

Almira Township

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 13, 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

III. Roll Call

Present: Tammy Clous, Mandy Gray Rineer, Mark Roper, Lori Florip. Matt Therrien was excused.

IV. **Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda:** Under New Business add: Item I: EGrAMS Grant Authorization.

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

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

VII. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer MG Rineer provided the Financial Report for the end of April 2024.

VIII. Brief Public Input: None

IX. County Commissioners

Commissioner Art Jeannot was not in attendance but had furnished a written report.

X. Dept. Heads:

Tom Vinette, Chairperson of the Recreational Resources Committee, stated that the Rec. Committee has not been able to hold regular monthly meetings due to a lack of a quorum. He would like one member to be removed, per bylaws due to lack of attendance. Tom asked if the Board members had gotten the information on the cost for dug outs. He also stated that the Youth Work Group would charge between \$16,000 to \$17,000 for labor and materials for a new bridge. That price does not include permits. Jerry Morse stated that the Youth Baseball group has worked to get the program going this year and that there are the same number of teams as previous years.

Fire Chief Drury was not in attendance and did not submit a written report.

XI. **Guests:** Amy Carmien – Ransom Lake Natural Area. Amy presented information to the Board regarding the wetlands on the South side of Ransom Lake. This area is getting ruined by all the traffic and needs to be protected. She suggested that there be a temporary closure of that area to allow for healing; temporary closure signs might be available from Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy; and the miscellaneous pieces of lumber need to be removed from that area. Amy had talked with the GTRLC about the wetlands also.

XII. Old Business:

- A. Master Plan:** Planning Commission adopted a resolution regarding the Master Plan at their May meeting. Discussion took place. Rineer stated that she is utterly disappointed with Networks Northwest's work and will never hire them again. This topic will be put on next month's agenda.
- B. ARPA Projects:** Rineer reported that she and Therrien had met with an Interior Designer at the townhall for suggestions. Rineer and Florip had met with a fencing company regarding the dog park. Florip has received 2 out of 3 requested quotes for dog park fencing. Dog park plans will be finalized before approving any quotes. This topic should be put on June's agenda. Roper stated that he has only gotten one quote for the townhall steps, this is to be put on the June agenda. The information received regarding construction of two (2) new flush bathrooms at the park are more than expected. Discussion took place with the consensus being to continue with getting quotes for two (2) new bathrooms. Ransom Lake bridge grant has been applied for.
- C. Website Quotes:** Rineer stated that she has only gotten two quotes with one of those quotes being requoted due to time lapse. Current provider is phasing out supporting websites so changes will be coming.
- D. Social Security and Pension:** Clous stated that she will be talking with the Township pension people tomorrow, and that Michigan Planners are working on getting information also.
- E. Recreational Plan:** The Recreational Plan has been compared to the draft Master Plan and now should be reviewed by a professional.
- F. Ransom Lake Grant:** Grant has been applied for.
- G. Office Generator:** Roper stated that an electrician had looked at the generator at the Fire & EMS Facility and said that it would not be able to have the township office added to the electric load. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Florip, to purchase a generator for the township office not to exceed \$2000.00. Roll call vote was as follows: Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; Therrien excused. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.

XIII. New Business

- A. Road Brining:** *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to proceed with road brining for one (1) application not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$22,500.00. Roll call vote was as follows: Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; Therrien excused. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- B. Hazardous Mitigation Resolution:** Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption Resolution No. 5-2024 #2 was read. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to adopt the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption Resolution 5-2024 #2 and authorizing the Supervisor to sign. All ayes, no nays, Therrien excused, motion passed.
- C. Red Door Lease:** Rineer stated that the current lease is to expire in August of this year. Is the Board looking for any changes? Mandy will bring some options to next meeting.

- D. Cherry Capital Connection:** Tim Maylone, CEO of Cherry Capital Connection, gave a presentation regarding the metro act and what his company is asking for. Discussion took place and this item will be put on the June agenda.
- E. Greenbriar Tree:** Clous explained the situation. Discussion took place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Rineer, to remove the tree and have the stump ground in Greenbriar Cemetery in the amount of \$2,100.00. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; Therrien excused. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- F. Deputy Treasurer:** Rineer announced that Virginia Loomis (Ginny) will be the new Deputy Treasurer and that the Board needed to approve having her name added to the bank accounts. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Florip, to approve adding Virginia Loomis (Ginny) to Honor Bank and Huntington Bank accounts. All ayes, no nays, Therrien excused, motion passed.
- G. Townhall Paving:** Roper stated that the paving in front of the townhall will be done after the townhall steps are done. The current cost of the paving is about \$4,000.00. More on this when steps are done.
- H. Fire and EMS Personnel:** Resignation letter from Kyle Harris was read. *Motion by* Rineer, supported by Clous, to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Kyle Harris from the Fire & EMS Department. All ayes, no nays, Therrien absent, motion passed.
- I. EGrAMS Grant Authorization:** Rineer and Clous presented information with discussion taking place. *Motion by* Clous, supported by Rineer, to authorize Chief Drury to apply for an EGrAMS grant. All ayes, no nays, Therrien absent, motion passed.

XIV. Extended Public Input: Dave Egeler, Probate Judge Candidate, gave a job description and his ideas if elected. Tom Vinette invited the public to attend the Recreational Resources meeting on May 22nd at 5:30 p.m.

XV. Board Comments: Rineer stated that Clean Up Day went well. It was the busiest, biggest one with over seven (7) garbage trucks being used. She thanked all who continue to help with this event. Rineer also stated that a Memorial Day Service is planned on Memorial Day starting at 11:00 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial in the park. Florip and Clous also stated that the clean up day went well, good job done by those helping. Roper thanked all for coming to the meeting.

XVI. Adjourn: Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.