

MONTHLY MEETING  
September 7, 2023

**Meeting:** meeting called to order by Jeff Johnson at 7:00 PM

**The Pledge of Allegiance:** recited by all.

**Roll Call:** Present: Sally Casey, Kyle Orr, Maryanne Goodman, Jeff Johnson, Anna Grobe.

**Minutes:** August 3, 2023, Township Board meeting minutes and Public Hearing minutes approved as presented. Ayes; all. Nays; none.

**Financial Reports:** General Fund presented by Maryanne Goodman. **Motion by Maryanne Goodman, seconded by Sally Casey to approve the general fund report as read. Roll call vote: Ayes; Jeff Johnson, Kyle Orr, Maryanne Goodman, Anna Grobe and Sally Casey. Nays; None.**  
Fire Fund presented by Maryanne Goodman. **Motion by Anna Grobe seconded by Maryanne Goodman to approve the fire fund report as read. Roll call vote: Ayes; Kyle Orr, Sally Casey, Jeff Johnson, Maryanne Goodman and Anna Grobe. Nays; None.**

**Budget Amendment:** None

**Payment of Township Accounts:**

Request for approval of General Fund checks #9335 through #9360, in the amount of \$66,756.45 for the purpose of paying Township accounts, this includes an EFPTS payment of \$2,278.50. **Motion by Sally Casey, seconded by Kyle Orr to approve the payment of township accounts as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes; Sally Casey, Jeff Johnson, Maryanne Goodman, Kyle Orr and Sally Casey. Nays; None.**

Request for approval of Fire Fund checks #1527 through #1529 in the amount of \$194.44. **Motion by Kyle Orr, seconded by Sally Casey to approve the payment of Fire Fund checks as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes; Anna Grobe, Jeff Johnson, Maryanne Goodman, Kyle Orr and Sally Casey. Nays; None.**

**Additional Agenda items:** Additional incoming correspondence

**Public comment on Agenda:**

**Guests:** Wilfred Swiecki-PLIA Gave a report on the history of the work by the group to help preserve the quality of the river ways. Would like to have a quarterly report from the Zoning Administrator on the number of Land Use Permits and any follow up reports that the ordinance is being followed. Also possibly have an affidavit that the property owner would sign attesting that all rules will be followed.

Chris DeGood- Beckett & Raeder Provided a proposal for services and timeline that would be provided for any possible upgrades to the Township Park.

**Correspondence:**

**Incoming:**

1. Fire Dept. report
2. Letter from Charter Communications regarding channel lineup
3. Benzonia Public Library newsletter.
4. Invitation to a “big project” seminar in Leelanau County.
5. Letter from Margaret Hubbard regarding STR
6. Information from Ironman on traffic impacts.
7. Benzie Senior Resources newsletter
8. Flyer on a composting education meeting.
9. Request from residents for road improvements. **Tabled until Oct. meeting.**
10. Benzonia Library newsletter.
11. Letter regarding STR.

**Outgoing:**

1. Thank you letters sent to the clean-up day volunteers

**New Business:**

1. Request from Sally Casey to possibly compensate Mike Macklin for providing the help and the containers for metal at our clean-up days. Motion by Sally Casey with a second by Kyle Orr to compensate at the rate of \$250.00 for each of the cleanup days for 2023 to Mike Macklin. Roll call vote; Ayes; Maryanne Goodman, Kyle Orr, Sally Casey, Anna Grobe and Jeff Johnson. Nays; none.

2. Information from Beckett & Raeder regarding consulting contract for the possible upgrades at the park. Chris will work with the park committee and then will come up with three possible plans and present them to the board. Motion by Maryanne Goodman with a second by Kyle Orr to contract with Beckett & Raeder to begin the process of re-vamping the non-motorized boat landing per the agreement provided. Roll call vote; Ayes; Anna Grobe, Sally Casey, Jeff Johnson, Maryanne Goodman and Kyle Orr. Nays; none.

3. Adoption of the L-4029, the form used to determine the amount levied for property taxes. Motion by Anna Grobe with a second by Jeff Johnson to approve the L-4029. Roll call vote; Ayes; Kyle Orr, Sally Casey, Maryanne Goodman, Jeff Johnson and Anna Grobe.

4. Update on early voting for 2024. Clerk gave an update on the early voting that will be in effect for all State and Federal elections starting in 2024.

**Old Business:**

1. Short Term Rental Ordinance. Motion by Kyle Orr to adopt the revised ordinance(set fee of \$500.00, 150 permits granted and that a good neighbor guide be provided/posted) as presented with a second by Sally Casey. Roll call vote; Ayes; Anna Grobe, Maryanne Goodman, Jeff Johnson, Kyle Orr, and Sally Casey. Code enforcement officer. STR coordinator. A job description and pay scale will need to be determined.

**County Updates:**

Commissioner Art Jeannot, District 2 submitted his written report.  
Commissioner Karen Cunningham , District 3 submitted her written report.

**Township Departments:**

**Planning Commission:** Next meeting will be September 14 @ 6:30pm

**Zoning Administrator:** Written report.

**Assessor:** Written report

**Park Committee:**

**Supervisor:** gave a review of the work done on the building and the slope maps. Park attendants are finished as of Sept. 10 and a season end meeting will be scheduled. Review of the park maintenance still remaining with Mark Janeczko.

**Cleanup Day:** 122 loads were brought in.

**Public Comment:** Compliments to the parking attendants. Reminder that the parking lot will be getting redone some time in Sept. A question was asked about the lawn services available to seniors. The snow shoveling/clearing will continue because it is considered a safety issue where as fall leaf clean-up is not. Reminder of the Ironman race to be held on Sept. 17 and M-22 will be closed from approximately 8:30am to 2:00 pm so plan accordingly.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:49 pm

13 in Attendance

Anna Grobe, Clerk