

KEENE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

March 13, 2024

Present: T Hardy, B Hulliberger, T Lewis, B Schafer, & C Wojcik

Absent: No One

The meeting started at 7:10 PM with the pledge.

Motion made to approve the February Board Minutes, 1st by Tami, 2nd by Corey.
All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Technology Report:

Phone project is complete. Will be installing the new computer in April.
Working on getting the projector up & running may need to purchase a
screen. Getting a date to get the carpet cleaned. The street light is still
being worked on to get it working.

Motion made to get the carpet cleaned by Bob, 2nd by Brett. All In Favor,
Motion Passed.

Motion made to purchase a new vacuum for the Township. Would like to purchase
a vacuum for around \$150.00. Motion made by Corey, 2nd by Brett. All In Favor,
Motion Passed.

A few other Tech Issues, getting a fire safe quote. Rekeying the Township Doors.

The ARPA fund List is due in April.

Bob added that there will be a cost of \$100.00 to Consumer Powers to get the
street light started & up and running.

Public Comment:

Sandy Smiley asked if to use the hall a couple of days to have people come &
sign a petition. The Board was in favor to use the hall. Other people who spoke
during public comment were Jill Thompson regarding the grading of the roads,
Keith added a comment to the grading of the roads, Holli Melton also had a
comment.

Treasurer's Report:

Taylor gave an update regarding the Keene Township balances in our
accounts. Taylor has also closed a few accounts that were not making

good interest rates. Also opened a new money market account . The money market account will earn 5% interest. Bob added that with the interest earned would annually net around \$20000.00. Also a big savings if the tax payers do not want a receipt mailed back to them after paying their taxes.

Clerk's Report:

Tami gave an update regarding the Election that was held on 2/27/24. Total of 738 ballots cast with 208 of them being AV Ballots. The next Election will be held on 5/7/24 for the residents of the Saranac & Lowell School Districts. There will be no early voting for this Election. The Election is to renew the Bond Issues. Jason Smith, the Superintendent from Saranac Schools would like to attend our April Board Meeting.

A Motion was made by Brett, 2nd by Corey to pay the bills. All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Reports:

Corey gave an update from the Planning Commission meeting. Talked about the Food Truck at Jones Meat Market on Potters Road. The annual fee for the permit is \$50.00The fee will be discussed at the next Board Meeting. Bob made a motion to approve the Food Truck Ordinance, 2nd by Corey. All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Discussion & Motion made regarding the Migrant Housing Ordinance. Brett made a Motion, 2nd by Corey. All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Discussion & Motion on adding the new zoning moratorium for wind & solar projects

Motion based on the recommendation of the Planning Commission & the findings made in its resolution dated 3/5/24, & which the resolution is incorporated herein by reference, the Township Board hereby adopts & enacts ordinance number: 24-3-5 amending the Township Zoning Ordinance to include a moratorium on matters related to commercial wind & solar projects & directs the Clerk to publish said ordinance or a summary thereof in the Ionia Sentinel Standard newspaper with in 15 days of adoption.

Bob made a Motion, 2nd by Taylor. All In Favor, Motion Passed

Zoning Report:

Jeanne gave her report on the activities happening in the Township since the February Meeting.

Committee Report:

Taylor gave an update regarding the Survey. The Survey has been updated & ready to go Keene Township Land Owner's. The Survey will be numbered, will have a tear off at the bottom, & will be on paper that can't be copied. They should be sent out by 4/1/24 & returned by 4/29/24. A Post Office Box was opened at the Saranac Post Office, Box 40. Also need to get a drop box hung up at the Township Hall. The Survey will an envelope which will not be stamped. The price of mailing is \$1.38. The Survey will be one per household.

Cemetery Report:

Bob would like some fence work done at the Pinckney Cemetery. Bob asked if Brett could get a quote to have the fencing fixed & updated.

Supervisor Report:

Corey will cut down the fence section at the hall. (Thank you Corey).

Bob talked about the update on the Ionia County Road Commission regarding the Sayles/Whites Bridge intersection, now reviewing dual stop signs. Brad Potter also gave an update on meeting with the DNR to donate bridge funds for improvements at Whites Bridge.

New Business:

The Auditor, Dave DeHaan will be attending our Board Meeting in April. He will give the results of the Audit for last year.

A presentation by ITC regarding proposed new transmission line through the Township will be at the April Board Meeting.

Regarding the Broadband Metro Act, would like us to extend for 5 more years. Will need to sign the Metro Act Right of Way Permit Extension Request which will expire on 3/25/24. This Act will go thru 3/25/2029. A Motion was made by Bob, 2nd by Brett, Motion Passed, All In Favor.

Bob has a few different contracts that need to be approved by the Board.

Gravel, 4.84 miles , \$73 K. A Motion was made by Bob. 2nd by Corey to approve the gravel amount. All In Favor, Motion Passed

Gradeseal Services, 32 hours, \$3K. Motion made by Corey, 2nd by Brett, All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Brine Services, which would be two per season around \$7K. Motion made by Corey, 2nd by Brett, All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Cemetery Mowing, for the summer months will be around \$7.5K. Motion made by Tami, 2nd by Bob. All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Regarding having Diane Nosko do the Township payroll & the 941's for Keene Township & help Tami & Taylor with Quik Books. Motion made by Corey, 2nd by Tami. All In Favor, Motion Passed.

Clean- Up day for the Township will be held on 4/20/24. The hours for the Clean-Up are 7:AM to Noon.

Review of the Zoning Board of Appeals Application alternate, a few people have turned in their applications. This will be tabled until the 3/27/24 Board Meeting.

Ongoing discussion regarding insurance carrier's requests for changes to the Township procedures. Need W-9's distributed to employees & contractors. Tami will be working on getting the W 9's from everyone. (per our auditor)

A Budget Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, 3/27/24 7:PM , the annual meeting afterwards.

A Motion was made to Adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM. Motion made by Corey, 2nd by Brett. All In Favor, Motion Passed

Submitted By:
T Hardy
Clerk