

Inverness Township
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
July 6, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm in person with 5 Board Members present: Supervisor, Rod LaHaie, Clerk, Pam Knaffle, Treasurer, Laurie Merchant, Trustee, Greg Elliott and Trustee, Bernie Schramm.

Open with the Pledge of Allegiance

Absent: N/A

Minutes: Elliott made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021 regular meeting. Supported by Merchant. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion carried.

General Bills: Knaffle made a motion to approve the general bills and wages of \$173,731.30 for the month of June 2021. Supported by Elliott. Roll call vote: LaHaie, yes; Merchant, yes; Schramm, yes; Elliott, yes; Knaffle, yes. Motion carried.

Sewer Bills: Elliott made a motion to approve the sewer bills of \$790.00 for the month of June 2021. Second by Merchant. Roll call vote: Merchant, yes; Knaffle, yes; LaHaie, yes; Elliott, yes; Schramm, yes. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

MTA Principles of Governance

Supervisor LaHaie discussed the Michigan Townships Association Principles of Governance and reported that it needed to be adopted. Knaffle made a motion to adopt the MTA Principles and Guidelines. Merchant supported. Roll call vote: Schramm, yes; Elliott, yes; Merchant, yes; LaHaie, yes; Knaffle, yes.

Sewer Monthly Flow

Provided by LaHaie and Elliott.

Old Business:

Sewer Update

Elliott reported that there has been a meeting with the city regarding sewer but Inverness Township has asked for more clarification. Meetings are in progress.

Road update by Trustee LaHaie. LaHaie reported that the Laperell paving tentative date is mid-July. LaHaie reported that the Polish Line Rd still does not have a start date.

2021 MTA Sample Township Board Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test

After last month's meeting, Mr. Tim MacArthur developed the Poverty Exemption Resolution that Mr. Clayton McGovern was asking for as assessor. Schramm made a motion to adopt the

Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test as presented by Mr. MacArthur. Merchant supported. Roll call vote: Knaffle, yes; Merchant, yes; LaHaie, yes; Elliott, yes; Schramm, yes. Motion carried.

Speed Study

Trustee Elliott asked if there was anymore discussion related to the speed study by Stempky Rd. LaHaie reported at this time there has been no more discussion but he will talk with the County Road Commission to see if that is a possibility.

New Business:

Dale Hudak Land Division

Knaffle presented a land division provided by Dale Hudak and approved by Clayton McGovern. There was no payment attached with the land division. Elliott made a motion to accept the land division pending payment. Schramm supported. Roll call vote: LaHaie, yes; Elliott, yes; Merchant, yes; Knaffle, yes; Schramm, yes. Motion carried. Payment received after the meeting was over.

Bids for furnace/AC

LaHaie reported that there were a few service calls in June for both AC units. LaHaie reported that bids went out for AC and furnace because of the age of the AC and furnace being over 20 years old and both needing to updated. LaHaie reported that Werner's Plumbing and Heating was for 2 AC units, 4 ton coils and filter cabinets for \$18,690.00 and Spray's Plumbing and Heating was only for the 2 AC units ad 4 ton coils at a cost of \$18,770.96. Both proposals included installation and removal and disposal of each unit. Merchant made a motion to accept the low bid from Werner's Plumbing and Heating at \$18,690.00. Schramm supported. Roll call vote: Elliott, yes; Merchant, yes; Schramm, yes; LaHaie, yes; Knaffle, yes. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reappoint Persons on DDA Board

LaHaie reported that Alice Mushlock's term on the DDA board is up for renewal and she has requested to be reconsidered. Elliott made a motion to appoint Alice Mushlock for DDA Board. Merchant supported. All ayes. Motion carried.

Cemetery Update

Supervisor LaHaie discussed the cemetery general ledger and how far behind it is for recording purposes. LaHaie reported that it appears that it has not been updated since 2011. Lisa Smith, township resident has expressed interest in taking on the task of updating the general ledger and then adding it to the computer software program. She is asking for \$15.00 per hour. Knaffle made a motion to hire Lisa Smith to get the cemetery general ledger up to date and then to the computer program. Supported by Schramm. Roll call vote: Knaffle, yes; Merchant, yes; LaHaie, yes; Elliott, yes; Schramm, yes. All ayes. Motion carried.

Door into Office

Supervisor LaHaie reported that he has been investigating costs to put a door into the side of the hall into the office so that Clerk Knaffle and Treasurer Merchant can work on the weekends

while the hall is being rented out. He reported that most of the work that clerk and treasurer do is on the weekends, and it would be a good idea to have the ability to work while being rented out. He is still checking on cost factors for this project.

Hall Improvements

LaHaie reported that there have been improvements such as old mulch being removed and new mulch has been put in. The hall shutters have been washed and painted. The stove/oven has been fixed at this time because it was about 20 degrees off and hall renters were complaining that they could not utilize it when they rented the hall. LaHaie reported that there were 2 big branches almost touching the water on Foote Rd and they have been cut down by Top Notch Tree Removal. LaHaie reminded of the Board of Review meeting July 20, 2021 at 10:00am at the hall.

Fire Board Report: Elliott reported meeting Thursday, June 10, 2021. They reported having 3 new firefighters certified and are back to having 28 members now. Elliott reported that they have gotten pagers. LaHaie explained that there have been bids out for the lightening issues related to ballasts and the need for LED lights. LaHaie reported that Stan's Electric was the only electrician who provided a quote for the LED lighting system and it was for \$6,539.00. LaHaie explained that Inverness Township pays 2/3 of the cost and Beaugrand Township covers the other 1/3 costs. Schramm made a motion to accept Stan's Electric bid for LED lighting system for the Inverness Township Firehall. Elliott supported. Roll call vote: LaHaie, yes; Elliott, yes; Schramm, yes; Merchant, yes; Knaffle, yes. All ayes. Motion carried.

MTA Meeting

Trustee Schramm reported that he and Treasurer Merchant attended the MTA meeting and that it was very enlightening. Schramm reported that Sherriff Clarmont spoke about his proposal related to the blight ordinance. Much discussion of the blight ordinance proposed by Sherriff Clarmont but that it needed to be approved and accepted by all the Cheboygan County townships before it could be put into place. Supervisor LaHaie reported that he is going to talk to the other township supervisors and bring back to the board before approving the ordinance.

Treasurer Report: Merchant reported that summer taxes have been sent out and are due in by September 14, 2021.

Citizen Comments:

Mr. Leo Forester reported that he spoke with Jacky Anthony from the State of Michigan Liquor Commission who informed him that liquor inspections only need to be done 1-2 times per year and not monthly. Supervisor LaHaie stated that he would talk to Mr. Tim MacArthur for legal representation and if he accepts 1-2 times per year, adjustments will be made.

Mr. Dudley Jordan spoke on behalf of residents that live on Donald Court. He expressed concerns about their road and questioned if any of their tax revenue could be utilized to fix their road. He presented a picture of the road to demonstrate the need for improvements. Supervisor LaHaie explained the concerns if it is a private road versus a county road and reported that he will research the road issue and get back to the residents about their options.

Mr. Chris Hudak reported his frustrations about road and brining concerns. He also reported that he provided Clerk Knaffle with a FOIA request related to the appointing of supervisor and trustee positions that have recently been vacated and then appointed. He reported that he requested an answer within 10 days.

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm, motion made by Elliott, second by Merchant. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Pam Knaffle, Inverness Township Clerk