

**YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting**
Thursday, November 11, 2021
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
November 11, 2021

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

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

Staff Present: Frank Fiala, Sandy Marcukaitis

Visitors: 8

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:

Motion by Heethuis with support from Cunningham to add discussion with Bonnie Gettys and Rob Geyer from the County (coordinators of the ARPA funds) to the agenda during the Treasurer's Report. Roll Call Vote: Heethuis: yes; VanHouten: yes; Mousseau: yes; Cunningham: yes; Knowles: yes.

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

Motion by Heethuis with support from Cunningham to add Rob Thall to the Water Advisory Committee Report. Roll Call Vote: Knowles: yes; VanHouten: yes; Heethuis: yes; Mousseau: yes; Cunningham: yes.

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

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

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

- Board minutes 10/11/2021 Public Hearing and 10/14/2021 Regular BOT meeting.
- October Accounts Payable: Checks #916574 through #916615; total amount: \$70,935.50.
- October 29, 2021 Payroll Checks #7105 through #7123 = \$11,528.94 net amount; October 2021 Fed P/R withholding \$3,036.15.

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

Rob Thall
Bonnie Gettys
Rob Geyer

Vivian Connor (County Commissioner): updated the Board on the activities of the Barry County commissioners (see attached).

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Limit 3 minutes)

None

TREASURER'S REPORT: By Deb Mousseau, Treasurer

- October 2021 Financial Statement and Investment reports were reviewed.
- 2021 Audit Report
 - Joshua Gabrielse of Siegfried Crandall reported that the Township passed audit.
 - Joshua answered questions posed by the board.
 - Discussion occurred as to spending of ARPA funds.

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

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

- Barry County ARPA distribution
 - Report was distributed by Bonnie Gettys
 - Questions were asked by the Board and answered.
- Heethuis brought up that the Township is looking into expanding their water system.
- Possibility of doubling water capacity and dealing with problems with arsenic and other issues.
- Would like the Board to authorize Knowles and Heethuis to continue gathering information and bringing back ideas and information to the Board.

Motion by Cunningham with support from Mousseau to authorize Larry Knowles and Rob Heethuis to work with engineers on projects for the water and sewer system to apply for the county ARPA money. Roll Call Vote: Knowles: yes; Mousseau: yes; Cunningham: yes; VanHouten: yes; Heethuis: yes.

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

Motion by Mousseau with support from VanHouten to adopt Resolution #11-01-21 to approve the investment policy as presented. Discussion: This covers the bank name changes and also improves the Township's protection under the FDIC as it will allow the township money to be spread over more than one banking institution. **Roll Call Vote:** Cunningham: yes; Heethuis: yes; VanHouten: yes; Mousseau: yes; Knowles: yes.

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

CLERK'S REPORT: By Mike Cunningham, Clerk

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

PUBLIC COMMENT

TREASURERS REPORT

MOTION TO ACCEPT TREASURERS REPORT

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE KNOWLES AND HEETHUIS TO WORK WITH ENGINEERS ON EXPANSION OF WATER SYSTEM

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 11-01-21 TO APPROVE THE INVESTMENT POLICY

- The current invoice register through 11/11/2021 is \$26,121.47

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

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

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

- Recycling committee update
 - Committee has met three times. Researching what recycling opportunities are available for Yankee Springs Township. Report and recommendation will be made when research is completed.
 - Committee has met with Jim Brown, Hastings Charter Township Supervisor and will be meeting with Rachel French, Barry County Recycling Coordinator.
 - Next meeting is next Monday at 9:00 AM.
- First draft of the 2022 Meeting schedules was shared before it is published.
 - Larry Knowles asked that we revise the proposed schedule for workshop meetings as the proposed schedule conflicts with the GLASWA meetings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Water Advisory Committee

- Rob Thall reviewed the changes that are being suggested to update the Water Supply System ordinance.
 - This is the ordinance as unanimously approved by the Water Utility Advisory Board.
 - Board discussion took place on "mandatory connection" sections 126.904 through 126.908.

Motion by Knowles with support from VanHouten that we accept the revised ordinance presented by the Water Advisory Board as is with the exception of eliminating Section 126.904 "mandatory connection" and eliminating Section 9.6 "d" and "f" and adding the word Board to Township throughout the ordinance. Discussion: Mr. Thall suggested that the addition of the word Board be specific to Sections 126.905, 126.906, 126.907 and 126.908 rather than throughout the ordinance.

Amended:

Motion by Knowles with support from VanHouten that we accept the revised ordinance recommended by the Water Advisory Board as is with the exception of eliminating Section 126.904 "mandatory connection" and eliminating Section 9.6 "d" and "f" and adding the word "Board" after Township in Sections 126.905, 126.906, 126.907, and 126.908. Roll Call

Vote: Knowles: yes; Cunningham: no; Heethuis: yes; VanHouten: yes; Mousseau: yes.

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

- November 2nd meeting minutes attached.
- The water board will be one member short as of January 1st and they would like the Township Board to consider Mrs. Barnes of 12087 Pine Meadows Drive to fill that spot. She will need to fill out an application and the Board will review and make a decision on her appointment.

**MOTION TO APPROVE
CURRENT INVOICE
REGISTER**

**RECYCLING
COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**WATER ADVISORY
REPORT**

**MOTION TO APPROVE
THE REVISED WATER
SUPPLY SYSTEM
ORDINANCE**

- GLASWA has sent out letters to the landowners where the Section 19 monitoring wells are located requesting permission for EGLE to go onto their property to take samples. The responses will be returned to the Township Hall.

Park Committee

- Grant trees planted.
- GLWC "little" Library has been installed.
- Court surface cracking update: Mike Cunningham gave a summary of the visit with Racquet Sports and their recommendation to do repairs in the spring.
 - They can also remove the bench on the pickleball court (for safety reasons).

