

EUREKA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024
Approved

Supervisor Kristen Lower at the Eureka Township Hall, 9322 SW Greenville Road, Greenville, MI, called the Regular Meeting of the Eureka Charter Township Board to order on March 11, 2024, at 7:00 pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Clerk Ruwersma stated that the following Board Members were present: Supervisor Kristen Lower, Clerk Linda Ruwersma, Treasurer Cindy Hanson, Trustees Jeremy Austin, Shayne Becher, Tim Johnson, and Dennis Magirl. These minutes will not be approved until the April 8, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Approximately thirty others were in attendance including Planning Commission Members Mary Sharp and Linda Weger; Library Representative Holly Schmeltzer, Zoning Official Darcia Kelley, and Deputy Emily Paulsen.

Nothing was said at the First Public Comment.

Trustee Magirl moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve the February 12, 2024 Board Minutes as written. Motion carried.

Trustee Johnson moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve the Treasurer's reports showing a balance of \$1,127,945.89 as of February 29, 2024. Motion carried.

Trustee Austin moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve the payment of the bills paid in March in the amount of \$43,989.82 covering the payroll direct deposits, e-bills 1627-1633, and checks numbering 2782-2829. Ayes: 7, Tim, Linda, Cindy, Jeremy, Kristen, Shayne, and Dennis. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The reports available were from the Planning Commission, Zoning, Sheriff, with the Transit report showing 182 runs. No fire report was available

The February sheriff report showed a total of 4,064 patrol miles, with 212 patrol hours, 65 traffic stops, 305 property inspections, and 5 arrests. Deputy Paulsen gave a brief report.

Trustee Becher gave a brief Planning Commission report stating Wednesday, March 20, will be the last Planning Commission meeting for Marty Posekany and Mary Sharp.

Zoning Official Kelley gave a brief zoning report stating the legal issues with a resident and the Township have been resolved, and there are other possible projects in planning stages.

Several residents were present to voice their concerns about the condition of South County Line Road. After a forty-minute public comment period, Supervisor Lower stated she would check with Mark Christiansen from the Montcalm County Road Commission to see what can be done. Many other road projects were listed to be considered and will be discussed next month.

Trustee Johnson then moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve to contract with the Montcalm County Road Commission in 2024 for the following four high priority road projects to be completed:

- 1. Cut trees, profile mill and pave on Harlow/Chase Roads from Youngman Road to Greenville West Drive for \$15,000.00**
- 2. Stockpile 350 tons of Limestone gravel for maintenance for \$10,238.00**

3. Overband Crack Seal throughout the Township for \$8,775.00

4. To place Asphalt Overlay on Johnson Road from South County Line Road to Dick Road (1.5 Miles) for \$148,552.00

for a Township total of \$182,565.00

Ayes: 7, Dennis, Linda, Cindy, Jeremy, Kristen, Shayne, and Tim. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Trustee Austin moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve to contract with the Montcalm County Road Commission in 2024 to place four applications of chloride on local roads in the Township based on the following: 19.37 miles @ 1,650 GPM x 4 applications x \$.175/gallon for \$22,372.35. Ayes: 7, Dennis, Linda, Cindy, Jeremy, Kristen, Shayne, and Tim. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Trustee Magirl moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve Regulatory Ordinance Chapter 25 Fireworks. A public hearing was previously held concerning this amendment. Ayes: 7, Dennis, Tim, Cindy, Linda, Jeremy, Kristen, and Shayne. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Lower gave a brief Burgess Lake Drive update stating that according to our zoning ordinance the township is not under any obligation to have residents bring their private drive up to county road standards. Letters will be sent to the residents giving them guidance on their next steps and offering assistance.

Supervisor Lower gave a pickleball court lighting report stating JZ electric came out to give an estimate and also looked at the light by the trail that has not been working properly. The light is still under warranty and will be repaired. Lower will report back with more quotes for the court lighting. There will also be an extra charge for bringing electricity to the lot.

Clerk Ruwersma moved, with a second by Magirl to approve the METRO Act Right-of-Way Permit Extension Request for a five-year term to end on April 8, 2029. Motion carried.

Trustee Johnson then moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve a three-year lawn care service contract from Dayne Haynes with the service provider as North Shade Lawn LLC, beginning April 1, 2014 running through November 30, 2026, for lawn care at the hall and cemetery. Ayes: 7, Dennis, Tim, Cindy, Linda, Jeremy, Kristen, and Shayne. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board of Review met last week for an organizational meeting, and Linda Weger was chosen as the chair. The BOR met earlier today for annual petition hearings and will meet again tomorrow.

Trustee Austin moved, with a second by Trustee Magirl to approve the resignation of Marty Posekany from the Planning Commission effective March 31, 2024. Motion carried. Two positions will be filled on the PC at the April 8, 2024 Board Meeting.

Supervisor Lower presented the Board with the idea of a voucher system twice a year for trash removal instead of supplying dumpsters during two Township Cleanup Days each year. She will gather information from other townships and cities who have done this in the past and report back next month. Another option was to change the cleanup days from the second Saturday in May and September to the first Saturday in May and the third Saturday in September each year. This will be investigated before deciding on this next month.

Supervisor Lower gave a brief explanation of the National Fitness Campaign proposal. The program is impressive, but even after a grant the cost would be approximately \$150,000.00. Another option would be to get local donations to help cover the cost. Lower will check more into this and we will discuss at a later date. She also stated it is time to start working on the Master Plan as it was last updated in 2019, and needs to be updated every five years. This will be discussed by the Planning Commission at their next meeting.

Supervisor Lower shared that the cost to upgrade the DTE meter line was \$526.94, and that she approved of having some trees taken down and the stumps ground.

After Board Member and Audience Comments, Supervisor Lower adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:35 pm.

Linda J. Ruwersma, CMC
Eureka Charter Township Clerk
March 14, 2024