

MICHIGAMME TOWNSHIP

William Seppanen, Supervisor
Neil Hanson, Clerk
Nicole Haskett, Treasurer

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Julia Anderson-Leake, Trustee
Donald DeRoche, Trustee
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TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 8, 2021—7:00 PM – VIA ZOOM – Meeting ID 571 416 4947

ATTENDANCE: Board Members: On site via Zoom: William Seppanen, Donald DeRoche

Off-site Via Zoom: Nicole Haskett, Julia Anderson-Leake

Guests: Debbie Kinnunen, Scott Gravedoni, Beth Koenig, Irene DeRoche, Whitney Saunders, James Saunders, Irene DeRoche, Jim Iwanicki, MCRC, Kay Frisk, Larry Frisk, Roberta Frisk, Brad Delongchamp

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Seppanen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
- II. ROLL CALL – Seppanen called the roll. Anderson-Leake, Haskett, DeRoche, Seppanen are present, Hanson is absent. There is a quorum.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Recited
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA:
 1. AGENDA – Seppanen moved to accept with DeRoche seconding. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.
 2. JANUARY 11, 2021 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
 3. FEBRUARY 3, 2021 BOARD FY 2021/2022 BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES – Seppanen stated a typo correction to workshop minutes. “And” should be “Add” where the change in schedule is mentioned.
 4. TREASURERS REPORT
 5. BILLS TO BE PAID – Anderson-Leake and DeRoche asked for details on some of the bills listed.
- V. MARQUETTE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSON (MCRC) PLANS FOR CR 607 – GUEST - JIM IWANICKI – Mr. Iwanicki stated that MCRC would like to do a few small projects in 2021 and he is asking if the Township would like to go forward with the match being \$280,545 for 2021 and \$237892.50 for 2024. This represents approximately one third of the cost between 2021 and 2024. He stated there is flexibility for the Township if they would like to move forward with approval in these years or move this proposal forward to another year. It includes culvert work.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT (Three Minutes) – Irene DeRoche, Scott Gravedoni; Whitney Saunders, and Kay Frisk gave comments.
- VII. BOARD COMMENT – Anderson-Leake stated that she received a letter from Mrs. Saunders regarding the Recreation Plan and reiterated that the Planning Commission didn't follow the prescribed guidelines in 2019; Seppanen stated that the Public Hearing and Special Board Meeting minutes were approved by the Board. Seppanen stated that Hilton Moore asked permission to moor a 21-foot sailboat at the Michigamme Beach, he will investigate further with the DNR. Anderson-Leake stated that we need to investigate since some people state the boat is self-contained and the Township doesn't have a dump station and some people rent their boats.
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 1. COMMUNITY BUILDING ROOF REPAIR REBID – Seppanen stated the Township didn't receive the rebid as of today, this item is postponed till next meeting.
- IX. NEW BUSINESS:
 1. BUDGET RESOLUTIONS – Seppanen read the budget amendments presented for the Sanitation, Fire, Sewer, and General Funds for January 2021. Anderson-Leake moved to accept the budget resolution with DeRoche seconding. Roll Call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.

2. RESOLUTION FOR GENERAL FUND OPERATING MILLAGE SPREAD – Seppanen read the resolution General Operating Millage Spread – R-2021-02-08-03. Seppanen explained the restructuring of the budgets and funds Park and Sanitation that this is addressing. Roll Call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried. Seppanen declared the resolution adopted.
3. APPROVAL OF MEETING SCHEDULE/TIME DDA – Seppanen stated that the DDA hadn't approved the time of the DDA meetings. Anderson-Leake moved to accept the 7:00 pm DDA meeting time with DeRoche seconding the motion. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.
4. REUSING OLD STREET SIGNS/FUNDING – Seppanen stated that the DDA is suggesting that the Board adopt the blue background with reflective lettering. The DDA is also requesting that the Township bear some of the cost of obtaining these new street signs. Seppanen will check to make sure that all the signs in the Township are included in the new design and order. Anderson-Leake stated that the brush needs to be cleared from the street signs also. The Board is in favor of replacing the signs with the design mentioned.
5. SOUND SYSTEM FOR GYM – Seppanen stated that along with a sound system for the gym, the Township also needs one for the Board room to improve the hearing for the Board meetings. LMPO will pay for half a complete sound system for the gym. The system will be used for the events held in the gym, such as Christmas, Halloween, Memorial Day, LMPO annual meeting, etc. Anderson-Leake stated that with the sesquicentennial coming up it would be nice to have a good sound system in the gym. DeRoche asked if he could test the system before we purchase it. Haskett stated that it makes sense to invest in the speakers and system to make events pleasant. DeRoche moved to accept the proposal and split the cost with LMPO with Haskett seconding. Roll call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried. Seppanen stated he will follow-up with LMPO and Superiorland Electronics as to when he can install the system.
6. GARBAGE TRUCK/CURBSIDE RECYCLING – Seppanen stated that John Sholander from Sholander Driver Testing suggested that the Township might want to consider selling the garbage truck while it still has some value. He added that right now the Township cannot do curbside recycling because our truck doesn't accommodate that currently. If the Township sells the truck it could contract with a local contractor to pickup the garbage and recycling with bins. DeRoche stated that Humboldt Township pays \$3000 per month and Tilden Township pays \$4800 per month and Spurr Township also pays someone to pickup garbage. Seppanen stated that he believes Tilden Township purchased the recycle bins for their residents, possibly with a grant. Anderson-Leake stated that the central locations with garbage sheds needs to be considered for pickup and recycling with a contractor. Haskett asked if there is a cost to the residents for the recycle bins. Seppanen stated that there are grants available to get bins from Eagle Mine. Seppanen stated that some Townships purchased the recycle bins for the residents. Haskett asked if commercial garbage is picked up with no additional fee. DeRoche moved that the Township request bids to contract the garbage pickup and possibly sell the garbage truck. Seppanen seconded the motion. Haskett asked what the truck is worth currently. They discussed the little use of the truck that is 5 years old. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.
7. 6 MONTH EXTENSION ON ELECTION GRANT MONEY SPEND – Hanson called Seppanen and stated that the Township was extended a six-month reprieve to spend the money on election items. Seppanen stated that the Township received the money already. The Township needs ideas on what to spend it on.
8. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR/ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER JOB OFFER – The Township received an application from Val Wirtman after Seppanen called him upon learning that he may be interested. He is currently the Zoning Administrator for Republic Township. Bob DellAngelo and Seppanen interviewed him in January and he is very interested as long as the Township would make the accommodation of the meetings days do not conflict with Republic's meetings. Bob DellAngelo was impressed with the interview. Seppanen stated that Mr. Wirtman has a degree in math and science, and he would like to offer him the job. Wirtman stated he would accept the job at \$20 per hour noting that it is part-time. Anderson-Leake moved to offer the job to Mr. Wirtman with Deroche seconding. Roll call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.

9. SALARY RESOLUTION FOR SUPERVISOR – Seppanen stated that his salary is not in line with the Clerk and Treasurer in Michigamme Township. Seppanen read the resolution for the increase in salary for the Supervisor. He stated it is about a 10% increase. The salary currently is \$684 per month, the increase is to \$753. Anderson-Leake moved to accept the resolution with Haskett seconding. Roll call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Abstain, Hanson, Absent. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Abstain. 1 Absent. Motion carried.
 10. ASSESSOR SALARY INCREASE – Seppanen stated that the assessor salary be increased. Jackie is working on obtaining the level three Assessor status and should achieve that soon. She is very helpful to the Township and very responsive to Township resident’s needs. Haskett added that she has helped her understand her role with tax collection. Haskett moved with Seppanen seconding the motion to increase Jackie Solomon’s salary as proposed. Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.
 11. BOARD OF REVIEW SALARY CHANGE – Seppanen proposes that the Board of Review members be paid by the hour for the time they invest in the meetings. The Board discussed variables for paying the training and meetings. Seppanen changed his proposal to state that the members are paid \$13 per hour for training classes and the mandated 6-hour meetings. Anderson-Leake moved that the Township pay the Board of Review members \$13 per hour with a minimum of 2 hours guaranteed and the chair will receive an additional \$25 per meeting, additionally training will be paid at \$13 per hour. Haskett seconded the motion. Roll call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.
 12. DDA APPLICANT APPROVAL – Seppanen moved to accept Melissa Grochowski as a DDA member with Anderson-Leake seconding. Roll call: Haskett, Aye, DeRoche, Aye, Anderson-Leake, Aye, Seppanen, Aye, Hanson, Absent. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.
- X. PUBLIC COMMENT (Three Minutes) – Larry Frisk, Beth Koenig, Roberta Frisk, and Kay Frisk offered comments.
 - XI. BOARD COMMENT – Anderson-Leake thanked Beth Howe for her positive comment and added that she was aware that Alvar Maki was in the office on Fridays and never heard that Mr. Maki didn’t do anything for this Township until Mr. Frisk mentioned it tonight. DeRoche stated that the Township needs to get out a survey to the residents. Anderson-Leake stated that residents can make their comments in writing also. Seppanen stated he doesn’t like holding meetings via Zoom and hopes that the Township will be able to conduct meetings in person soon. Comments sent to the Township will be read during Public Comment; currently using the Gym for meetings with social distancing is against the law and the Township cannot break the law. Seppanen added that volunteers are needed to help in the community and volunteers are supported by the Township.
 - XII. ADJOURNMENT – Seppanen moved the meeting be adjourned with Haskett seconding. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.