

October 11, 2022

**Empire Township Board
Regular Meeting**

Supervisor Carl Noonan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Present were members Deegan, Casey Noonan, Price, and Neiswonger. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 regular meeting as written. All ayes.

Cemetery Report: After acknowledgment of the excellent job the Maple Grove Cemetery manager has done at the cemetery, motion was made by Neiswonger; support-Casey Noonan to give the manager, Claude Fields, a \$2000.00 bonus in recognition of a job well done. All ayes.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Price reported on CDs and bank accounts as of 09-30-2022. Report received as read.

Planning & Zoning Report: 1.) Zoning Administrator, Tim Cypher, issued the following permits/approvals in September: 1) New dwelling-Fleetwood Ct. 2) Garage-W. Whispering Pine 3) Two (2) commercial storage buildings-S. Benzonia Trl. 4) Solar array-McClary Rd. 5) Land division-Beeman Rd. 2.) Trustee Micah Deegan reported that a hearing was held on 10-18-22 for the Glen Lake Manor, but more information on the plan was needed before any decision could be made. Another hearing will probably need to be held once the application is complete.

Supervisor Report: 1.) County Road Commissioner Garth Greenan and Road Commission manager Brendan Mullane presented an annual report of the Commission's work. It was noted that the Commission was still working with MDOT on safety issues at the M72/Benzonia Trail intersection. Mr. Greenan and Mr. Mullane were thanked for their presentation. 2.) Due to an incomplete Special Event application for the 2023 Snowmobile races at the airport, Wayne Aylsworth will be asked to complete a new application with all details. Airport maintenance workers will also be asked if they have any comments or concerns regarding the races on the airport property.

Clerk Report: 1.) Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to pay the October 2022 monthly bills as presented and attached. All ayes.

Final Business: 1.) Supervisor Noonan reported that since Empire Village was repaving Union Street and the area in front of the Township Hall, he spoke with the construction firm and approved a new concrete pad in front of the Township Office, as discussed before as a needed improvement, and approved the repaving of the area behind the Township Hall with a new concrete pad installed for the hall's garbage dumpster. Approximate cost of the project was estimated at \$8000. 2.) Due to the election being held on the Board's regular November 8, 2022 meeting night, it was decided to reschedule the November meeting to either the 1st or 2nd of November depending on the availability of the hall. Clerk will make proper notification of the change once a date has been set. 3.) Regarding the Sleeping Bear Marathon race held on 10-1-22, Trustee Deegan reported that multiple complaints were received and he verified that the 4 foot coned condition on LaCore Road was not met and that the race effectively closed down the roadway completely, especially during the morning race. Empire Township Supervisor Carl Noonan received a complaint call early in the morning of the race and spoke with the manager who stated he did not have the staff to monitor that portion of Lacore Road to make sure things were going smoothly. The Board decided that these facts would have a bearing on Empire Township's approval for the 2023 race.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 8:43 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk