explained the State pays us for the wetlands in our township. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. Motion carried.
3. Payroll Summary and Liability reports were provided. No questions from the Board.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Brian Solomon reported the total calls for 2024 were 147. There were 12 calls in December. There were 7 Medical, 2 Wire Down, 2 Car Accidents with Injury and 1 Stand-by assist. The Gerstacker Foundation has pledged to give the Fire Department $300,000.00 in funds for the new Fire Hall. Brian thanked Rita for all her hard work and efforts working on the grants. At this time, there are 16-17 people on the Fire Department. Brian would like to get more people on the department. Brian wanted to thank the residents for zero grass fires last year.

**PARK COMMISSION**: The Park is currently closed. The propane tank was switched successfully with the assistance of Bob Kelley. Veterans Alarm Company will be coming out on January 20th, to go over the camera system at the Park. Amy Ginter is hoping to get ideas on ways to better monitor the activity at the Park. Carol brought up the passing of Doug Shoffner and the years of service he gave the Park. Prayers to his family.

**PLANNING:** Nothing new to announce. The next meeting will be March 5th at 6:00 pm.

**CHAPEL/CEMETERY:** Floyd shared the propane tank has been changed out and Dan made sure the furnace was running.

**TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY:** There were 4 Electrical permits, 2 Plumbing permits, and 4 Mechanical permits. Next meeting will be January 23, 2025. Brian had some questions for Dan to take to the next TCA meeting.

**WIXOM LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD:**  Bob Kelley reported the next meeting will be January 16th, 6:00pm at the Billings Township Hall.

**ROAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** The last meeting was held on January 9th, at 6:00 pm. The roads the committee recommended will be discussed under New Business. Kenny Bradfield asked if there was any possibility of turning the Commercially Zoned corridor into a Class A Road. Rita explained the cost would be on the business owners to do that conversion.

**UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:** The Deficit Elimination Plan was submitted on time. All the propane tanks have been switched over and one refund check for the Township Hall has been received. Once the regulators are picked up from the Fire Department, the refund should be sent out. There should also be a refund for the Chapel. Stanford Oil has been contacted to pick up the tank at the Park.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Mileage Rate Increase – Carol – The new rate for 2025 was increased to $.70/mile. A motion to accept the new rate was made by Rita and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. Motion carried.
2. B and B Salvage – Rita – Kenny Bradfield had requested an additional service be added to his current license. He would like to sell trailers under his salvage license. Dan asked if everything will be stored so traffic vision will not be blocked. A motion to approve the license change was made by Chuck and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. All in favor 5, Opposed 0. Motion carried.
3. New Laptop for Supervisor – Rita asked to purchase a new laptop to replace her desktop. A motion to approve up to $3,500.00 for the laptop, was made by Chuck and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. Motion carried.
4. W-2’s –Carol mentioned W-2’s are ready and will be mailed out to those not in the audience. The 1099’s will be available soon.
5. Cemetery Trash Dumping – Carol brought up about the dumping of trash that was done on the north side of the cemetery about 100 feet from the dumpster. There were names on the boxes and the sheriff’s office was called. A report has been filed and waiting to hear back from the officer on the status of the report.
6. Road Update – The Road Committee submitted proposals for 8 roads to be fixed. *Proposal 1* is to Chip and Fogseal the following roads. **Baker Rd.** from Stark to Dublin – 1 mile. **Hull Rd.** from Hope Rd to 5 Mile Rd. – 0.5 mile – **5 Mile Rd** from Hull Rd to Shaffer – 0.5 mile. Estimate Total is $69,440.00. Motion to approve was made by Chuck and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. *Proposal 2* – **Stark Rd.** from Baker Rd. North – 0.65 miles – Gravel with estimated cost of $53,844.37. Motion to approve was made by Rita and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. *Proposal 3 –* **Curtis Rd.** from Meridian Rd to 5 Mile – 1.0 mile – Chip and Fogseal - Estimated cost of $36,373.33. Motion to approve was made by Chuck and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. *Proposal 4* – **5 Mile Rd.** from Saiko Rd south ½ mile – Crushed Limestone with an estimated cost of $25,625.26. Also noted was the drain will be fixed prior to the work being done. Motion to approve was made by Rita and supported by Wendy. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. *Proposal 5 –* **Curtis Rd.** from 5 Mile to Hope Rd – 0.5 mile – 2” of gravel – Estimated cost is $21,285.26. Motion to approve was made by Rita and supported by Chuck. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. *Proposal 6* – **Curtis Rd.** from Hope Rd to Middle Rd.- 0.5 mile – Gravel 5” with an estimated cost of $51,033.52. Motion to approve was made by Rita and supported by Dan. No additional discussion. Roll Call: *Dan*, **YES**, *Wendy*, **YES**, C*huck*, **YES**, *Carol,* **YES**, and *Rita*, **YES**. Rita brought up a letter that was received from Art Buck of the MCRC. Mr. Buck wants to know how to handle the seasonal road portion of Hull Rd. After discussion, it was decided for Rita to reach out to Art Buck and let him know that according to state law, it is the responsibility of the MCRC to maintain the seasonal road during the months of April-October. Carol suggested to have the proper signs put back up on that part of the road to deter traffic from attempting to drive down that road.
7. Park Vacancies – Rita addressed the audience concerning the three vacant seats on the Woodside Park Commission. The election law information came from the Township Attorney and MTA. Three members of the Commission did not take the Oath of Office by January 1st, 2025. Therefore, those seats are vacated and those positions are appointed by the Township Board. A ‘notice of vacancy’ was provided by the attorney. In addition, an ‘application for the vacancy’ was provided. Rita stressed the fact that all applications must be received in time and the Board will make the appointments at the February meeting. The people appointed to the Park will have to take the Oath of Office by February 15th, 2025 or that position will be vacated and re-appointed. The Board reviewed the notice and application. There were questions/comments from the floor that were addressed. A motion was made to accept what the attorney provided was made by Rita and supported by Chuck. No additional discussion. All in favor 5 Opposed 0. Motion carried. Applications were available at the end of the meeting. Carol will post the notice of vacancy on Facebook. In addition, the notice and application will be posted on the Township website. *Please go to hopetwp.org to view the notice and application*

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** None

1. Motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm was made by Rita and supported by Chuck. No additional discussion. All in favor 5, Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 7:15 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Carol Coyle, Clerk