

# Almira Township

## Regular Board Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2024

I. Supervisor Roper called the meeting to order at 6 pm at the Almira Township Hall 19639 Maple Street, Lake Ann

II. **Pledge to the Flag Recited:** Held a minute of silence for the young people and their families that were involved in a serious accident last Friday night.

### III. Roll Call

*Present: Tammy Clous, Mandy Gray Rineer, Mark Roper, Matt Therrien. Florip arrived at 6:20 p.m.*

IV. **Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda:** Under New Business: Item I. should be Maple Grove instead of Maples Grove; add Item J. Power Washing

V. **Approval of Meeting Agenda:** *Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to approve the meeting agenda as amended. All ayes, no nays, Florip absent, motion passed.*

### VI. Approval of Consent Agenda:

*Motion by Therrien, supported by Rineer, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All ayes, no nays, Florip absent, motion passed.*

VII. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rineer provided a financial report for the end of September 2024. Tax monies that have been received have been distributed.

### IX. County Commissioners:

Commissioner Art Jeannot had provided a written report and discussed briefly the Maples information. He then turned his report time over to Katie Zeits, Benzie County Administrator, who gave additional information on the county millage requests that are on the November ballot.

### X. Dept. Heads:

Tom Vinnette was not at the meeting so no report from the Recreational Resources Committee.

Assistant Chief Derek Smith reported on call statistics which were a total of 27 incidents for the month of September, vehicle and equipment status, training, grants, and community outreach.

### XI. Guests: None

VIII. **Brief Public Input:** Ben Deemer stated "good job" on the Barber Road patch work.

### XII. Old Business:

- A. **ARPA Projects:** Roper reported that the concrete extension to the cross walk should be done this week. The two new flush toilets in the park need the electric and doors. Discussion took place. *Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to spend up to \$3,000.00 for the park bathroom doors from TruDoor. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; Florip, absent; all ayes, no nays, motion passed. Therrien stated that he had met again with Brian Brzezinski, Brezin*

Acoustical Finishings, regarding the ceiling in the townhall, more options were discussed. Rineer and Therrien will need to meet to discuss these options. Rineer stated that she and Florip will be meeting, with some Recreational Resources Committee members, to discuss signage, benches, etc. for the dog park. Clous updated the Board on the Ransom Lake Grant application. The ARPA projects will need further discussion at a special board meeting. Discussion about when the special meeting would be held and the decision was made that the special Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Township Office.

- B. Social Security and Pension:** Clous reported that half of the employees have turned in their vote on the social security option(s) they were given. Lots of questions and ideas have been brought forth. A special meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, to discuss what options the Board wants to take for Social Security with new questions and ideas that have been presented.
- C. Recreational Plan:** This plan will be addressed in the future as to how this plan will get updated.
- D. Ransom Lake Grant:** Additional information regarding the grant has been submitted.

### XIII. New Business

- A. Review Purchasing Policy:** Discussion took place, put this on the November agenda.
- B. November Election:** Clous presented the information that the election committee approved, with discussion taking place. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Therrien, to approve the election inspectors for the November General Election as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion passed. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Therrien, to allow up to \$500.00 to be used for two meals for election inspectors that will be working. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- C. Fee Schedule:** Updated fee schedule was presented from Zoning Administrator Preston with discussion taking place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Rineer, to approve the updated fee schedule as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- D. Short-Term Rental Application:** ZA Preston provided an updated Short-Term Rental Application that the Planning Commission had approved at their October meeting. Discussion took place about these changes. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Florip, to approve the updated Short-Term Rental Application as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- E. Ordinance Amendments:** ZA Preston and Twp. Attorney had worked on the Special Event Ordinance and Special Event Application. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to approve the Special Event Ordinance and Special Event Application as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- F. Bathroom Electric:** Roper explained that one meter base on one of the park bathrooms was placed in a location that would require going over the septic system, so additional wiring would be needed to avoid that. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to approve the additional electric costs of not more than \$900.00 for the one park bathroom. Roll

call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.

- G. Fire Station Water Softener:** Discussion took place with more information being needed. If additional information can be gotten, then this will be discussed at the October 16<sup>th</sup>, special Board meeting.
- H. Aladtech Scheduling Software:** Discussion took place with questions being asked. Captain Mosholder explained and answered questions that he could. Board would like additional information especially regarding length of contract and cancellation policy.
- I. Maple Grove Subdivision Paving:** *Motion by* Therrien, supported by Clous, to approve the paving of the Maple Grove Subdivision in the amount of \$107,700.87. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Florip, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- J. Power Washing:** Roper stated that the Red Door had contacted him regarding getting the front of the building power washed. Discussion took place. Roper is to get bids for power washing the Red Door, Library building along with the town hall building.

**XIV. Extended Public Input:** Ben Deemer questioned if the County and Township could go together on the Aladtech software. Katie will check into this with Tom, Benzie EMS Manager.

**XV. Board Comments:** Therrien asked about Brooks Lake Road being brined or not, Roper will check into this. Florip stated that residents on Pleasantview and Maple Grove has expressed their appreciation to her about the paving. Clous stated that early in person voting will be held starting on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, and go through Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 8 am until 4 pm.

**XVI. Adjourn:** Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.