

MINUTES OF THE AU GRES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING May 9th, 2023 ~ 7:00 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Jim Herzog, Clerk Michael Oxley, Treasurer Patricia Tremble, Trustee Penny Kurchak and Trustee Jan Bullock

ABSENT: None

ATTENDEES: Aurette Gates, Jesse Young and Chuck and Kay Woods

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting began at 7:00pm with the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL of AGENDA: Motion made by Treasurer Patricia Tremble to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Trustee Penny Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Agenda approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Aurette Gates (Swenson Road) asked if there was going to be a mass mailing of the Blight Ordinance. And was there any plan to include the type/quality of fences that are allowed. Lastly Gates wanted to spread the word about Hazardous Waste and Electronics recycling being planning this summer by Arenac Conservation (Dawn Hergott).

APPROVAL of the MINUTES: Motion made by Tremble to approve minutes of the April 11th, 2023 Board of Trustee meeting. Motion supported by Clerk Michael Oxley. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Minutes approved.

PAYMENT OF BOOK OF BILLS: Motion made by Oxley to approve the April 2023 book of bills as presented. Motion supported by Tremble. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

TREASURER'S REPORT: Read by Treasurer Patricia Tremble. Motion made by Oxley to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

BOARD REPORTS:

AUGRES-SIMS-WHITNEY FIRE AUTHORITY: The April 19th Fire Board meeting did not have a quorum so there was no meeting. Fire Chief Kurt Hummerickhouse spoke for a bit about one of the older fire trucks needing to be replaced, and called for a Special Meeting on April 27th, 2023 to discuss the need.

AUGRES-SIMS-WHITNEY FIRE AUTHORITY - SPECIAL MEETING April 27th 2023: The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the purchase of a new fire truck. Kurt Hummerickhouse reported to the board that he has been in contact with the sales rep and that there would be a price increase for a new truck on May 1st, 2023. The price quoted at \$1,098,164.00 and a down payment to hold that price was required, even though delivery would take approximately 40 months. The board voted to make a \$50,000.00 down payment toward the new truck.

Jim Herzog, as a matter of discussion, asked the board to think about selling the property on the corner of US-23 and Hammel Beach Road. As it had been decided to abandon the building of a new Fire Hall there. Expecting opposition, Herzog was surprised that the board members were all favorable to sell. And there is already an interested buyer.

HERITAGE ROUTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Jan Bullock was unable to attend the May 1st, 2023 meeting (noting that the minutes of that meeting was in the Township May Agenda packet. These things Bullock reported: Loyalty Day Parade was a great success. Farmers Market is now open for the summer every Friday from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Vintage Car Show is scheduled for Saturday July 8th. Depot Days are October 7th, and 8th. The Omer Courthouse is having a Junque and Bake Sale on Friday and Saturday June 2nd, and 3rd. Bullock ended her report by stating that during the 'Give Local Bay' fundraiser the AHRA came in third with \$4,300.00 donated.

CEMETERY REPORT: Trustee Kurchak reported that Spring cleanup has begun. Barbara Manor has ordered flags for Memorial Day. Herzog reported on a fire in the corner of the cemetery (reported to us by Dominic Ruiz -cemetery maintenance). Apparently someone backed up a truck, dumped trimmings and lit a match. Kyle Edmonds was notified and he took care of the situation.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Art Gallop Zoning Administrator is on vacation. Oxley reported two zoning permits, both on Lola Lane - both for housing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Oxley explained that two properties in Au Gres Township were up for foreclosure. Then explained 'First Right of Refusal' where the township could acquire said properties *as long as* they a designated for the public use (the state does not want municipalities to become realtors). One of the parcels (corner of Manor and Dreyer Roads Id# 06-003-) the township agreed to refuse, which sends the property onto the tax auction in the Fall. The property Id# 06-003-0-012-300-100-00 is adjacent to Linwood Cemetery (and thus would be for public use). Bullock made a motion to acquire said property by paying the back taxes totaling \$460.00. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

Shenfield Road Project: Supervisor Herzog reported that the SSI surveys/land divisions paperwork was in the hands of the township attorney (Melissa Sprague, Standish) for review. The next step, if the attorney has no issues, will be to get title checks on the four parcels being divided.

BOARD COMMENT: Jim Herzog reported that the Shriner mini-cars would not be in the Loyalty Day Parade as it is most likely going to rain. The he told a funny story about one Shrine member who wedged himself into one of the cars to test it out - only to have the steering wheel come off in his hand and his foot stuck on the gas pedal. Fortunately no injuries except for the Shriner's pride.

Penny Kurchak reported that the Bay Ridge Drive subdivision held its annual meeting at the township pavilion in the boardwalk outlook park (at the end of Santiago road). A good time was held by all, with the only downside was noting that with several adults setting at the picnic tables that the seat bowed downward from the weight. Herzog to check with Joes tables about shoring up the seats.

Jan Bullock asked about the first right of refusal on the one (1) acre Manor/Dreyer road property foreclosure - does the refusal require a board motion. Oxley explained that in the past the clerk just signs off on the paperwork, sending it back to the County Treasurer. The township has never bought a parcel in the past - at least since he was elected in 2010.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jesse Young touted praise for the workers from APM (Advanced Pest Mgmnt) who came out to his house and spent an hour or more spraying on foot around his property - and that was on a cold-cold day!

ADJOURNMENT: TIME – 8:05pm. Motion made by Tremble to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No Nays. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved at the regular Board of Trustees Meeting on _____

James Herzog, Supervisor _____

Michael Oxley, Clerk _____