

HARTLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING FINAL MINUTES
March 07, 2023 – 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Fountain at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

PRESENT: Supervisor Fountain, Clerk Ciofu, Treasurer Horning, Trustee Germane (remote from Indiana), Trustee McMullen, Trustee O'Connell, Trustee Petrucci (remote from Florida)
ABSENT: None

Also present were Township Manager Bob West (remote from Canada) and Public Works Director Mike Luce.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Move to approve the agenda for the March 7, 2023, Hartland Township Board meeting as presented.

Motion made by Clerk Ciofu, Seconded by Trustee O'Connell.

Voting Yea: Supervisor Fountain, Clerk Ciofu, Treasurer Horning, Trustee McMullen, Trustee O'Connell
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: Trustee Germane (remote), Trustee Petrucci (remote)
Absent: None

5. Call to the Public

County Commissioner Wes Nakagiri came forward and wanted to share with the Board that he was appointed to be on the Consortium Board of Michigan Works. Michigan Works is an organization that focuses on connecting employers and employees, job training, and helping employers find the right skillset for the people that they are hiring. Mr. Nakagiri looks forward to coming back to future meetings with further information after he gets up to speed on all of the details.

6. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Move to approve the consent agenda for the March 7, 2023, Hartland Township Board meeting as presented.

Motion made by Treasurer Horning, Seconded by Trustee O'Connell.

Voting Yea: Supervisor Fountain, Clerk Ciofu, Treasurer Horning, Trustee McMullen, Trustee O'Connell
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: Trustee Germane (remote), Trustee Petrucci (remote)
Absent: None

- a. Approve Payment of Bills
- b. Approve Post Audit Disbursements Between Board Meetings
- c. 02-21-23 Hartland Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes

7. Pending & New Business

a. 2023 Maxfield Road Improvements Contract with LCRC

Public Works Director Luce gave a brief overview of the rehabilitation of Maxfield Road in conjunction with the Cundy Road improvements due to the recent water main extension project. He stated Maxfield is a narrow road in need of rehabilitation and he stated a full shaping and repaving of the road would raise it five inches, which would make it too high for the current driveways. The Livingston County Road Commission (LCRC) is proposing a two inch asphalt lift which they have had success with in other areas of the county. Director Luce stated that this will be a 50% cost sharing project with LCRC. Manager West stated that this project would not have been possible without the voter approved road millage and thanked the residents for the millage

Move to approve the Project Agreement with the Livingston County Road Commission as presented in an amount not to exceed \$330,000.00 for the repaving of the Maxfield Road.

Motion made by Trustee O'Connell, Seconded by Clerk Ciofu.

Voting Yea: Supervisor Fountain, Clerk Ciofu, Treasurer Horning, Trustee McMullen, Trustee O'Connell
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: Trustee Germane (remote), Trustee Petrucci (remote)
Absent: None

b. Spranger Field Improvements Design Engineering

Director Luce gave a brief overview of the two design engineering proposals for Spranger Field. The first is for the rehabilitation of the outside of the existing building and the second is for the new storage and pavilion building. Supervisor Fountain inquired as to whether the Parks Site Plan Committee should meet on this prior to any engineering being done on this project. Manager West stated it would be a good idea to have a brief kickoff meeting with the Parks Site Plan Committee, then let the engineers design the projects, and come back with a product for a final review of the project and the project location at Spranger Field. Manager West added that the Hartland Area Youth Athletic Association (HAYAA) raised funds for a new building on their own, but because of the Hartland Township design and engineering standards it would not meet the commercial building standards. As Spranger Field is Township property the Township agreed to take over the project. He commended the HAYAA for their good faith effort to fundraise for the project on their own, but stated we will take on this project to make sure it matches all of our other park buildings in the community. Supervisor Fountain inquired as to the basic parameters of the new structure. Director Luce stated it was 60' by 30' including the pavilion. Manager West stated the original plan was reviewed by the Parks Site Plan Committee and that would be the basic plan.

Move to approve the engineering of a new storage building and the rehabilitation of the existing building at Spranger Field from Spalding DeDecker in an amount not to exceed \$41,375.

Motion made by Treasurer Horning, Seconded by Trustee McMullen.

Voting Yea: Supervisor Fountain, Clerk Ciofu, Treasurer Horning, Trustee McMullen, Trustee O'Connell
Voting Nay: None
Abstain: Trustee Germane (remote), Trustee Petrucci (remote)
Absent: None

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8. Board Reports

Trustee McMullen - No report.

