

ECKFORD TOWNSHIP MONTHLY MEETING February 15th, 2021

A monthly meeting of Eckford Township Board was held on Monday February 15, 2021 at the Eckford Township Hall. A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor B. Rapp. Other board members in attendance, Treasurer T. Baylis, Clerk L. Blight, Trustee W. Cornell and Trustee B. Maksimchuk. Others in attendance, D. Malloch Zoning Administrator, Chief Art Blight, Nancy Binkowski, and Bob Tol.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 18, 2021 MINUTES: A copy of the January 18, meeting minutes was emailed to each board member for their review before tonight's meeting.

Trustee Cornell moved to accept the January 18, 2021 regular meeting minutes with a change under treasure Financial Statement Cash on Hand should read December not November. Support was given by Trustee Maksimchuk.

Vote was taken, all-in favor. **MINUTES APPROVED.**

CITIZENS COMMENTS: Bob Tol introduced himself and explained that he and a investor group would like to purchase the Shaffer property on 18 mile road to open a gravel pit. Mr Tol has applied for a conditional use permit. And is inquiring about his next steps to take.

TREASURERS FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Cash on Hand January	340,387.24
January Income	21,858.45
Fire Department total	25,808.74
January Disbursements	18,208.25
February Expenses to be paid	18,955.74
John Hancock balance	84,037.78

Trustee Maksimchuk moved we accept the Treasurers report as read. Support was given by Trustee Cornell.

Vote was taken, all-in favor. **TREASURERS REPORT APPROVED.**

BUDGET AMENDMENT: Clerk Blight moved that we increase the Code Enforcer Account by \$7,450.00 this money is to be moved from Capital Account. Support was given by Trustee Maksimchuk.

Vote was taken, all-in-favor. **BUDGET AMENDMENT APPROVED.**

HOMER FIRE BOARD REPORT: Discussion begun on how the townships splits for expenses are decided. The board will have a work session just for the expense split

MARENGO FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: 1 call in the last month. A new Fire Protection Agreement was received for the agreement year of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. This agreement included a 2% raise for a total cost of \$12,240.00. This amount does not include the \$3,500 voluntary contribution towards the fire truck fund. Trustee Cornell motioned that we accept the agreement with the cost increase. Support was given by Trustee Maksimchuk.

Vote taken, all-in-favor, **AGREEMENT APPROVED.**

MARSHALL FIREFIGHTERS AMBULANCE REPORT: Given by Trustee Cornell, Meeting will be held later this week. Last month the Ambulance Board approved hiring Nick Smith to replace retiring Mark Burke. Ambulance financials are in line with the projected budget to date. And the rig remount completion date is delayed.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: 1 plumbing permit issued. K. Bailey our plumbing inspector requested that we simplify our inspection fees and permit applications. K. Bailey would like 50.00 fee each time he visits a location. D. Malloch will get with him and work out the details.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: In the spring D. Malloch will look into the Blackburn property about getting it cleaned up.

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PLANNING COMMISSION: No meeting this past month. Discussion about which board member will be on the Planning commission and Trustee Maksimchuk volunteered to take this position. We still have one vacant seat on the planning commission. Treasurer Baylis moved that we appoint Nancy Binkowski to the empty seat on the Planning Commission. Support was given by Trustee Cornell. Vote taken, all-in-favor. **N. BINKOWSKI APPROVED FOR PLANNING COMMISSION.**

LIBRARY BOARD REPORT: M. Frohm could not attend tonight- Here's what she has to report. The library met last Tuesday night via ZOOM. Ann Fitzpatrick will be the new representative from the City of Marshall. She will be replacing Ken Koberstein who resigned due to family obligations. The Library has been operating under Phase 2. Programming has been online only and has been well-attended using ZOOM. The staff has been very creative coming up with programs to keep the patrons engaged. Several new projects are being planned for upcoming months.

COMMUNICATIONS: Planning and Zoning online classes pamphlet. First Net is working great. Clerk Blight will make this our permanent internet provider.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Investments- Treasurer Baylis contacted our Township Lawyer about the investments. The Lawyer has made two attempts at contacting the Auditor. The Auditor has not returned his emails. Treasurer Baylis would like to find a new Auditor, this was prompted by the Auditors behavior at the last audit. Treasurer Baylis has a firm that Fredonia Township has used & will contact them, to find out if they are taking on new clients. If they are willing to take us as a client she will set up for when they can attend a board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Decker Insurance, Does the board want Terrorism and Cyber Insurance coverage? Vote was taken. Trustee Maksimchuk NO, Trustee Cornell NO, Treasurer Baylis NO, Clerk Blight NO and Supervisor Rapp NO. No motion offered. Issue FAILED.

Poverty exemption resolution motion was offered by Trustee Cornell. Support was given by Trustee Maksimchuk. Roll call vote taken. Trustee Cornell YES, Trustee Maksimchuk YES, Treasurer Baylis YES, Clerk Blight YES and Supervisor Rapp YES. **MOTION CARRIED**

Roads: 24 Mile Road from D Drive South to the North (Shared w/Albion Twp) \$1,459.26,- D Drive South 22 Mile Road to the East-Skip paving \$4,388.72, 18 Mile Road Between D Drive South and F Drive South (shared W/Fredonia) \$49,384.00,- J Drive South between 20 Mile Road and 20 ½ Mile Road \$4,829.43,- D Drive South from 22 mile road to the east- Chip & Seal \$15,938.25,- 18 ½ Mile Road Between B Drive South and West Twp Line \$9,148.37,- 18 Mile Road between D Drive South and 18 ½ Mile Road (shared W/Fredonia Twp) \$ 609.06. Total cost of \$85,757.12. Down payment of \$21,439.27 = \$64,317.85 remaining payment. Treasurer Baylis would like to spend another \$40,000. The Treasurer will get a bid on chip & seal on 23 ½ mile from F Drive to H Drive.

Having no further business, Trustee Maksimchuk motioned that we adjourn @ 8:00 pm.

Le Anne Blight

Eckford Township Clerk

Date Approved:

3-15-2021

Date approved:

Bruce Rapp

Supervisor

