

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
IRA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MAY 1, 2023**

The Ira Township Board of Trustees met in the Ira Township Fire Hall located at 7065 Meldrum Road, Fair Haven, Michigan 48023 on May 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Board members present: James Endres Jr., Thomas Eder, Thomas Lauer, Stella Ruhlman and Jean Corbat.

Board members absent: None

MINUTES:

T. Lauer moved to approve the minutes of the 4/3/2023 regular and 4/12/23 special meetings, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PUBLIC HEARING: *Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Project Plan*

Public Hearing called to order by J. Endres Jr. at 7:01 p.m.

The purpose of this public hearing is to review the proposed 2024 Sanitary Sewer Improvements project for the purpose of receiving comments from interested persons. The purpose of the proposed project is lining aging sanitary pipes to repair cracks, breaks and encrustation.

Lara F. Beyer outlined the scope of the project as follows:

Project construction will involve:

- Lining 10,307 ft of existing sewer with a non-woven felt fabric using the CIPP method.
- Point repair of 135 linear feet (27 points at 5 feet/joint) using the same material and method of the pipe lining;
- Tap lining of 146 taps using the same material and method of the pipe lining.
- Placement of 200 lateral clean outs for residents without them in the lining areas.
- Incidentals to the above is pipe cleaning and TV-ing the pipes pre and post lining. Another portion of the project is to inspect 15,000 linear feet of sanitary sewer pipe, this will consist of the following activities:
 - Vactor jet and clean 15,000 lf of pipe.
 - Video and code by MASSCO standards of 15,000 lf of pipe,

Ms. Beyer advised that the Township will be applying for a loan in the amount of \$3,249,189.00 from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) for this project. EGLE will review the application and supporting documents and depending on how the Township scores will determine whether the Township receives the loan. The estimated cost to users for the proposed project will be paid by proposed sewer rate increases over the 20-year loan period.

Public was present at the public hearing. Dan Saoud asked who will be responsible for repayment of the loan and he was advised that the loan would be paid by the service line users. No other comments were made and T. Lauer moved to close the public hearing at 7:10 p.m., supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

RES 23-05-01 Adopting a Final Project Plan for Wastewater System Improvements

T. Lauer moved to adopt Resolution 23-05-01 Adopting a Final Project Plan for Wastewater System Improvements, supported by S. Ruhlman.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: James Endres Jr., Thomas Eder, Thomas Lauer, Stella Ruhlman and Jean Corbat

Nays: None **MOTION CARRIED RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

St. Clair County Council on Aging

T. Eder moved to appropriate \$1,500.00 to the St. Clair County Council on Aging for the Washington Life Center to help defray the costs of serving the senior citizens of Ira, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Application RE: Temporary Uses - Special Events for Immaculate Conception Festival

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the Temporary Uses - Special Events Permit for Immaculate Conception Family & Friends Summer Festival to be held July 15, 2023, to refund the \$50 application fee, to grant the Fire Chief's request to participate with personnel and fire trucks at the event and to recommend that a request be made to the Clay Township Police Department for their presence at the event during the hours requested by the applicant, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Clay Police - Monthly Additional Charges

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the additional monthly charge of \$1,672.00 from the Clay Township Police Department, for additional services rendered during the month of April 2023, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Rosow Split/Combination (Vacant 74-23-012-1001-000 and 1002-000)

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the lot split/combination for parcels #74-23-012-1001-000 and 74-23-012-1002-000 as presented, which split/combination has been reviewed by the Township Assessor and St. Clair County, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Request to Waive Lateral Line Charges (Dixie Highway and Wagner Lane Vacant Lots (74-23-640-0109-020 and 74-23-640-0109-010)

T. Lauer moved to table this matter for additional information and review by the Township attorney, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Participation in Memorial Day Parade

S. Ruhlman moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and authorize the Fire Department to participate in the City of New Baltimore's Memorial Day Parade, with personnel and fire trucks, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

New Firefighter

T. Lauer moved to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and accept the application of Heather Turvaville to join the Fire Department as a paid-on-call firefighter, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Engineering Services for CWSRF Application with Clay Township

S. Ruhlman moved to approve the allocation of \$15,235.50 to Project Control Engineering, Inc., for final engineering and loan/grant application fees relative to the sewer interceptor CWSRF Loan Project, supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None

MOTION CARRIED

McBride - Manley Audit Engagement Letter

T. Lauer moved to approve the audit engagement letter from McBride - Manley, in the amount of \$37,799.00, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, supported by S. Ruhlman.

All voting yes. Opposing: None

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS:

Police Run Report- April 2023

Building Department Permits - April 2023

Code Enforcement - April 2023

DPS Superintendent - April 2023

- Starting spring maintenance;
- Six (6) staff members going to written exams;
- Update on Waste Water Treatment Authority meeting;
- Update on installation of signs for Library and Fire Department;
- Update on Township's annual tire collection and clean-up scheduled June 10-11, 2023; event to now include collection of paint and other household hazardous waste;

Parks & Rec Director's Reports - April 2023

- Spark Grant opened today;
- Trail clean-up scheduled this weekend; Cortis Brothers to assist; everyone welcome bring your chainsaw;
- Update on ceremony to be held at the Veterans Memorial on May 27, 2023;

Fire Chief's Report - April 2023

- 70 fire calls in April; up on calls and on pace with last year's numbers;
- The new fire truck is here;
- Thank you to the Board for supporting the Fire Department;

Supervisor:

- Award Recognition Ceremony was held on April 20, 2023; great event with seven recipients receiving the award;
- Waste Water Treatment Authority is progressing; Algonac, Clay and Ira are applying for a \$40,000.00 grant for a study on the condition of the plant;
- Attending Bridge to Bay Trail meeting this week with the Parks & Recs Director;
- Received a favorable letter from Senator Gary Peters regarding infrastructure improvements along 26 Mile Road; Meeting has been scheduled with Senator Hertel in Lansing to discuss the corridor project;

Clerk:

- Update on Algonac Community Schools Special Election to be held on May 2, 2023;

Treasurer:

- Bank Balances as of April 27, 2023;
- Water / Sewer Adjustments - April 2023;
- Revenue sharing check received in the amount of \$79,472.00 down slightly from projected amount;

Trustee Eder:

- Important election tomorrow for the Algonac Community Schools get out there and vote;

DISBURSEMENTS:

S. Ruhlman moved to pay the following disbursements totaling \$180,027.16 and supported by T. Eder.

All voting yes. Opposing: None

MOTION CARRIED

Reg	
Fund 101 General Government	\$61,147.94
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$48,630.82
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$69,846.10
ACH	
Fund 101 General Government	\$341.05
Fund 206 Fire Fund	\$8.75
Fund 592 Water / Sewer Fund	\$52.50
Total for All Funds	\$180,027.16

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gary Moscone (7780 Wagner Lane) addressed the Board for an update on the special assessment district to pave Wagner Lane, a private road, and status of replacement of the existing watermain. Mr. Moscone advised that the plat map does not reflect where the roadway (Wagner Lane) really is and it is likely that the Township has no easements for the utilities. Mr. Moscone requested that the Board proceed with the projects.

Dan Saoud (8605 Marine City Highway) inquired on the Board's stance regarding the County's proposed 26 Mile Road Corridor project.

John Casaceli (7736 Wagner Lane) did not see the reason or need to pave Wagner Lane right now; he needs to know the total cost of the improvement so residents on the road are provided with an accurate figure for the project; he is in favor of continued grading versus paving.

Marty Ullicny (9571 Marine City Highway) MGM Containers thanked the supervisor for the lunch and Recognition Award.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss J. Endres Jr. moved, with the support of T. Eder, to close the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Corbat, Clerk