**PARK COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Zoning Board of Appeals Report

- No October meeting

ZBA REPORT

Planning Commission Report

- October 21 meeting: SEU for Elmwood Beach garage addition and England Drive accessory building were both approved.
- Special meeting to discuss the CIP and private roads was held November 10.
- Reappointments due to expiring terms:

PC REPORT

Motion by Cunningham with support from Heethuis to reappoint Shana Bush to a three-year term as a planning commission member. Roll Call Vote: Heethuis: yes; VanHouten: yes; Knowles: yes; Cunningham: yes; Mousseau: yes.

**MOTIONs TO
REAPPOINT PLANNING
COMMISSION
MEMBERS**

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

Motion by Knowles with support from VanHouten to reappoint John Frigmanski to a new three-year term starting January 1st. Roll Call Vote: VanHouten: yes; Mousseau: yes; Heethuis: yes; Cunningham: yes; Knowles: yes.

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

Fire/EMS Committee

- October 2021 Yankee Springs Township Fire/Emergency Medical Responses attached.
- A grant request was submitted to get funds for a Rapid Deployment Craft and that decision is pending.
 - Heethuis requested that future grant requests should come before the Township Board before the request is made.
- Fire Station fuel tank update: Nothing more has been done yet but still planning to get it done before the end of the year.

FIRE/EMS REPORT

Veterans Committee Report

- Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11 ceremony was very successful.
- Planning to have this be an annual event and perhaps be combined with other nearby communities.

**VETERANS
COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Thanked Deb for all her help with the tables, water, set up and everything else that she did. Also thanks to Aileen VanHouten for the cookies and Rob as the MC, Al Warren, Mick Lane and John Smith for their assistance.
- 51 people attended the event.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

**OFFICE/HALL
RENOVATION UPDATE**

- Office/Hall Renovation update:
 - Fleis and Vandenbrink Engineering Inc. was notified by email on 10/15/2021 that the BOT had approved the large office and revised hall design at the 10/14/2021 board meeting.
 - Our IT provider, Ocean Inc. has been notified that the project was approved. They want to be involved in helping us to include what is needed for the present and future in the design.
 - Fleis and Vandenbrink and Ocean Inc. have been put in contact with each other to coordinate the IT part of the project.
 - Emails the weeks of 10/18/2021 and 10/25/2021 discussed the ceiling height in the new office and the project schedule with the goal being to be able to use the hall as much as possible in 2022 for elections and meetings.
 - The office addition will be built while we work in the existing building, and then we will move into the addition while the existing office work is being done. The new zoning office will be used by the treasurer until the new treasurer's office is completed.
 - IT provider will help with that transition to keep everything running.
 - There will be at least a monthly meeting between the Township and Fleis and Vandenbrink to review the design and make sure we get what we want as efficiently as possible. The 1st meeting will be around 12/1/2021. The design work is expected to be complete in February 2022.
 - Agreement has been signed with Roger Swets to manage the financing paperwork.

Motion by Mousseau with support from Cunningham to collect 50% of the 2022 Wayland Union School District tax levy at a cost of \$2.50 per parcel. Roll Call Vote: Cunningham: yes; Mousseau: yes; VanHouten: yes; Heethuis: yes; Knowles: yes.

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

Motion by Mousseau with support from Heethuis to adopt Resolution #11-02-21 not to impose 3% penalty fee for any taxes paid on/or after February 15, 2022, through February 28, 2022. Roll Call Vote: Knowles: no; VanHouten: no Heethuis: yes; Cunningham: yes; Mousseau: yes.

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

Motion by Mousseau with support from Heethuis to adopt Resolution #11-03-21 not to impose 1% interest fee for any taxes paid on/or after February 15, 2022, through February 28, 2022. Roll Call Vote: Cunningham: yes; VanHouten: no; Knowles: no; Heethuis: yes; Mousseau: yes.

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

**MOTION TO COLLECT
WAYLAND UNION
SCHOOL DISTRICT
TAXES**

**MOTION TO ADOPT
RESOLUTION #11-02-
2021 NOT TO IMPOSE
3% PENALTY FEE ON
TAXES PD 2/15/2022
THROUGH 2/28/22**

**MOTION TO ADOPT
RESOLUTION #11-03-
2021 NOT TO IMPOSE
1% INTEREST FEE ON
TAXES PD 2/15/2022
THROUGH 2/28/22**

- A tree has been ordered to replace the dead maple tree at the Hall/Office.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Limit 3 minutes)

Frank Fiala: It has been a standard practice that the county commissioners have pledged the full faith of the county and gotten lower bond rates and lending rates. He would recommend Roger Swets talk with Michael Brown for further information on that.

PUBLIC COMMENT

BOARD COMMENT:

BOARD COMMENT

Mousseau: Taxes will go out early December so the office will be open on Thursday, December 30th from 9 to 5 to help out the taxpayers who want to pay their property taxes by the end of the year.

VanHouten: This is our 12th regular meeting as a board and he is pleased with what has been accomplished in the first year.

Knowles: Thanked the Board for the support and thanked Dave for everything he did for Veterans Day.

Cunningham: There will be a blood drive at St. Cyril and Methodius on Tuesday, November 30th if anyone is interested. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Heethuis: Apologized for the long meeting but a lot of good things were discussed tonight. Proud of everyone on the board and all the hard work.

ADJOURNMENT:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mousseau with support from Cunningham to adjourn meeting at 8:32 PM.

Approved by all. Motion Carried.

Approved by:


Michael S. Cunningham, Township Clerk

Date:

11/27/2022

Respectfully submitted by:
Betsy Frigmanski, Recording Secretary
November 16, 2021