

Meeting Minutes of Spring Arbor Township Board of Trustees, September 9, 2024

Meeting called to Order at 6 o'clock

Trachsel was appointed Secretary for the meeting – Herlein motioned/Walz seconded. Approved.

1. Roll Call. Present: Archer, Ganton, Herlein, Trachsel and Walz. Absent: Buck and Bush.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comment. Vaughn Hoffman, 3125 Dorothy Lane: Regarding dogs on leash when on owner's property and upon exiting. Questions were addressed by Chief Deering.
4. Reports
 - A. Contract has been awarded for erosion control at Lime Lake Park, tree work along McCain to commence, and presented a visual representation of County's General Fund Contribution FY 2025 which show the Sheriff's office expense is largest portion (nearly \$12M of \$30M total) to support the .25 mill increase on the November ballot. Discussion of prior Sheriff's office millage not renewing, nor passing in August, and a discussion of the consequences of the November ballot measure not passing.
 - B. Police Department: Chief Deering. Went over the SA Township Police Department Public Safety Report. A potential new hire (officer) is being considered.
 - a. Agenda amended to include new business. As A: Police Department Purchase of Vehicle and Participating Plan Risk Reduction Grant. As B: Furniture Purchase and Authorization to sell current furnishings. As C: Answer to request for Police Chief support during a media release for the November ballot measure for the County Sheriff's office.
 - C. Fire Department: Chief McEldowney. Reviewed Public Safety Report. Training is on-going for 3-4 participants re building collapse and, this summer, confined space rescue training occurred. Provided a positive example of different FD working together (9 FD at fire in Jackson last week). Potential 6 candidates interested in joining FD, will provide the Board an update next month. Equipment and FD in general are in good shape.
 - D. No Report by State Representative, Sarah Lightner.
5. Bills
 - A. Disbursements: Ganton motioned/Walz seconded. Roll call: five ayes, zero nays. Approved.
 - B. Open and paid, journalized and unjournalized report: Archer motioned/Walz seconded. Roll call: five ayes, zero nays. Approved.
6. Minutes: Ganton motioned/Walz seconded. To Fire Report add: Looking for 12 more FD members. Suggests we are on a per call basis the lowest cost FD in the county. To 11 (Second Public Comment) add: Chief McEldowney thanked the Board in regard to Fire Millage. Approved.
7. Consent Agenda: Ganton motioned/Archer seconded. Approved.
8. Supervisor Report: Funding request from Federal gov't denied for sewer improvements/equalization project along Dearing Road. Talk of Western Elementary/Dearing Road Corridor utilities: Received letter from SOM tentatively approving water withdraw, received an "A rating – extremely favorable" - next step is to meet with EGLE and walk the land for location of well(s). Consolidation of the water systems (SAT and Summit) is with attorney (hopeful to get contract language to view at the October Board meeting). Tree work along McCain from S Parma to Dearing to commence, while brush trimming is on-going this month.

Building improvements update: lawn restoration is occurring now, on-schedule to move into new-building by mid-December.

9. New Business

A.

- a. Proposal to purchase a 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe for PD. Anticipated cost of \$85,143. Ganton motioned/Archer seconded. Approved.
- b. Resolution to purchase emergency equipment for the above new patrol car and to seek a grant from the Michigan Township Participating Plan to provide financial assistance. Walz motioned/Archer seconded. Roll call: five ayes, zero nays. Approved.

B.

- a. Resolution to purchase furniture for the improved township hall, not to exceed \$50,000. Walz motioned/Archer seconded. Roll call: five ayes, zero nays. Approved.
- b. Request to enable Township to sell current furnishings that will no longer be in use upon improved township hall completion. Ganton motioned/Trachsel seconded. Approved.

- C. Sheriff's office seeking support for a media release for their November ballot measure. They are requesting Police and Fire Chiefs be able to stand with them during a media release. After discussion, a motion was made to allow FD and PD chiefs and staff to support and endorse the County Public Safety Millage to be on the November 2024 ballot. Motion was approved.

10. Old Business: None.

11. Public/Board Member Comment. No public comment. Archer mentioned FWT is in good repair while Walz stated the same for the Lime Lake dock.

12. Meeting adjourned at 7:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Trachsel, Treasurer and Acting Secretary

Next Meeting Scheduled:

Board of Trustees: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 6 o'clock