

Minutes
Eagle Township Board Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2024
Eagle Twp. Hall - 14318 Michigan Street, Eagle, MI 48822

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Stroud at 6:00 pm - Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Present:** Trustee Dennis Strahle, Supervisor Troy Stroud, Clerk Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer Chelsea Hoppes, Trustee Michelle Hoppes
3. **Others Present:** Chris Khorey, McKenna Associates; John Clark, Chairperson Looking Glass Regional Fire Authority; Dave Pohl, Clinton County Commissioner
4. **Citizens:** Dan and Cori Feldpausch, Ann and Tim Kirschke, Emily Dyer, Carolyn J. Donaldson, Brittanie Davis, Judy Sena, Rob Gross, Linn Romanik, Jan M. Seeger, Rob Currie, John Iszler, Darrin Gray, David VanderBroek, Nikki Selleck, D. Renee Dankenbring, Brad Rich, Wendell G. Dankenbring, Janine Dyer, Judy Bronsen, Phil Lynwood, Diane Schulte, San Juanita Lira.
5. **Consent Agenda:** Motion by Trustee Strahle supported by Clerk Briggs-Dudley to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.
6. **Agenda Approval:** Motion by Trustee Strahle supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.
7. **Commissioner Report:** Clinton County Commissioner Dave Pohl reported that the Board of Commissioners (BOC) approved 2-year contracts with Waste Management for clean community events. The Spring Event will be held May 4, 2024, at the 4-H Fairgrounds. The BOC approved updated policy amendments including courthouse access and purchasing policy. An update was given on building a new jail west of the existing jail vs to the north and possibly converting the old jail to a juvenile detention facility. Updating the heat tapes in the sidewalks at the Courthouse entrances was approved to proceed. The BOC approved engaging Maner Costerisan to provide accounting assistance to the County Treasurer. The County is still working on the Wind and Solar ordinances.
8. **LGRFA Report:** John Clark, Chairperson Looking Glass Regional Fire Authority, reported that the 2023 year-end unaudited financial reports show that the LGRFA is under budget by approximately \$20,000 operations budget and \$10,000 capital budget. Some 2023 maintenance was not completed in 2023 which contributed to being under budget. The ambulance is on schedule to arrive in April. The fire station is staffed 24/7 by 2 people. If an additional vehicle is required, it is dispatched from Delta Fire or mutual aid. For the 2024 budget, insurance costs have increased because of increased insurance limits on building, equipment, and umbrella policy. Bids were taken for audit services which came in less than the original 2024 budgeted amount. John would like assistance to help apply for grants for the fire department. John suggested Eagle Township hold a joint meeting with Watertown Charter Township. The Board requested Troy contact Jennifer Tubbs at Watertown Charter Township to coordinate.

9. **Eagle Township Planning Commission Report:** Chairperson Rob Currie gave an update on the January 30, 2024, meeting of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission voted on positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. The PC made recommendations to the Eagle Township Board on the following: Interim Zoning Ordinance changes for non-conforming lots and mineral resource (MR) extraction, updates to the Land Division Ordinance to fill in missing information, a new moratorium resolution to restrict some zoning change requests through August 16, 2024. Rob is working on a budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Ninety-eight people who have taken the online survey. The Community Workshop will be held February 22, 2024, at the Eagle Park Reception Hall.
10. **Accounts Payable:** Motion by Clerk Briggs-Dudley supported by Trustee M. Hoppes to approve paying the bills as presented as well as all other regular monthly bills. Motion carried.
11. **Escrow Account for Zoning Applications:** Treasurer C. Hoppes and Clerk Briggs-Dudley will look at setting these up as there are two applicants that have been instructed to send escrow checks to the township.
12. **Township Insurance:** Trustee M. Hoppes updated the Board that our current insurance personal liability limit was increased to \$250,000 which includes defense. EMC is currently working on a quote to the township for insurance which will have more defense coverage.
13. **City Pulse Newspaper Box:** Motion by Trustee Strahle supported by Supervisor Stroud to not pursue placing a Lansing City Pulse newspaper box at the Township Hall at this time. Motion carried.
14. **Auditor:** Motion by Trustee M. Hoppes supported by Trustee Strahle to approve the base audit cost of \$6,300 for the 2024 audit. If the Board determines that they would like a verbal report of the audit, Siegfried and Crandall will be contacted to arrange this. Motion carried.
15. **Planning and Zoning Requests from January 30, 2024, Meeting – Fee Schedule:** Motion by Trustee M. Hoppes supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to approve the Escrow Fee Schedule from McKenna dated February 7, 2024, as recommended by the Planning Commission on January 30, 2024. Roll Call Yes Votes: Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee M. Hoppes, Trustee Strahle, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments: There was a lot of discussion at the Planning Commission meeting. Meeting attendees stated that the costs should be paid by the person wanting the request rather than all Eagle Township taxpayers. They want to keep taxes reasonable for Eagle Township residents.

