

**YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting**
Thursday, March 10, 2022
6:00 pm
Yankee Springs Township Hall
284 N. Briggs Rd., Middleville, Michigan 49333
MINUTES

MINUTES
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YS Board of Trustees –
Regular Meeting
March 10, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Supervisor Rob Heethuis

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE**

INVOCATION

INVOCATION

Roll Call: Mike Cunningham, Dave VanHouten, Rob Heethuis, Deb Mousseau, Larry Knowles. (All Present)

ROLL CALL

Staff Present: Karen Page-Kennedy, Frank Fiala, Sandy Marcukaitis

Visitors: 8

Supervisor Heethuis offered condolences on behalf of the board to the family of Bruce Cook on his recent passing.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:

Motion by Cunningham with support from Mousseau to add the closed session minutes from the February 10 meeting as we approve the consent agenda. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

**MOTION TO ADD
CLOSED SESSION
MINUTES TO
CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Heethuis with support from Cunningham to accept the agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Heethuis: yes; Mousseau: yes; VanHouten: yes; Cunningham: yes; Knowles: yes.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT
AGENDA**

Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED

- Board minutes 2/2/2022 Special Meeting, 2/10/2022 Regular BOT Meeting, 2/23/2022 Special Meeting, and the minutes from the Closed Session of the 2/10/2022 Meeting.
- February 2022 Accounts Payable: Checks #916740 through #916778; total amount: \$38,216.01.
- February 28, 2022 Payroll Checks #7190 through Check #7209 = \$11,058.95 net amount; February 2022 Fed P/R withholding \$2,902.10.

Motion by Heethuis with support from Knowles to approve the consent agenda. Roll Call

Vote: Cunningham: yes Mousseau: yes; VanHouten: yes; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: yes.

**MOTION TO APPROVE
CONSENT AGENDA**

Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

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OF VISITORS**

Greg Chandler

Vivian Connor, County Commissioner: Presented her report of happenings at the County (see

attached report). Mike Cunningham has submitted his name to be included on the steering committee for the County Master Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Limit 3 minutes)

None

TREASURER'S REPORT: By Deb Mousseau, Treasurer

- February 2022 Financial Statement and Investment reports were reviewed.
- The state Revenue Sharing Sales Tax is being updated per the most recent census (retroactive to October 2020) so a large deposit will be received in April and then the bi-monthly amount will increase.

Motion by Cunningham with support from Knowles to accept the Treasurer's Report. Roll Call Vote: Knowles: yes; Mousseau: yes; Cunningham: yes; VanHouten: yes; Heethuis: yes.

Yes: 5, No: 0. **MOTION CARRIED**

CLERK'S REPORT: By Mike Cunningham, Clerk

- March 2022 Current Invoice Register as of 3/10/2022 is \$27,369.62.

Motion by Heethuis with support from VanHouten to approve the invoice register. Roll Call Vote: Cunningham: yes; VanHouten: yes; Knowles: yes; Heethuis: yes; Mousseau: yes.

Yes: 5, No: 0. **MOTION CARRIED**

- Henika Library Update
 - The library is still working on the agreement but they are proceeding with the plan to vote on it and get it to our Township in April.
 - Has to be to the County Clerk by May 10th to be on the ballot August 2022.
- 2022 Elections update:
 - May 3, 2022: A resolution has been approved to consolidate with Orangeville so the election will take place there. The Township office will be open to accommodate any same day voter registration or absentee ballots.
 - August 2, 2022: Will include the Millage renewal and Henika Library issue.
 - New election inspector training will be May 31, 2022, and continuing education will take place as well (in June).
 - November 1, 2022: Precinct 1 location is uncertain at this point due to the office renovation but current thought is to have both precincts at the Fire Station if township hall is not available.
 - Redistricting will require that new voter ID cards have to be sent out with updated district information when received from the state.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recycling Committee:

- 2/22/2022 meeting minutes are attached.
- Next meeting will be March 14.

