

**YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting**

**Thursday, May 12, 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  
May 12, 2022

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION**

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

**Staff Present:** Frank Fiala, Dennis Buist

**Visitors:** 5

**PLEDGE OF  
ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION**

**ROLL CALL**

**ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:**

Need to add an item to the agenda regarding action on the buoys and the Water Advisory Board presenting a possibility of having the Township help with the cost of power washing the water tower.

**Motion by Knowles with support from Heethuis to add these items. Approved by all. Motion Carried.**

**Motion by Cunningham with support from Mousseau accept the agenda. Roll Call Vote:**  
*Mousseau: yes; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: yes; Cunningham: yes; VanHouten: yes.*

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

- Board minutes 4/14/2022 Regular BOT Meeting.
- April 2022 Accounts Payable: Checks #916814 through #916854; total amount: \$112,139.10.
- April 30, 2022 Payroll Checks #7237 through Check #7255 = \$10,787.29 net amount; April 2022 Fed P/R withholding \$3,087.97.

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

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

**ADDITIONS TO  
AGENDA**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT  
AGENDA**

**MOTION TO APPROVE  
CONSENT AGENDA**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS**

**Vivian Conner (County Commissioner):** Commissioner's Report is attached

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
OF VISITORS**

David Gibbs, Fleis & Vandenbrink

Greg Chandler

Frank and Gerri Fiala: Recognized for 50 years of service to the Township.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:** (Limit 3 minutes)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** By Deb Mousseau, Treasurer

- April 2022 Financial Statement and Investment reports were reviewed.

TREASURER'S  
REPORT

**Motion by Heethuis with support from Cunningham to accept the Treasurer's Report. Roll**

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

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

MOTION TO ACCEPT  
TREASURER'S  
REPORT

**CLERK'S REPORT:** By Mike Cunningham, Clerk

- May 2022 Current Invoice Register as of 5/12/2022 is \$54,512.16

CLERK'S REPORT

**Motion by Mousseau with support from VanHouten to approve the invoice register. Roll Call**

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

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

MOTION TO APPROVE  
INVOICE REGISTER

- 2022 Elections update:
  - May 3, 2022 was consolidated with Orangeville.
  - August 2, 2022 Primary and November 8, 2022 upcoming.
    - List attached of important dates related to the primary election.
    - Last date to move polling place for primary is June 3.
    - Many dates are related to election inspector training.
- MTA Annual Conference
  - Cunningham attended and the sessions were very good.
  - Rob and Deb attended virtual sessions.
- 2022/2023 Insurance Renewal
  - Applications have been submitted and will need to be approved at the June meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

RECYCLING  
COMMITTEE REPORT

**Recycling Committee:**

- Meeting held May 9, 2022 and next one scheduled for May 23
- Two members attended a Pierce Cedar Creek Institute Lunch & Learn meeting.
- The recycling survey has been completed.
- The committee began to assess the data for the purpose of creating a report and recommendations to the Board.
- Recycling cost is going up 16.2% due to fuel prices which will cost the township approximately \$4,000/year based on current usage.

**Park Committee:**

- Williams & Works contract for the 5-year plan has been signed.

PARK COMMITTEE  
REPORT

- Playground mulch has been installed and spring cleanup has been done.
- Soccer nets are up, baseball bases have been installed and the field is being used for practice.
- A memorial bench has been donated for the northeast corner of the park. The slab needs to be installed by the township.
- The court surface caulking repair might not be done until June.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:**

- No cases in April.
- May 10 meeting: Setback request for Oakwood Shores that was denied as the problem was self-created.
- A couple of alternates are needed for the ZBA.

**ZBA REPORT**

**Planning Commission:**

- PCI April 2022 report attached.
- April 2022 Complaint log attached.
- April 21, 2022 Regular Meeting was held.
  - 3 SEU requests and a rezoning request were heard. Approved an outbuilding request on Elmwood Beach, approved another outbuilding on the corner of Patterson and Valley, approved a request for a roof over a deck at the Curly Cone, and denied a request for rezoning for property on Chief Noonday.
- May 11, 2022 Special Meeting
  - Discussed residential outbuildings on commercial property.
  - Littering ordinance was reviewed and sent to the planner for final touches.
  - Approved the zoning fees to be reviewed and approved by the Board at next month's meeting.
  - Public hearing will be next week at the PC meeting regarding the residential outbuildings and then should come to the Board at the next meeting.

**PC REPORT**

**Fire/EMS Report:**

- April 2022 Fire/Emergency Medical responses attached.
- Proposed budget should be ready for the Board for the June meeting.
- Training was completed on wildfire management and continuing with twice a month training.
- Continuing work on the specifications for the proposed new fire truck.
- A committee is developing an education piece to inform residents about the upcoming millage renewal vote.
- Kodiak supports were ordered and should be received in June.
- Backup Camera grant request has been submitted.
- Firefighter's breakfast set for Saturday July 2 from 7 to 10:00 AM.
- Fireworks permits have been issued for Gun Lake, Payne Lake, and Barlow Lake.
- Ambulance Meeting was held 5/11/22
  - Expenses have gone up due to the rise in fuel prices.
  - Another ambulance will be purchased shortly.
  - Yankee Springs just paid their share for the year.
  - Discussion was held about the formula for the annual fees but it was decided to remain the same.

