

Hopkins Township Board Minutes

Regular Meeting

February 13, 2023

Held At 142. E. Main St. Library Annex

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm. By Supervisor Evans

Roll Call – Alberda, Evans, Modreske, Wamhoff, Morris.

Absent – None.

Motion by Wamhoff supported by Modreseke to approve the agenda with the addition to New Business “J. County Internet Infrastructure Resolution” and move “Township Hall Addition Bids” from J. to item K. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Modreske supported by Morris to approve the minutes for the January 9, 2023 meeting. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

The financials were presented for both December and January. Motion by Alberda and supported by Wamhoff to approve both December 2022 and January 2023 financial reports. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Modreske, supported by Morris to approve the bills in the amount of \$11,467.05. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Correspondence – Clerk Alberda gave correspondence on the new recycling coordinator at Allegan County. Supervisor Evans gave correspondence as well.

Public Comment- Public comment was opened at 7:41 pm. Bob Beck gave public comment. Public comment closed at 7:43 pm.

Reports:

County Commissioner Report – Commissioner Beltman was not present at this meeting as he gave notice that he was attending another meeting and would not be able to attend.

Ambulance Subsidy - Supervisor Evans gave an update to the new ambulance subsidy and the increase it included for the purchase of a new ambulance.

Old Business:

County Resolution to move offices to Dumont Lake - After discussion a motion was made by Alberda, supported by Modreske to table until the next meeting and work towards a resolution requesting this issue be placed on the next regular election.

New Business:

Fire Board Budget and Purchase of New Truck - Motion by Alberda, supported by Morris to approve the proposed fire budget of which Hopkins Township is responsible for \$98,308.41. All ayes, motion carried 5-0. Discussion was also had on the purchase of a replacement truck for the 1996 Engine. Motion by Alberda, supported by Modreske to use the Major Fire Equipment funds to purchase the truck in the amount of \$259,751.34 for the Township and \$46,782.59 for the Village portion of the millage that is collected. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

2023/2024 poverty guidelines resolution - Discussion was had on Resolution 2023-01 2023 Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions. Motion by Morris, supported by Wamhoff to approve Resolution 2023-01. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Republic Recycling Contract Renewal - Discussion was had on the new contract for recycling for the township. Motion by Wamhoff, supported by Modreske to allow Supervisor Evans to sign the contract with Republic for recycling. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Planning Commission Resignation - Supervisor Evans presented an email from Harrison Boyink that he had switched jobs and was no longer able to be on the planning commission.

Board Compensation Resolution - After discussion a motion was made by Wamhoff, supported by Morris to approve Resolution 2023-02 Board Compensation. Roll call vote: Wamhoff - yes, Modreske - yes, Morris - yes, Alberda - yes, Evans - yes. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Audit Engagement Letter - Discussion was had on the audit engagement letter. Motion by Modreske, supported by Wamhoff to allow Supervisor Evans to sign the Audit Engagement letter and allow Evans to sign an engagement letter for ARPA funds. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Board of Review Appointments - Discussion was had on Board of Review appointments. Motion by Evans, supported by Wamhoff to approve Resolution 2023-03 Board of Review appointments (Susan Sebright, Gary Timmer, Steve Ybema, and alternate Mark Forbes). Roll call vote: Wamhoff - yes, Modreske - yes, Morris - yes, Alberda - yes, Evans - yes. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

2022/23 Budget Amendments - Clerk Alberda gave an update on the budget amendments. Motion by Alberda, supported by Morris to have the budget amendments be presented at the March meeting. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

2023/2024 Budget - Evans gave an update on the progress of the proposed budget for the next budget year. Discussion was had on the budget and line items within the budget. The budget will be voted on during the March Budget Hearing meeting.

Township Hall Addition - Discussion was had on the bids received for the new building. Two bids were received and presented to the board. The first bid was for a base amount of \$998,000 from Triangle Construction. The second bid was for a base amount of \$1,042,790 from Mugen Construction. Discussion was had on some of the additional terms and conditions of each bid and it was determined that both bids were extremely close in price once factoring in all aspects of the bids. Public comment was opened in reference to the bids. Cade Bolser, Bob Beck, and Ken Blaauw gave public comment. Motion by Modreske, supported by Wamhoff to go with the Mugen Construction bid and allow Supervisor Evans and Clerk Alberda to proceed with signing the contract pending a review by the Township Auditors to verify an effective fund balance will remain to operate the township efficiently. In addition if Clerk Alberda or Supervisor Evans feels it is necessary to have further discussion prior to signing the contract a special meeting will occur on February 27th at 7am. Roll call vote: Wamhoff - yes, Modreske - yes, Morris - yes, Alberda - yes, Evans - yes. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

County Internet Infrastructure Resolution - Discussion was had on a resolution supporting the County for 123Net's application to provide broadband internet in the county. Motion by Modreske, supported by Morris to approve Resolution 2023-04 Resolution of Support for 123Net. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment : Public comment was opened at 8:52 pm. Bob Beck gave public comment from 8:52 pm. to 8:54 pm. There was no other public comment and public comment closed at 8:54 pm.

Board Comment – Discussion was had on an expiring CD held at United Bank. Motion by Alberda, supported by Wamhoff to renew the CD expiring on 2/15/2023 for 1 year which is the best current interest rate available and to not renew the \$100,000 CD expiring on 3/24/2023. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Evans supported by Wamhoff to adjourn at 8:59 pm. All ayes, motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Eric Alberda.