Park Committee:

MINUTES
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YS Board of Trustees –
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PUBLIC COMMENT

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT
TREASURER'S
REPORT**

CLERK'S REPORT

**MOTION TO APPROVE
INVOICE REGISTER**

**RECYCLING
COMMITTEE REPORT**

**PARK COMMITTEE
REPORT**

- Planning for the playground mulch delivery and installation
 - Approval was made for \$3,500 on 10/14/2021.
 - A new estimate is being prepared and if it increases will need an additional approval.
- Obtaining estimates for professional 5-year park plan creation.
 - Meeting with different engineers to do this project.
 - This is needed to be able to apply for state and federal grants.
- The Gun Lake Women’s Club has started a reading and craft program for children at the park and the committee is asking the board to approve \$160 for costs related to this program for this summer. A motion is not needed for this dollar amount.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

- March 8, 2022 meeting: One request for a variance at 11066 Hastings Point which was denied. It involved adding to a boat house which is a non-conforming building so it had to be turned down.

Planning Commission:

- PCI February report attached.
- February 2022 Complaint log attached.
- February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting was held.
 - Heard a request for an SEU to allow guest quarters for an accessory building across the street on Hastings Point and it was approved.
 - The PC decided to have the initial focus of their work plan include zoning fees, anti-littering, and ZBA forms.
 - Continued discussion on private roads
 - Formalized some groups to handle certain issues.
 - Frank Fiala is contacting Thornapple Township to review their ordinance regarding private roads.
- Rebecca Harvey has contacted the Township and is planning to stay on at an increased stipend from \$50/HR to \$75/HR.

Fire/EMS Report:

- February 2022 Fire/Emergency Medical responses attached.
- 2/18/2022 committee meeting topics
 - Developed a one-year plan for budgeting.
 - Applying for some grants – one is for backup cameras which looks like it will be approved.
 - They are interested in the purchase of Kodiak vehicle stabilizers which will assist when a vehicle is on uneven ground.
 - Waiting for a quote which is expected to be \$7,500 to \$8,500
 - The department feels that a fire hydrant at the fire station would be much safer for training purposes than having to use one elsewhere in the township.
 - B&R’s bid was \$14,600 plus permits.
 - Earth Movers bid was \$18,820 plus permits.
 - Discussion took place regarding the current fire equipment purchase fund budget.
 - The department planning will help with the Township in setting the next year’s budget.
 - The request for the stabilizers is expected to be voted on at the April meeting. It may be possible to wait on the fire hydrant until the start of the new fiscal year.
 - There is a subcommittee working on the new fire truck to make sure what is included so there will be no surprises. The current estimate is around \$750,000

ZBA REPORT

PC REPORT

FIRE/EMS REPORT

- and a 10% deposit is a common practice. Delivery would be 18 months.
- Dress uniforms: Our fire department doesn't have them and there is an interest in getting them. Cost is estimated to be around \$15,000.
- Currently firefighters are being paid \$18.00/hour. Wayland is looking at an increase to \$21.00/hour and our firefighters are contracted through Wayland. The fire department would like the Board to support keeping Yankee Springs at the same rate.
- Wayland EMS has approved an across the board 6% raise.

Water Advisory Committee:

- March 1, 2022 meeting was cancelled.
- GLASWA 2/3/2022 & 3/3/2022 minutes are in the meeting packet.
- The water tower has been inspected and report has been received with the recommended repairs.
 - That report will be presented to the Advisory Board next month.
 - The Advisory Board will come back with their recommendations.
- Requesting the Board to set a meeting date for the public meeting regarding rates. Would like the meeting to be in May so a date will be set at the March 23rd meeting.
- Also need to follow up with the property owners regarding the well inspections. Letters will be sent to the four who didn't respond.
- Cunningham will take care of getting the water ordinance on to Municode.
- Sewer: Gun Lake Sewer did come to terms with the property owner on Oakleigh to move the easement. If the entire alley is vacated, they will still need an easement for the sewer.

**WATER ADVISORY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Veterans Memorial Committee:

- No meeting last month.
- Next meeting will be March 30.