**FIRE/EMS REPORT**

**Water Advisory Committee:**

- GLASWA May 5, 2022 minutes attached.
- May 3, 2022 meeting minutes attached.

**WATER ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Results of the water tower inspection was discussed. The recommended work is scheduled to be done in October at a cost of \$5,085.00.
- Board was updated on the status of the T-Mobile work to replace all the antennas on the top of the tower.
- A public hearing is planned for May 25. Rural Water will be presenting the rate study at the meeting.
- The Water Advisory Board approved to have the water tower pressure washed and they feel that Yankee Springs Township might be willing to share in the cost as it is the entrance to Yankee Springs and says Yankee Springs Township on the water tower. They are asking the township to pay half (\$2,500).

**Motion by Knowles with support from Heethuis that this Board approves to share with the cost of pressure washing the water tower not to exceed \$2,500.00.** Discussion: The township leases the fire hydrants. This is routine maintenance and the users should be paying for it. The Water Advisory Board feels that because of the cost it doesn't get done often enough and if the Board helped pay it could be done more frequently and would represent the Township better. The money that comes from T-Mobile's antennas on the tower does go to the water system which is \$1,800 per month. **Roll Call Vote:** *Cunningham: no; Mousseau: yes; VanHouten: no; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: yes.*

MOTION TO APPROVE  
SHARING THE COST  
OF PRESSURE  
WASHING THE WATER  
TOWER

Yes: 3, No: 2. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Veterans Memorial Committee:**

- Sunday, May 29, 2022 4 PM Memorial Day Ceremony planning is nearly complete.
  - Handouts are being printed.
  - Advertised in the Sun and News and at the Fire Station as well as on Facebook.
  - Asking family and friends to encourage a good turnout.

VETERANS  
MEMORIAL  
COMMITTEE

**Board Action Items:**

- ARPA funds update:
  - Second input meeting next Wednesday at 6:00 PM.
  - Basic information on ARPA will be presented along with a current project list.
  - Anyone attending can provide their input. Some input has been received through emails, letters and phone calls.
  - Decisions will need to be started to be made as the budget process has to be completed in June.
- Office/Hall Renovation Project
  - May 10, 2022 bid opening special meeting update – two bids received.
  - Letter from Fleis & Vandenbrink recommended the bid from Mugen Construction.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

ARPA FUNDS UPDATE

OFFICE RENOVATION  
PROJECT UPDATE

**Motion by Heethuis with support from Mousseau to accept the contract for the township hall additions and alterations project to Mugen Construction Company for \$985,744.** Discussion: Mugen was very thorough in his bid and made a suggestion that will save \$4,000 on the ceiling system. This makes the amount \$981,744.

**Motion by Heethuis with support from Mousseau to amend the amount of the motion to \$981,744. All ayes. Motion Carried.**

MOTION TO ACCEPT  
CONTRACT WITH  
MUGEN  
CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY

**Motion by Heethuis with support from Mousseau to accept the contract for the township hall**

additions and alterations project with Mugen Construction Company for \$981,744.

Discussion: Discussion took place regarding the handling of the payments. If Mugen is approved, David Gibbs will forward a "notice to proceed" to them, and would expect that they can start at the end of June or first of July. Based on typical duration the addition would be done mid to late November, the office would move into the addition and then they will begin work on the renovation portion. More details will be worked out at the preconstruction meeting. **Roll Call**

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

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

- Financing request was sent out to 14 different lending institutions and received 7 responses.
- Highpoint Community Bank had the best rate (2.64%) and no prepayment penalty.
- Total interest cost for borrowing \$800,000 would be \$110,516 (without early payment).
- Total project cost based on Mugen's bid and including Fleis & Vandenbrink is \$1,082,744 minus \$4,000.
- Reviewed the estimated remaining general fund balance if the Township borrows the money or pays for the project as it is done.
- The township will receive about \$100,000 in additional revenue sharing funds per year due to the increased census count.
- It does not affect the contractor at all if we pay cash rather than borrow through an Installment Purchase Agreement.

