



Leroy Township

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING December 16, 2021

Called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Supervisor Laveta Hardish, Treasurer Mark Christoff, and Trustees Michael VanHouten & Jon Bolton. Clerk Nicole Hardish telecommunicated from 1280 Golden Ave., Battle Creek.

A motion to approve meeting agenda made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Treasurer Christoff. Motion carried unanimously.

Guests: None

Citizens: 1

Consent Agenda:

A motion to approve as written, including the approval of the November 18, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, December financial report, post-approve payment of November 2021 bills in the amount of \$43,321.58, and place all departmental reports on file made by Treasurer Christoff and supported by Clerk Hardish. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Business: None

New Business:

A motion to post-approve payment for the annual SCBA fit testing & equipment maintenance invoice from 5 Alarm in the amount of \$1,608.17 made by Trustee VanHouten and supported by Treasurer Christoff. This is an annual testing that the fire department has performed. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to post-approve payment for printing & mailing of our 2021 winter tax bills invoice from Allegra of Battle Creek in the amount of \$1,072.90 made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Clerk Hardish. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to post-approve payment for the removal & reseeding of the cross driveway at Morgan Cemetery as well as the site prep & re-seeding of the southern section of Leroy Congregational Cemetery invoice from Chapman's Nursery and Landscaping in the amount of \$5,404.90 made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Trustee VanHouten. This is for the removal, re-seeding & winter covering of the North-to-South driveway in Morgan Cemetery as well as the correction of the southern property line of Leroy Congregational Cemetery (when the work was originally done, the property line was assumed). Both of these project costs came in under budget! Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to post-approve payment for the November streetlight invoice from Consumers Energy in the amount of \$1,152.29 made by Trustee VanHouten and supported by Treasurer Christoff. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to post-approve payment for maintenance done on fire engine 1033 invoice from Dependable Fire Apparatus in the amount of \$1,071.79 made by Treasurer Christoff and supported by Trustee Bolton. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve payment for the Fall Dumpster Day services invoice from Granger Waste Services in the amount of \$1,664.96 made by Trustee VanHouten and supported by Clerk Hardish. This year's costs came in under budget! Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve payment for completed township road projects invoice from Calhoun County Road Department in the amount of \$156,230.58 made by Clerk Hardish and supported by Treasurer Christoff. Supervisor Hardish pointed out that the engineering cost estimates for the work done in Aug.-Nov. 2021 came in under budget! The Board's intention is to take that cost savings and turn it around and invest it in more road improvements for 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the recommendation of the Supervisor for the re-appointment of Philip Qualls (of 4151 D Drive S) and Travis Arbogast (of 4612 H Drive S) to serve 3-year terms on the Planning Commission from Jan. 01, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2024, made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Trustee VanHouten. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the recommendation of the Supervisor for the re-appointment of Randy Lang (of 8271 5 Mile Road) to serve 3-year terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals from Jan. 01, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2024, made by Treasurer Christoff and supported by Clerk Hardish. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the 2022 summer tax collection on behalf of Harper Creek Schools & CISD Resolutions made by Trustee VanHouten and supported by Trustee Bolton. The Supervisor will work out the cost totals and the Clerk will mail out invoices to the schools in June. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the increase the annual salary of the Township Zoning Administrator, Robert Behnke, to \$19,000 annually starting Jan. 01, 2022, made by Trustee VanHouten and supported by Treasurer Christoff. This position compensation will include performing duties of the Zoning Administrator, Code Compliance, and Coordinating Planning & ZBA functions. There will be no additional overtime or mileage paid. If he serves as secretary for the Planning Comm. or ZBA he will be paid \$100 per meeting (this is not new). The \$2,253.32 required in the 2021-22 budget for his increase can be transferred from the Contingency Fund. Rob will also be sworn in as Deputy Supervisor beginning January 1, 2022. Compensation will be \$4,000 annually. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was had to set up-coming dates for budget workshops to work on our 2022-23 budget. The Board will hold it's next Budget Workshop on Jan. 11th at 9:30 a.m. Supervisor Hardish asked the Board Members to plan to discuss a pay increase for our Assistant Fire Chief, Marvin Tenbrink, at this workshop.

Citizen's Time:

A citizen asked about the blight progress regarding properties on 6 Mile Road, K Drive S, and ½ Mile Road. Supervisor Hardish assured the citizen that the Zoning Dept. was aware of all the properties and currently in discussion with difference resources to get these properties (and their owners) some help.

Next Board meeting is set for January 20th at 9:30 a.m. Adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully, Clerk Nicole Hardish