**VETERANS
MEMORIAL
COMMITTEE**

Board Action Items:

- ARPA funds update:
 - Informational meeting was held 2/2/22.
 - A folder is being maintained at the office reception desk to collect all input.
 - The next meeting will be held in May.
 - First official spending report is due 4/30/22. Spending so far has been for Covid test kits and for the water system expansion grant request (\$15,000 YST portion) project approved by the board at the 1/13/2022 meeting.
- Office Renovation Project
 - The Board met with Fleis & Vandenbrink 2/23/2022 in a special meeting for the 3rd project update.
 - New drawings were presented along with updated details on previous drawings.
 - The board voted to modify the office addition roof design to eliminate a potential water problem.
 - The board voted to use a general contractor for the project.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for 3/23/2022 at 1:30 PM.
 - It is planned for the design to be complete by the 3/23/2022 meeting. The board may be able to approve the design at this meeting to allow Fleis & Vandenbrink to move ahead with a request for bids as soon as possible.
 - The township's security contractor has been contacted to plan for security during construction and to provide proposals for security equipment and new contract for the expanded office.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

ARPA FUNDS UPDATE

**OFFICE RENOVATION
UPDATE**

- Fleis & Vandenbrink, architect and mechanical engineers visited the office 3/4/2022 to plan the HVAC equipment/system.
- It was suggested to have the area designed to include a water softener and filter system. The board agreed to this addition.

- Fire/EMS millage renewal August 2, 2022 ballot resolution.

Motion by Heethuis with support from Mousseau to adopt the resolution to adopt the Fire and EMS millage renewal language and to submit it to be placed on the August 2, 2022, election ballot. Discussion: This has been reviewed by the attorney and this is what if approved tonight will be submitted to the County Clerk to be put on the ballot in August. **Roll Call Vote:** Mousseau: yes; VanHouten: yes; Cunningham: yes; Knowles: yes; Heethuis: yes.

Yes: 5, No: 0. **MOTION CARRIED**

- 10749 Gun Lake Road Plat Amendment Complaint

Motion by Heethuis with support from Knowles to not object to the requested vacation of Gun Lake Road, and amendment of part of the Supervisor's Plat No. 1 of Replat of Spring Beach Resort as presented in the summons and complaint received 2/14/2022. **Roll Call Vote:** Heethuis: yes; VanHouten: yes; Knowles: yes; Cunningham: yes; Mousseau: yes.

Yes: 5, No: 0. **MOTION CARRIED**

- 11393 Oakleigh Dr. complaint

Motion by Heethuis with support from VanHouten to not object to the proposed vacation of a public alley of Streeter's Resort plat as presented in the complaint dated 1/12/2022. **Roll Call Vote:** Mousseau: yes; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: yes; Cunningham: yes; VanHouten: yes

Yes: 5, No: 0. **MOTION CARRIED**

- Resolution to adopt Home Occupation Ordinance amendment as put forth by the Planning Commission.

Motion by Heethuis with support from Cunningham to adopt ordinance No. 03-10-22 to amend the Yankee Springs Township Zoning Ordinance regarding home occupations; to repeal all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith and to provide an effective date. Discussion: The intent was to have language in there to say the Planning Commission had the ability to inspect later. This is not in the ordinance that is before the Board tonight so it was decided that the Board will not pass this motion tonight so that it can be tabled until the next meeting. **Roll Call Vote:** Knowles: no; VanHouten: no; Heethuis: no; Mousseau: no; Cunningham: no.

Yes: 0, No: 5. **MOTION DENIED**

- 2022 Landscaping contract bid comparison
 - 3 bids were received and opened today at 3:00 PM
 - The Ground Up: \$10,467.20
 - DK Landscaping: \$15,370
 - K Squared Property Services: \$15,365
 - There were some minor differences between what was included in each bid.
 - Discussion took place with regard to whether they should wait until the next

MOTION TO ADOPT THE FIRE AND EMS MILLAGE RENEWAL LANGUAGE FOR THE 8/2/2022 BALLOT

MOTION REGARDING 10749 GUN LAKE ROAD PLAT AMENDMENT

MOTION REGARDING 11393 OAKLEIGH DR.

MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 03-10-22 REGARDING HOME OCCUPATIONS

- meeting so that they can determine what those differences might be.
- Next year the Board will provide more specific information to ensure the bids are more comparable.

Motion by Heethuis with support from VanHouten that we accept DK Landscaping as the bid winner. Discussion as to whether there should be a reason provided for not accepting the low bid. Since two of the bids were so close, it may be difficult to accept the low bid as being for equal services. Last year the Board selected the low bid and the contract did not go well. **Roll Call Vote:** *Cunningham: yes; Mousseau: yes; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: no (not due to the quality of the contractor, but as I stated earlier I think we need a reason to not take the low bid); VanHouten: yes.*

**MOTION TO ACCEPT
LANDSCAPING BID
FOR 2022**

Yes: 4, No: 1. **MOTION CARRIED**

- 2022 Yankee Springs Cleanup Day 5/7/2022 in partnership with the DNR.
 - Will gather at 9:00 AM at the Fire Station.
 - DNR will provide a dumpster at Yankee Springs Road.
- Gun Lake Buoy installation 2022 update
 - Kyle Ribble has taken steps to avoid some of the problems that arose last year.
 - Last year’s agreement was to pay \$750 to put in the buoys and \$750 to take them out.
 - The township was charged that amount plus some materials.
 - It was discussed that there should be a \$500 maintenance fee included up front and each township would put in a share.
 - This would be to put in during May and remove in September as well as any required maintenance.
 - It was discussed if the state should be paying a share as many of the boaters on the lake are from the State Park. It may be possible to approach the DNR but not expected that they will agree.
 - Discussion also occurred with regard to putting a more formal contract or agreement in place.

**TOWNSHIP CLEANUP
DAY**

Motion by Knowles with support from VanHouten that we hire them again and include the additional \$500. **Roll Call Vote:** *Knowles: yes; Cunningham: yes; Heethuis: yes; VanHouten: yes; Mousseau: yes.*

**MOTION TO HIRE
KYLE RIBBLE FOR
GUN LAKE BUOY
INSTALLATION**

Yes: 5, No: 0. **MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Kok, DK Landscape: apologized for speaking out during the meeting. Also mentioned that the DEQ provided a grant to Lake Allegan to mark out things on their lake so maybe you can contact them.

Frank Fiala: Solid waste oversight group event is the 21st of May, two weeks after the clean up and are looking for volunteers. They will be accepting tires this year and they are working on an agreement to have them transported. It will be decided tomorrow but is expecting that they will accept electronics this year. DNR grant: this is what is paying for the tires and they do multiple other things so maybe that would potentially help with the buoys.

Micah Perkins, Michigan Building Construction Trades Council: Represents all the skill trades in the construction industry. Wants to develop a relationship with townships so that the townships will consider using his union workers. Also mentioned that they are looking for

workers as the average age on a construction site is currently in the mid 50's so they are looking for new members.

BOARD COMMENT:

Cunningham: The blood drive is going to be Tuesday, April 5, at the Fire station from 2-6.

BOARD COMMENT

Knowles: Fun meeting; first time a motion with support and 100% denied.

VanHouten: Good meeting.

Mousseau: Good meeting.

Heethuis: Reminder to the group that we want to put out a newsletter and I think the articles need to be to Sandy by the end of this month. Hope everyone is working on that and that we meet the deadline.

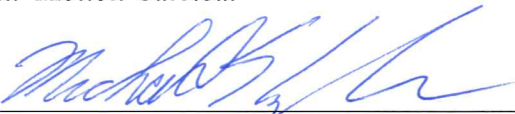
ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mousseau with support from Cunningham to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM.

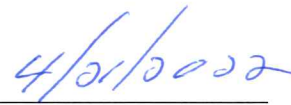
ADJOURNMENT

Approved by all. Motion Carried.

Approved by:


Michael S. Cunningham, Township Clerk

Date:



Respectfully submitted by:

Betsy Frigmanski, Recording Secretary

March 12, 2022