

# MINUTES OF THE AU GRES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING January 10<sup>th</sup>, 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:** Dave Albosta, Jeff Czymbor, Dave Enos, Art Gallop, Deck Mowatt, Lisa Salgat, Jerry Thomas, 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 Jan Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Agenda approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None at this time.

**APPROVAL of the MINUTES:** Motion made by Tremble to approve the December 2022 minutes. Motion supported by Clerk Michael Oxley. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Minutes approved.

**PAYMENT OF BOOK OF BILLS:** Trustee Bullock corrected an entry on the book of bills changing the description of check #14299 from SPLIT to 'Mileage & Office Supplies'. Motion made by Tremble to approve the December 2022 book of bills as corrected. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Read by Treasurer Patricia Tremble. Tremble read aloud a handwritten note from a taxpayer "*As a taxpayer I'd like to express my opinion. I think raising taxed on non-residents for schools was shady and disgusting. I know it is legal but it's wrong. Sincerely, a taxpayer*". Tremble explained that there was no tax increase, only that the 18mil school tax was moved from the summer tax bill to the winter tax bill (for non homestead residents). 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:** Meeting held at the Au Gres Fire Hall, called to order by Olen Swartz. Payroll checks were signed and handed out. Treasurer Tom Brandimore gave the treasurer's report. Adding that Horizon Bank was offering 1yr CD rates at 4.115%. Also that the Whitney Township rent was due this coming month (\$8200.00).

There was discussion about the 2% Tribal Grant, and how their application was declined.

Fire Chief Kurt Hummerickhouse reported six (6) runs during the month. One call was a grass fire, another call was personal injury on Crawford Road and another was a false alarm at the Pure Green marijuana facility (2497 E Huron). Pure Green is to be billed for the false alarm.

Kurt explained a new policy, that when an ambulance goes to a site, the fire department will go also. Next Fire Board meeting is on Thursday January 18th at the Whitney Township Fire Hall.

**HERITAGE ROUTE AUTHORITY:** Reported by Jan Bullock: The holiday parade was a big success with many people and children attending. The decorations at the Depot were excellent. Discussions proceeded to cover the usual events for 2023.

**CEMETERY REPORT:** Penny Kurchak stated that the cemetery looks good, some of the logs seemed to have been removed. Holiday decorations on the graves were still up. Nothing more to report.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Art Gallop Zoning Administrator reporting. Gallop spoke with owners buying a lot on Lola Lane wanting to build a house. A shed on skid on Booth Road. Brian Knoll issued a zoning permit for an 22' x 28' addition on his house. Karl Edmonds inquired about building a new garage. And the usual phone calls about setbacks, and what can and cannot be done per zoning.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Shenfield Road. Dave Enos asked about the progress of making the Shenfield road extension into a township road. Supervisor Herzog reported on the status of getting permission from Saginaw Midland Water to build the road on their right of way, something that was overlooked until Herzog and Oxley sat down with SSI (surveyors). Permission had been verbal from Saginaw Midland Waterworks but no paperwork in hand at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Jeffrey Czymbor - land division on Green Drive. Historically Lots 57 and 58 were combined into one parcel years back. Czymbor applied to the township for a land division splitting the lot back into their original two lots. This land division has been approved by Assessor Barbara Jones. Motion made by Oxley to approve the land division as shown on the application. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved.
- b. Auditors Stephenson and Company requested the township commit to dates for the FY2022-23 annual audit. After some discussion it was decided on the week of June 19th. Oxley to contact Ben at Stephenson and confirm.
- c. Date for the township board to hold the budget review meeting in advance of the March Annual Meeting (and budget adoption for fiscal year 2023-2024): As we annually hold the budget review meeting on the last Saturday of February, and there being no conflicts by board members it was decided to hold the meeting on February 25th at 9:00 am.
- d. Remove garbage assessment on Vigo property West of Pt Au Gres Road (003-1-001-400-010-07) as he is already assessed for his home (003-2-B50-000-068-03). Tremble, referring to the handouts showed the parcels in question, then added that there is a structure on the (-03) parcel, and Vigo does have two garbage totes, and may be renting out the building as a vacation rental. After much discussion the board decided not to remove the garbage assessment on those grounds.

**BOARD COMMENT:** Supervisor Herzog spoke for a while about the Shenfield extension and Booth road projects planned for this year. Also that we would be holding off on any large pavement project (such as Santiago North of US-23, and Manor Road) this season. Adding that he would like to see the Road Commission do a joint venture with the township to pave Manor road to Hale Road.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dave Albosta and Deck Mowatt appealed to the township to do something about Lola Lane (a private road). Herzog reminded them that as a private road the township cannot spend taxpayer monies. Oxley chimed in that our auditors even stated that the 'excise tax' marijuana funds , which did not have the restrictions on use that the permit fees have, could not be used either. Further reminding them all that we had done what we could to steer them in the direction of creating some sort of association amongst residents to make Lola Lane into a township/county road. Dave Enos emphatically wondered how the board could have not known about the right-of-way needed on Shenfield road. How much longer is the township going to drag their feet on adopting the extension and turning it into a township road?

**ADJOURNMENT:** TIME – 8:10pm. 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 \_\_\_\_\_