

# Almira Township

## Regular Board Meeting Minutes

September 9, 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*

IV. **Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda:** Under New Business add: G. Townhall Electric Service

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

### VI. Approval of Consent Agenda:

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

VII. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rineer provided a financial report for the end of August 2024. Taxes are due September 16<sup>th</sup>; the office will be open until 5 p.m. that day. Audit is being done this week.

### IX. County Commissioners:

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

### X. Dept. Heads:

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

Fire Chief Drury reported on call statistics which were a total of 22 incidents for the month of August, vehicle and equipment status, training, grants, and community outreach.

### XI. Guests: None

VIII. **Brief Public Input:** Don Shires presented the Board with pictures of a landing that is in need of boards at the Ransom Lake Natural Area. Amy Carmien asked about the Lake Ann Road Sign. Ben Deemer thanked the Board for the Barber Road improvements.

### XII. Old Business:

A. **ARPA Projects:** Roper reported that the townhall steps are now done and that he would like to see the concrete extended to the cross walk. The two new flush toilets in the park are blocked up and ready for roofs. They should be done middle of October. Florip stated that the dog park fence is up and that people are using it. Benches and other items still to come. Therrien stated that he had met with Brian Brzezinski, Brezin Acoustical Finishings, regarding the ceiling in the townhall. The townhall committee will meet to discuss what direction to go.

B. **Social Security and Pension:** Clous and Rineer are still having a remote weekly meeting with the pension people getting items updated. A special meeting will be held on

Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, to discuss what options the Board wants to take for Social Security.

- C. Recreational Plan:** Rineer reported that a professional has reviewed the Recreational Plan and the Recreational Resources Committee will be reviewing the comments at their next meeting.
- D. Ransom Lake Grant:** A draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) has been submitted and the Board is now waiting for the points report that should be coming later this month.
- E. Zoning Items:** ZA Preston has been working with the Township's attorney on proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, Special Event Ordinance, Special Event Application. She is asking that these proposed amendments be now sent to the Planning Commission for review and further action. *Motion by Rineer*, supported by Florip, to accept the recommendation from ZA Preston to forward these items to the Planning Commission. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.

### XIII. New Business

- A. Approve CIP:** Roper and Clous had met with Dallas Wirtz from Gosling Czubak regarding the status of the Ransom Lake Grant Application. A more detailed Capital Improvement Plan is being requested. Clous presented a draft CIP copy to the Board stating that pictures of projects being worked on or done would be added before sending this to the DNR. Discussion took place. *Motion by Therrien*, supported by Rineer, to approve the CIP. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- B. Park Stump Grinding:** Roper stated that this item, along with the next two agenda items, were mostly maintenance issues and could be paid out of the miscellaneous expense budget lines in the various sections. Discussion took place including that the current purchasing policy should be reviewed. A copy of this policy needs to be given to the Board members to discuss at the October meeting. *Motion by Clous*, supported by Florip, to use repair/maintenance budget line to grind stumps in the park up to \$2,500. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Florip, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- C. Park Sidewalk:** Rineer and Roper explained what the issue is with discussion taking place. *Motion by Rineer*, supported by Clous, to fix the sidewalk in the park spending up to \$2,000. Roll call vote was as follows: Rineer, aye; Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- D. Office/FD Sidewalk:** Discussion that proper repair of the entire sidewalk would be costly. *Motion by Rineer*, supported by Therrien, to spend up to \$2,000 to fix the sidewalk, especially the handicap ramp area. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- E. Lake Ann Road Sign:** Therrien stated that the Township had paid for all the signs for Ransom Lake Natural Area. Discussion took place regarding the number and need for signs for this area of Lake Ann Road. *Motion by Therrien*, supported by Roper, to purchase one sign from the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy and to install this replacement sign on the vacant post. Additional discussion took place. Roll call vote

was as follows: Florip, aye; Therrien, aye; Rineer, nay; Clous, nay; Roper, aye; three (3) ayes, two (2) nays, motion passed.

**F. Fire and EMS Personnel:** Resignation email from Aidan Waddell was presented. *Motion by Rineer, supported by Therrien, to accept with regrets the resignation of Aiden Waddell from the Fire and EMS Department. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.*

**G. Townhall Electric Service:** Roper explained the situation and discussion took place. *Motion by Rineer, supported by Florip, to allow Cherryland Electric to put in underground electric service to the townhall spending up to \$5,000. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Florip, aye; Rineer, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.*

**XIV. Extended Public Input:** Ben Deemer stated that the “front street” street sign in the Village is missing in regards to previous discussion about signs coming up missing. Bill Haggard stated that Clous spends tons of hours on election work each election and is always pleasant to work with.

**XV. Board Comments:** Therrien stated that Music in the Park went well and thanked everyone who helped get it organized. Florip stated that Maple Grove/Pleasantview Roads are great. Rineer also stated that residents approve these road upgrades. Clous stated that the November election ballots hopefully will be printed soon. She also stated that the auditors were working in the office this week. Roper thanked all for coming to the meeting.

**XVI. Adjourn:** Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.