GUSTIN TOWNSHIP – ALCONA COUNTY

The Regular Meeting of the Gustin Township Board was called to order in the Village of Lincoln, on March 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Ashford.

Present: Supervisor Ashford, Treasurer Leeseberg, Trustee Brege, Clerk LaVergne and Trustee Goddard. Guests: Assessor Ted Somers, Zoning Administrator Adam Brege, Jerry Linton, Denise Procunier, Lora Whiting and Hope Winkler and Drew Vielbig from Ranger Power.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Denise Procunier asked assessor Somers if on a survey they use GPS or the fence line. Somers uses a survey if it comes into his office. If there is a court order to use something different he would have to be notified.**

**Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Brege to approve the February minutes and the February Budget workshop minutes as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Treasurer Leeseberg presented to the board the report thru February 29, 2024. She noted the expenses and the deposits on the report. She balances with the Clerk and the bank.

**Motion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to approve the February Treasurer’s report as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

* Board of Review update: Assessor Somers updated the board on the two days held. It went well. He did not automatically exempt the Veteran’s building in Lincoln. The board over turned his decision on it and granted them exemption. He is getting an opinion from the attorney on it. There were 4 total petitions.
* Sheriff’s report read and placed on file.
* Ashford – Solar/Zoning Update from Webinar. Ashford said they are anxious to get it up and running. They talked about the new legislation of getting it back into the local hands.
* Ashford – DDA Meeting Update. She attended the meeting and they approved the new document of Tax Increment and Finance Plan. She had a copy that will be at the hall.
* Department of Veteran’s Affairs letter received on Memorial Day Flags Reimbursement.
* UHY Advisors Letter – Formerly Baird Cotter and Bishop

**BUSINESS:**

Ashford discussed with the board the adoption of the 2024-2025 budget appropriations act. She stated the estimated revenue and the estimated expenses.

**Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Goddard to adopt the 2024-25 Budget Appropriations Act Resolution 2024-04 and the Truth in Taxation form. Roll Call: Yes- Goddard, Ashford, Leeseberg, Brege and LaVergne. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

There was a brief discussion on the meeting dates and times for the upcoming year.

**Motion by Goddard, seconded by Leeseberg to keep the meeting dates and time the same for the Regular Board Meetings. Regular Meeting 3rd Monday of the month, Zoning/Planning Meeting 1st Tuesday of the Quarter and the Board of Review is set by the State of Michigan. Roll Call: Yes-Goddard, Ashford, Brege Leeseberg and LaVergne. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

There was a brief discussion on the official depositories and resolution.

**Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Brege to accept the deposit resolution for 2024/25. With the depositories being Huron Community Bank and Alpena Alcona Area CU. Roll Call: Yes-Ashford, Brege, Goddard, LaVergne and Leeseberg. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

The board discussed the investment policy. Treasurer Leeseberg noted that it has not changed.

**Motion by Goddard, seconded by Ashford to approve the current investment policy. Roll Call: Yes- Goddard, Brege, Ashford, Leeseberg and LaVergne. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

The Mikado Township Fire Department billing/contract for FY 2024-25 was received.

M**otion by LaVergne, seconded by Leeseberg to approve and pay the Mikado Fire Department billing for FY 2024-25 in the amount of $15,000.00. The invoice will be paid in April of 2024 in the next budget year. Roll call: Yes: Ashford, Leeseberg, LaVergne, Brege and Goddard. No: None. MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

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

M**otion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to approve the contract for the Lincoln Fire Department for FY 2024-25 in the amount of $12,910.91. 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**

The renewal of the Assured Partners Commercial Package from Lappan Agency was discussed. The invoice is for $5,124.00. The terrorism coverage was discussed. It is an additional $29.00.

**Motion by Goddard, seconded by LaVergne, to renew the Assured Partners Commercial package for $5,124.00 with Lappan Agency and add the Terrorism Coverage for an additional $29.00. Roll Call: Yes-Goddard, LaVergne, Brege, Ashford and Leeseberg. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

ARPA reporting was discussed. Clerk LaVergne has emailed Trent from UHY Advisors. They will complete the report for around $500.00 again this year as long as there is not a lot of information to report. They have sent a Memorandum Letter for Supervisor Ashford to sign regarding the Project and Expenditure report.

**Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by Ashford to have UHY Advisors complete the reporting of the ARPA funds for approximately $500.00 and to have Supervisor Ashford sign the Memorandum for the Project and Expenditure report. Roll call: Yes-LaVergne, Brege, Goddard, Ashford and Leeseberg. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

The electrical outlets at the hall were discussed. It has been determined some are not working. It is possible with the remodel something happened. Clerk LaVergne has contacted Tom Jacobs. He will come in and look at them and see what is wrong.

Treasurer Leeseberg told the board she would not be running for re-election in 2024. She plans to retire.

**COMMITTEE OR OFFICER REPORTS:**

Zoning: Administrator Brege passed out information to the board. Southern Towers has sent him information on a tower they would like to put up in Gustin Township. The type/style of tower is not allowed in the current ordinance. They have not sent in the official paperwork yet for the project. Brege has told the planning commission about it and they would be ok with a variance for this project. They would take each project that comes in on a case by case basis. The company will pay for a special meeting if necessary to speed up the plans. He plans to send a certified letter to the camper on Trask Lake Road. He will call other agencies on the Smith property on Barlow Road. He wants to see what other agencies are doing first. He was told by the board that the trailer on Barlow Road is getting worse with blight. Treasurer Leeseberg told Brege she received a call from Ken Short on the house on Procunier Rd. Brege doesn’t know of anything incorrect happening there.

Supervisor Ashford had a quote from NE Window and Door for a new Steel side door. The door, hardware and keys and installation was $2,264.43. They can do a swing door close for an additional $139.00 and painting for and additional $258.80. There was discussion.

**Motion by Leeseberg, seconded by LaVergne to accept the quote from NE Window and Door for the side door replacement with the addition of painting for the total of $2,523.23. This will be paid using ARPA funds. Roll call: Yes: Goddard, LaVergne, Ashford, Brege and Leeseberg. No: None. MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

Hope Winkler from Ranger Power introduced herself and Drew Vielbig. They will be the new point of contact and they will see the projects thru. They are wrapping up the land work and want it finalized by spring. They will do the environmental work and hope to start permitting by fall. They want to permit locally. She said there is state funding to host projects. Michigan Eagle will give $5,000.00 per megawatt to the township. It will be 50% down when construction starts and 50% final payment when it is operational. They can opt to go with the local ordinance and they would like to do that. She said they would ask for the variances in a few of the areas if it is done locally.

Clerk LaVergne noted there would need to be a few budget adjustments.

**Motion by Goddard, seconded by Brege to move $120.99 from 701-802 Attorney Fee (P/Z) to 257-727 Assessor Supplies, to move $0.04 from 101-802 Legal Defense to 257-702 Assessor Salary, to move $0.04 from 101-802 Legal Defense to 215-702 Clerk Salary, to move $0.04 from 101-802 Legal Defense to 253-702 Treasurer Salary, to move $673.17 from 101-802 Legal Defense to 253-727 Treasurer Supplies, to move $255.00 from 701-802 Attorney Fee (P/Z0 to 265-851 Telephones, to move $93.00 from 265-923 Electricity to 265-925 Gas/heat, to move $469.71 from 701-802 Attorney Fee (P/Z) to 656-100 SS & Medicare Expense, to move $250.00 from 101-802 Legal Defense to 101-912 Auditor, to move $50.00 from 101-802 Legal Defense to 101-940 Computer Enhancements, and to increase the following items using money from the General Fund Balance: 262-702 Election Board salaries $950.00, 262-727 Election Supplies $720.00, 262-860 Mileage Reimb Election $148.07, 262-864 Election School $65.00 and 262-900 Election Advertising $13.50 . Roll call: Yes-LaVergne, Brege, Goddard, Ashford and Leeseberg. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

**Motion by Goddard, seconded by Ashford to approve payment of the bills in the amount of $9,818.32 check numbers 11483-11514. Roll Call: Yes- Goddard, Leeseberg, Ashford, Brege and LaVergne. No-None.**

**MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

Public Comment: Clerk LaVergne asked the board to think about additional ideas for the ARPA funds still available to use.

The meeting was adjourned by Ashford at 7:38 pm, seconded by LaVergne until the next regular meeting on April 15th at 6:30 p.m.

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Clerk Supervisor