

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP
24725 Jefferson Center Street
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2024

Call to Order: Supervisor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Brunner-present, Bundle-present, Gillam-present, Hass-present, Mendenhall-absent.

Additional attendees: Ron Bellaire, Dallas Austin

Pledge to the flag: Led by Supervisor Hass

Correspondence: None

Public Comment:

Mr. Bellaire requested Supervisor Hass reconsider his decision to dismiss him as the township electrical inspector and to consider holding a Building Department meeting to discuss issues and see if a resolution can be reached. Mr. Bellaire asked if that decision could not be made tonight, that he would like to request a closed session of the entire Board of Trustees to vote to consider overturning Supervisor Hass's decision to dismiss.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Bundle, supported by Hass to approve the agenda with the addition of the following agenda items: Set a special meeting with a closed session to consider Mr. Bellaire's request and to consider approving the attendance of the MTA fall regional meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Gillam, supported by Bundle to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2024, BOT meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Moved by Brunner, supported by Bundle to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Payment of Bills: Moved by Bundle, supported by Gillam to approve the payment of bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Discussion of remaining ARPA funds. Ms. Brunner explained that the township had been allocated an additional \$539.07 in ARPA funds that needed to be spent by December. She presented the benefit of an additional EPB laptop to serve as a replacement for our existing laptop which can serve as a back-up in case the main laptop was to go down during an election. She asked if any board member had any other ideas and offered that the board could table until October. The board discussed and agreed this would be a good use of the funds. Moved by Brunner, supported by Hass. Motion approved unanimously.
2. Policy for BOT mileage reimbursement: Tabled

3. Policy for BOT Continuing Education and rate of pay for boards: Tabled
4. Clerk Brunner gave an election update for the August 6, 2024, Primary Election.

Inspectors Reports:

1. **Zoning/Code Enforcement:** Steve Allen, code enforcement officer, submitted his monthly report.
2. **Building:** No report submitted.
3. **Plumbing/Mechanical:** No report submitted.
4. **Electrical:** No report submitted.

Emergency Services/Utilities Reports:

1. **Cass Ambulance:** The CCAA board met with representatives from Newburg Township who is requesting some form of reimbursement for mutual aid calls that increased in the time after Pride Care withdrew service. Mutual aid has returned to almost what it was prior to loss of service. After discussion it was decided that talks would continue at the August 28, 2024, CCAA meeting.
2. **Central Cass Fire Department:** At the July 24, 2024 meeting, the board voted to hire Theresa DeMeyer to provide accounting services for the fire department.
3. **Edwardsburg Fire Department:** Meeting held August 6th. No new business
4. **CAUA:** Next meeting is set for August 12th. Hass reported that there has been discussion on the possible need to upgrade the pump as they are looking into whether the interceptor capacity between Dowagiac and Cass can handle the current load.

Township Board Reports:

1. **Planning & Zoning Commission:** Public hearing to correct color coding on zoning map for 2 parcels is set for August 28, 2024.
2. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** No business
3. **Construction Board of Appeals:** No business.
4. **Board of Review:** Met July 19th for routine business.

Public Comment:


Commissioner Howie shared that the Old Courthouse renovations are set to be completed in October. She also attended the Cass County Fair and reported that it was a great event.

Supervisor Hass shared that the intersection at Dailey Rd and Pokagon Hwy. is set to become a four-way stop on August 13th.

Next regular Board of Trustees meeting: September 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

With no other business before the Board at 7:09 p.m. Moved by Brunner, supported by Gillam to adjourn. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Brunner, Clerk

APPROVED