16. **Planning and Zoning Requests from January 30, 2024, Meeting – Land Ordinance Amendment:** Motion by Trustee M. Hoppes supported by Supervisor Stroud to adopt Eagle Township Land Division Ordinance Amendment 01-2024, amending Land Ordinance 01-98, as recommended by the Planning Commission on January 30, 2024, with changes to Section 1: Item F to read: A fee in an amount approved by the Township Board to cover the costs of review of the application and administration of this Ordinance and the State Land Division Act; Section 2: Item A to read: All parcels created by the proposed division(s) have a minimum width of three-hundred and thirty (330) feet as measured at the road frontage unless otherwise provided for in an applicable zoning ordinance. Roll Call Yes Votes: Trustee Strahle, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee M. Hoppes, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Ordinance adopted.

17. **Planning and Zoning Requests from January 30, 2024, Meeting – Moratorium Resolution:** Motion by Trustee M. Hoppes supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to adopt Resolution 02-15-2024-05 Resolution Enacting a Moratorium on the Issuance of Certain Zoning Approvals to Allow the Eagle Township Planning Commission Time to Develop Permanent Zoning Standards as amended to include an additional moratorium on All zoning approvals on parcels that were not considered buildable under Clinton County Zoning Ordinance. Roll Call Yes Votes: Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee Strahle, Trustee M. Hoppes, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Resolution adopted.
18. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** Motion by Trustee M. Hoppes supported by Supervisor Stroud to pay the Zoning Board of Appeals members \$45 for each attended Eagle Township Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Payment to be made at the end of each calendar quarter from meeting attendance sheets submitted commencing with their first meeting in 2024 and to pay the Zoning Board of Appeals members serving as the meeting chairperson and secretary each an additional \$20/meeting for Eagle Township Board of Appeals meetings. Roll Call Yes Votes: Treasurer C. Hoppes, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee M. Hoppes, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Abstain: Trustee Strahle. Motion carried.
19. **Assessor Agreements – Employment and Reappraisal:** Motion by Treasurer C. Hoppes supported by Trustee Strahle to approve the Randy Jewell At-Will Employment Agreement for a 4-year term from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2028 with an annual salary of \$26,441.25 from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2026, and an annual salary of \$26,922.00 from April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2028. Roll Call Yes Votes: Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee Strahle, Trustee M. Hoppes, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Motion carried.
- Employment and Reappraisal agreements to be investigated for any IRS conflicts and re-visited at the March meeting.
20. **Salary Resolutions for FY 2024-2025:** Motion by Trustee Strahle supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to keep all salaries the same for fiscal year 2024-2025. Roll Call Yes Votes: Trustee Strahle, Trustee M. Hoppes, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Motion carried.
21. **Budget Amendment - EMS:** Motion by Treasurer C. Hoppes supported by Clerk Briggs-Dudley to make the following budget amendments:
- Transfer \$500 from 336 802 Service Contract Accumed to 336 801 EMS Legal Fees.
 - Transfer \$4500 from EMS Fund Balance to 336 803 Authority Operating Budget.
 - Transfer \$16,000 from EMS Fund Balance to 336 985 Authority Capital Outlay Budget.
- Motion carried.
22. **Investment Accounts:** Motion by Clerk Briggs-Dudley supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to approve the treasurer investing money in CDARs at Independent Bank to protect township funds in excess of FDIC insured amount and earn higher interest yet still pay the bills. Roll Call Yes Votes: Trustee M. Hoppes, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee Strahle, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Motion carried.

23. **Supervisor Laptop Repair:** Motion by Supervisor Stroud supported by Trustee Strahle to have the Supervisor's laptop repaired to access documents at a cost not to exceed \$1,500. Roll Call Yes Votes: Trustee Strahle, Trustee M. Hoppes, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Motion carried.

24. **CPA Firm:** Motion by Clerk Briggs-Dudley supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to approve the Maner Costerisan agreement for accounting and consulting services dated February 8, 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Stroud supported by Trustee Strahle for a budget amendment to move \$6,300 from 265 930 Twp Hall Repairs to 171 801 Professional Services for accounting assistance. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Stroud supported by Trustee Strahle to allow the Clerk and Treasurer to work with Maner Costerisan on issues as they see fit up to the budgeted amount of 171 801 Professional Services. Roll Call Yes Votes: Treasurer C. Hoppes, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee M. Hoppes, Trustee Strahle, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Motion carried.

25. **.gov domain:** Motion by Trustee M. Hoppes supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to update to a .gov domain with cost not to exceed \$500. Motion carried.

26. **ARPA Funds:** Discussion to investigate if the Township can change the commitment of ARPA funds.

27. **Town Hall basement evaluation:** Motion by Supervisor Stroud supported by Trustee Strahle to approve getting quotes to evaluate the basement of Eagle Township Hall and fixes up to \$5,500. Roll Call Yes Votes: Trustee Strahle, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee M. Hoppes, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Supervisor Stroud. No Votes: None. Motion carried.

28. **Laptop for Trustee M. Hoppes:** Motion by Trustee M. Hoppes supported by Trustee Strahle to approve purchase of a new laptop for Trustee M. Hoppes up to \$1,000. Motion carried.

29. **Gravel:** Motion by Trustee Strahle supported by Trustee M. Hoppes to commit to Clinton County a purchase of road gravel for \$29,000. Motion carried.

30. **Adjournment:** Motion by Trustee Strahle supported by Treasurer C. Hoppes to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 pm. Motion carried.

Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk