

GUSTIN TOWNSHIP - ALCONA COUNTY

The Regular Meeting of the Gustin Township Board was called to order in the Village of Lincoln, on February 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Ashford.

Present: Supervisor Ashford, Clerk LaVergne, Trustee Brege, Trustee Goddard and Treasurer Leeseberg. Guests: Luciana King, Assured Partners, Jerry Linton, Phil Potter and Denise Procnier all Gustin Township Residents.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Phil Potter, Gustin Township Resident approached the board and asked about their blight ordinance in reference to garbage and critters caused from the garbage. He said both sides North and South of where he lives on Barlow Rd. there are blight problems. He thinks the South property is now vacant. The health department has been involved and the dogs and children have been removed. He also asked if there was a vehicle ordinance. He was wondering if the board could clean up the properties and put the amount to clean up on the property owner's tax bill. Ashford told him that the township zoning administrator has had contact prior with both properties. The board will let the Zoning Administrator know and he will follow up on the properties. The board suggested that Potter talk to the County Commissioners and see what they would be able to do and also the Health Department.

Luciana King from Assured Partners presented the board the current insurance policies up for renewal for Workers Compensation and Liability. She went over the limits and her suggestions to the board. She told the board there is a grant available currently for cameras, safety issues, doors and windows. She would be glad to help with the grant if needed. She also said there was and HR MUNI Human Resources Risk Management Services for Public Entities available to the township if we needed or wanted help with HR. It is a free program and is part of the Par Plan program.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to approve the January minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer Leeseberg presented to the board reports for last month ending January 31, 2024. She balances with the Clerk and the bank.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Ashford to approve the January Treasurer's report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE OR OFFICER REPORTS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Sheriff report was read and placed on file.
- Village of Lincoln Public Hearing Notice received on the Village of Lincoln Downtown Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan to be held 3/4/24 at 6:30 pm at the Lincoln Village Hall.

BUSINESS:

Hawes Township Cemetery contract was discussed. Clerk LaVergne will send it to them.

Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by LaVergne to send the cemetery contract to Hawes Township. Roll call: Yes-Goddard, LaVergne, Leeseberg, Brege and Ashford. No-None.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Township Office Salaries were discussed.

Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Brege to approve the Supervisors salary to be \$8,500.00 to begin in April 2024 the new budget year. Roll call: Yes-Ashford, Goddard, Leeseberg, Brege and LaVergne. No-None.

MOTION CARREID 5-0

Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Brege to approve the Clerk salary to be \$17,000.00 to begin in April 2024 the new budget year. Roll call: Yes-Ashford, Goddard, Leeseberg, Brege and LaVergne. No-None.

MOTION CARREID 5-0

Motion by LaVergne, seconded by Ashford to approve the Treasurer salary to be \$17,000.00 to begin in April 2024 the new budget year. Roll call: Yes-Ashford, Goddard, Leeseberg, Brege and LaVergne. No-None.

MOTION CARREID 5-0

Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Ashford to approve the Trustee salary to be \$2,000.00 to begin in April 2024 the new budget year. Roll call: Yes-Ashford, Goddard, Leeseberg, Brege and LaVergne. No-None.

MOTION CARREID 5-0

Gustin Township Fee schedule was discussed. The proposed Fees on the schedule were adopted as presented: Fax \$5.00 (plus cost of document), E-Mail \$5.00 (plus cost of document), Copies and Print out's \$2.00 per page, Research \$25.00 per hour, Electronic Tax Roll \$500.00, Electronic Assessment Data per Township \$150.00, Hall Rental \$50.00.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Ashford to adopt the proposed Fee schedule presented to the board. Roll Call: Yes: Goddard, LaVergne, Ashford, Leeseberg and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Supervisor Ashford presented a disabled Veterans Exemption Audit Process Resolution to the board. There was discussion on the resolution.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to approve the Disabled Veterans Exemption Audit Process Resolution # 2024-03. Roll Call: Yes: Goddard, LaVergne, Leeseberg, Ashford and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

ARPA funds were discussed. There is a current invoice for extra work Jacob's Builders did on the hall when they were working there.

Motion by Ashford, seconded by LaVergne to approve the invoice from Jacob's Builders for \$789.00 for the extra work they did in the hall while they were doing their construction work. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, Leeseberg, LaVergne, Ashford and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

ARPA funds were discussed on Jacob's Builders proposal on building a new closet at the hall.

