

**CLEON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
DATE DECEMBER 13, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor, Dave Myers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.at the Cleon Township Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL Board Members present: Dave Myers-Supervisor, Linda Cudney - Treasurer, Amy Herrst-Clerk, Abraham Canfield-Trustee, Gary Porter-Trustee

GUESTS and /or VISITORS: Fred Cambell, Heidi & Scott Mead, Evelyn Hawkins, Tracy Sill & Shawn Decker

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Heidi & Scott Mead: Wanted to put in interest for the old building to be used for community resource such as the food pantry. They are in the process of applying for 501c status.

SET / AMEND THE AGENDA:

Motion by Linda Cudney, **seconded** by Abe Canfield to Set/Amend the Agenda. AIF

CONSENT AGENDA: **Motion** by Gary Porter, **seconded** by Abe Canfield to approve the Consent Agenda. AIF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 11, 2023 Board meeting minutes **with minor corrections.**

TREASURERS REPORT: *See attached*

BUDGET AMENDMENT/PAYMENT OF BILLS:

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

A. TRUSTEES

Gary Porter: No Report

Abe Canfield: No Report

B. TREASURER: Investment accounts have accrued interst combined reaching \$ 17,875.70 this year. Possible early turn over of CD's may happen to obtain the best interest. Jim Mori came and inspected the furnace to do the yearly check. Flags were removed from the cemetery. A new church group is renting the hall on Saturdays now from 11-5pm. We have 2 outstanding checks that need attention check #9109 for Chris Gavett and check # 9174 for Christina Casey.

C. CLERK: We are entering 2024 as a Presidential election year. It is very busy and new with all the election law changes happening. We will need an election commission meeting for Jan 10 at 6:45 to appoint the election chair and inspectors. EV notices will be going out to voters as well stating that the EV site will be Maple Grove Community Center. We met with the risk assessment controller for the MI PAR PLAN. He went sent a report of the few things we should comply with. As a township we need to also have more support from our attorney. Dave will reach out to Mika Meyers and see if we can switch counsel possibly to find someone who is more accommodating and available to a smaller township.

D. SUPERVISOR: Village is set to change the boundary lines for the village involving a certain parcel located in the corner of the village limits. BOR met and only had one exemption to look over for Kay Mahoney's veteran status. Received a few complaints about the fiber install and damage to property. Acentek was notified and hopefully will rectify the situation. Manistee tax allocation board is looking for township supervisors to submit response to be part of their board. Dave will follow through with that on behalf of Cleon township.

E. ZONING: No permits

F: PLANNING: *see attached minutes*

G: MRCM: *See attached minutes*

H: FIRE DEPARTMENT: *See attached report.*

Annual Fire Meeting and Spaghetti Dinner is set for 12/15/23 in Nessen City School house around 630pm anyone can attend. Fire Academy is set to start on January 6th as a hybrid course for Chris Morgan. Mark will get the snowmobile contract updated for the township.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1. Board Member Action Plan Items:** all action plan items completed except for the follow-up on Valencourt Rd situation and Milarch snowplow contract.
- 2. Cannabis Ordinance Review:** still awaiting final approval from lawyer.
- 3. Township Hall Plans:** *See under New Business*
- 4. Township Park Project:** Mark suggested revenue sharing grant as a possibility and Dave is going to go that route when the next session is open.
- 5. Cherryland Fire Report Update:**

Tracy Sill: Brought for the documentation that she obtained from her research on the fire. Her and Shawn lost their home and everything with others in the "4 Corners Wildfire". She would like to team up with the township in perusing Cherryland and the possible legal battle that would need to take place to receive the restitution.

Mark Griner would like to ask the board to invite the CEO Rachel Johnson and the local board member Valarie Handy to our January meeting to explain why they are not going to help in any way. We are also going to gather background information and possibly investigate Mark taking it to small claims court if needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Approval of payment for new hall project:** Fred Campbell addressed the board with the request to pay app #2 which follows the original ARPA funds used for original payment and pay app #1. **Motion** by Gary Porter, **seconded** by Abe Canfield to approve pay app #2 draw request for \$130,250 from USDA. The disbursement would be \$123,737.50 to Milarch Inc. **Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.** Fred wanted the board to confirm we are ok with him making cosmetic decisions on the new hall items based on availability and feasibility and the board agreed to follow his guidance. Linda also obtained the audit quote for next fiscal year to be \$6500 for the planned audit and an additional \$3000 for the single audit.
- 2. Poverty Exemption Notice:** *Tabled until next meeting*
- 3. BOR appointments and training:** No need for appointments currently. **Motion** by Linda Cudney, **seconded** by Abe Canfield to approve the BOR training via zoom or MTA in person. AIF

CORRESPONDENCE:

See Attached

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Dave: Legion is holding a Christmas Party for the Kids Dec 16 1-4pm. Also, a huge thank you to Linda for such a great and informative newsletter and tax assessment delivery.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion** by Gary Porter, **seconded** by Abe Canfield AIF
TIME: 8:55 PM

Next Board Meeting scheduled for January 10th, 2023 at 7 PM
Minutes taken by Amy Herrst -Cleon Township Clerk

BOARD MEMBER ACTION PLAN:

Dave: Will contact Milarch's about the acceptance of the snow plow bid for the 2023-2024 season and get the signed copy.
Will work with Mark on the Cherryland case, as well as invite the CEO and Local Board member of Cherryland to our next meeting.
Will investigate possible inquiry of the attorney change situation.
Will reply to the request for the tax allocation board.

Amy: Will pull up any invoices or files on Cherryland and Consumers Energy for reference and send that to Mark and Dave.

Linda: Will continue to be the liaison between USDA and architect for the new Fire Station/
Township offices.

DRAFT