Motion by VanHouten with support from Mousseau to fund \$600,000 of the Office/Hall Renovation project through an Installment Purchase Agreement with no prepayment penalty with the remainder of the project costs coming from the general fund. Roll Call Vote:  
*VanHouten: yes; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: no; Cunningham: yes; Mousseau: yes.*

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

Motion by Heethuis with support from Cunningham to adopt Resolution 05-12-2022 authorizing the execution and delivery of an installment purchase agreement with Highpoint Community Bank for a maximum of \$800,000 at no more than 2.64% for no more than 11 years. Discussion: Board wants to be sure of the no prepayment penalty. Discussed if that needs to be clarified before the resolution is passed. **Roll Call Vote:** *Cunningham: yes; Mousseau: no; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: no; VanHouten: yes.*

Yes: 3 No: 2. **MOTION CARRIED**

- Great Lakes Energy new franchise request: The township attorney made some changes and Great Lakes Energy is currently reviewing.
- DWRF Grant update
  - The proposal regarding the expansion of our water system to benefit YES Community's (Owns Yankee Springs Meadows) is not looking positive. EGLE has put pressure on YES to provide water to the community as soon as possible. YES has put in one additional well and if they put in a second well and their own arsenic treatment process, they will be ready to go. EGLE said they do not need to put a tower in place. If the Township expanded it would not be complete until 2023 so YES may be taking care of it on their own.
  - Fleis & Vandenbrink has been instructed to continue working on procuring grant money for the loop from Pine Meadows to the well house and to increase the

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MOTION TO FUND THE  
OFFICE/HALL  
RENOVATION  
PROEJCT

MOTION TO ADOPT  
RESOLUTION 05-12-  
2022

DWRF GRANT  
UPDATE

- arsenic treatment.
- The Township will still be getting a conceptual estimate on the water system expansion even if it is not used right away.
- Putting in that loop has been part of the reliability study for a long time.
- 2022 Yankee Springs Cleanup Day 5/7/2022: Went very well, about 30 people helped out and will plan to do it again next year.
- 2022 Spring Newsletter went out the week of April 18. Thanks to Sandy for putting it all together.
- Update on buoys: Ready to go in. Kyle Ribble from Gillette’s is putting them in and all the other townships have agreed to participate and said if it needs to increased for next year let them know to add it to their budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Frank Fiala: May 21<sup>st</sup> is the hazardous waste pickup. This year they are taking electronics, no refrigerators or humidifiers. There will be six pickup trucks sold from Barry County Road Commission; the details are on their website.

BOARD COMMENT

**BOARD COMMENT:**

**Cunningham:** The cleanup day hopefully sets a good example for the Township. We did a good job and would love to see it get to enough people so they had to assign everyone to different roads.

**Heethuis:** Maybe we could associate it with the Women’s Club because they did a dynamite job cleaning up along 179.

**Knowles:** Thanked everyone that helped on that day. Places were looking a lot better after having done it for a second year. Thanks to Mike, Rob, and Dave for buying the pizza. Will be gone next week but back for the public hearing on May 25.

**VanHouten:** Feels really good about what we’ve done and all the progress. Don’t forget he will not be at the June meeting.


**Mousseau:** Thanks for the pizza. We have budgeting meetings coming up in June; two extra meetings will have to be set up after the regular meeting. Need to figure out a date for those meeting – thinking of Wed. June 15 and 22.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

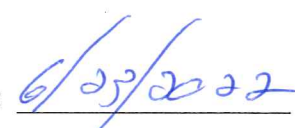
ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Cunningham with support from Mousseau to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 PM.**  
**Approved by all. Motion Carried.**

Approved by:

  
Michael S. Cunningham, Township Clerk

Date:



Respectfully submitted by:  
Betsy Frigmanski, Recording Secretary  
May 16, 2022

Commissioners Report  
Yankee Springs Township  
May 12, 2022

The Board approved

\*The 2020 and 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program Inter-Governmental Funding Agreement Between the County of St. Joseph and the County of Barry

\* Farmland and Open Space Applications for Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Chase in parts of Carlton Twp., Hastings Twp., and Woodland Twp.

\*The contract with Graphic Sciences to digitally image court files in Circuit, District, and Friend of the Court, and spend up to \$60,589 for the project, with funds to be paid from Supplemental CESF Grant and Data Processing

\*The FY2023 Office of Community Corrections grant application

\*The 2023 Budget Calendar

\*To classify the Animal Shelter Kennel Worker positions as BCCEA Salary Schedule Classification Grade 1

\*To increase the hours for one Animal Shelter Kennel Worker from part-time (19 hours per week) to full-time.

\*To amended the MERS Health Care Savings Program Participation Agreement & Contribution Addendum for the Barry County Central Dispatch employees effective 3/1/2022.

I have attended:

GLIB The board approved;  
To change the meeting time from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The May meeting will be May 18 instead of May 25 to allow for treatments as needed in time for the holiday weekend.

To amend the budget to create a new line item for legal fees of \$1,000 and reduce the contingency line item by the same amount.

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Airport Board the Dawn Patrol pancake breakfast will be 7/9/22

Planning Commission, I was absent

Prairieville Township meeting, the board approved;  
to change their meeting date from the second Wednesday to the third  
Wednesday, except for the month of November. The November meeting will  
be the second Tuesday. The time remains the same at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Galanter".