Motion by Ashford, seconded by Brege to approve the proposal from Jacob's Builders for \$3,000.00 for the construction of a new closet at the hall. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, Leeseberg, LaVergne, Ashford and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Received invoices from Larry's Electric for the Generator Plug of \$275.00 and the Lighting and electrical work for the new office and utility closet of \$425.68.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Ashford to pay the Larry's Electric invoices for the generator plug of \$275.00 and the lighting and office electrical work for \$425.68 using ARPA funds. Roll call: Yes: Ashford, Goddard, Leeseberg, LaVergne and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Ashford updated the board on the well project. She will need to meet with the Health Department and Webb Well drilling when they call her and plan a date. They are unsure of where the well can be placed and they will need to discuss it together. Ashford may ask if they can recondition the well if they cannot find a spot to put a new one.

Ashford has a call into Northeastern Window and Door to get a quote for a new side door. They need to come and measure the door to give the quote.

The board needs to think of other ideas and ways to spend the remainder of the ARPA funds. The balance will need to be allocated by December 2024.

Received a letter from PIE & G. They are looking for a support letter from the Township for their grant fund initiative for broadband that they will send in with the grant application.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to send a letter of support to PIE & G for their grant fund initiative for the broadband project. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, LaVergne, Leeseberg, Ashford and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The clerk discussed the election chair and inspector wages with the board. She is asking for them to be increased. The mileage rates were also discussed. The township currently pays the rate of \$0.40 for mileage. The clerk is asking for it to be the current IRS rate for each year.

Motion by Ashford, seconded by Goddard to set the election chair rate at \$14.00 and the election inspector rate at \$13.00. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, Leeseberg, Ashford, LaVergne and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Motion by LaVergne, seconded by Goddard to pay the current IRS rates for mileage each year for election workers and board members. The 2024 rate is \$0.67 a mile. Each year this will change. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, LaVergne, Leeseberg, Ashford and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The Lincoln Village Fire Department billing for FY 2024-25 was received.

Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Ashford to approve and pay the Lincoln Fire Department billing for FY 2024-25 in the amount of \$12,910.91, pending receiving the updated contract from the Village of Lincoln. The invoice will be paid in April of 2024 the next budget year. Roll call: Yes: Ashford, Leeseberg, LaVergne, Brege and Goddard. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Franks Key and Lock Shop performed some work at the hall for door locks, install and rekeys. The invoice was for \$373.85. This will be paid with ARPA funds.

Motion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to pay Frank's Key and Lock shop for the door lock and key work performed for \$373.85 using ARPA funds. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, Leeseberg, LaVergne, Ashford and Brege. No: None.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The clerk discussed with the board the changes in the chart of accounts that are needed. She has prepared changes and would like the auditor to look them over. The auditor has said they would and would charge no more than \$250.00 to do the work.

Motion by Ashford, seconded by Goddard to approve having the auditors review the chart of accounts for the township up to \$250.00. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, LaVergne, Leeseberg, Ashford and Brege. No: None. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Supervisor Ashford received an updated letter with the recap of the money that was received and expenses from the County Wide Cleanup held in 2023. Overall the cleanup went well.

Public Comment:

Jerry Linton spoke about the Alcona Recycle. He said all the people that help with it are getting older. They would like to get some younger people in to help with it. He said Bill Thompson will be retiring soon and would like someone to take over for him. It is the 2nd Saturday of the month and is held at the ARA fair grounds from 10am to 1 pm.

The Clerk noted there needed to be some transfers in the budget.

Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Brege to move \$135.00 from 701-802 Attorney Fee to 265-851 Telephones to move \$93.00 from 701-802 Attorney Fee to 265-925 Gas Heat to move \$178.78 from 701-802 Attorney Fee to 656-100 SS & Medicare Expense to move \$50.00 from 701-802 Attorney Fee to 101-940 Computer Enhancements and to move \$2,535.16 from the GF balance to 262-702 Election Board Salary \$1,127.50, 262-727 Election Supplies \$1,341.86, 262-860 Mileage Reimbursement Election \$36.80 and 262-900 Advertising Election \$29.00. Roll Call: Yes-Goddard, Leeseberg, Brege, Ashford and LaVergne. No-None.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Motion by Ashford, seconded by LaVergne to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$9,482.57 check numbers 11459-11477. Roll Call: Yes-Goddard, Ashford, Leeseberg, Brege and LaVergne. No-None.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The meeting was adjourned by Ashford at 8:07 pm, seconded by LaVergne until the next regular meeting on March 20th at 6:00 p.m. for the budget hearing followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk

Supervisor