Trustee Petrucci - No report.

Clerk Ciofu - Stated that the Clerk's office will be mailing out the Absent Voter Ballot Applications to the 5000 voters on the Permanent Absentee Application List late this week for the May 2, 2023 Special Election.

Treasurer Horning - No report.

Trustee Germane - Stated that the HERO Board met last night and that they are working on some new grant opportunities. He also stated he would like to schedule a meeting with Manager West and Director Luce to discuss the construction projects for later this year. He also informed Director Luce of minor repairs items needed at the HERO Center.

Trustee O'Connell - No report.

Supervisor Fountain - Stated that the organizational meeting of the Board of Review was held this morning and there are fourteen residents signed up to meet with the Board of Review. Assessor Jim Heaslip reported we have \$1.1 billion of value in our Township which is the highest it has ever been in our community. He stated that Veteran exemptions have increase to 55 this year which is about two million dollars in value. Supervisor Fountain stated that Veterans exemptions are increasing throughout the state.

[BRIEF RECESS]

9. Information / Discussion

a. Manager's Report

Manager West stated the budget changes from the last meeting were incorporated into the budget along with the merit pool adjustment and the new budgets books will be distributed shortly. He also provided an update on the Liquor License Inspections stating that there will be an agreement with the Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority (HDFA) where the Township will pay the HDFA per Liquor License within the community. This will be paid using the liquor license funds received from the State and will include the training aspect of the program. The agreement will come before the Hartland Township Board in the near future. He stated we have hired a new Assessor to replace retiring Assessor Jim Heaslip. The new Assessor will start once their Township's Board of Review process is complete. Manager West reported that after further discussions with Mister Car Wash, they stated the only way they would come to Hartland Township would be with the purchase of only 50 REUs. He stated they were told upfront that it would be a minimum of 85 REUs. After the meeting Mister Car Wash withdrew their application for the car wash at M-59 and Blaine. Manager West gave a brief update of the ARPA Community Project funding. There were ten applications and funding all ten applications would utilize \$82,852 of ARPA funds. He stated that our Township Attorney will draft a contract for each organization that will allow ARPA funding for each of the projects. Manager West stated that a General Hearing and potential approval of the General Appropriations Act will take place at the next Board meeting.

b. Livingston County Septage Receiving Station Update

Manager West gave a brief overview of the Septage Receiving Station (SRS) stating he has been working with the Livingston County Drain Commission (LCDC) staff on potential solutions to the issues. He stated that there is a proposed solution that will be reviewed at a Special Meeting of the Livingston County Board of Public Works (LCBPW) on March 13, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. Manager West

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stated he has not seen an agenda for the meeting, but he did state they will be going into closed session for discussion.

He believes a deliverable, that will be sent to Hartland Township, will come out of this closed session. Manager West stated that because of the recent flow limits placed on the SRS, the Hartland Township residents are no longer subsidizing the SRS, since the SRS is only allowed flow for what they own. Manager West then presented his analysis of the impacts of the LCBPW proposals for the Board. Items discussed were the LCBPW proposal for eliminating the surcharge for the SRS, waiving of the Township fee for purchases of REU's from Tyrone Township, forgiving retroactive fees for the SRS, supporting the resolution to construct the pipe to Tyrone Township, permitting the SRS to use the Livingston Regional Sewer System capacity owned by others, and permitting the LCBPW the right to dispute the hosting fee in the Master Operating Agreement. Manager West reviewed some of his financial projections and stated he does not believe the SRS can sustain itself going forward.

Trustee Germane inquired as to whether the SRS is abiding by the flow limitations placed on them. Manager West stated that they were slightly higher in January and generally met the limits in February with only two days over the limit. Trustee Petrucci inquired as to whether we would have legal counsel review any proposals before we agree to it. Manager West responded that we would get the deliverable from the LCBPW and forward it to our legal counsel and then set up a review meeting with the Admin Committee, Manager, and the Township Attorney. We would then hold a closed session of the Board to review the written opinion of the Township Attorney. Trustee O'Connell inquired as to whether our permitting a pipeline to Tyrone Township, which is an action that is not allowed for any other connection, would set us up for problems in the future. Manager West stated that we would have to review the legal issues related to this matter. Supervisor Fountain inquired as to whether enlarging the size of the current pipe would provide additional REU capacity. Manager West did not believe this would be a cost-effective measure for the LCDC.

Commissioner Nakagiri was invited forward and he stated he appreciated the work that Manager West has done on behalf of getting a resolution to this problem. He commended Manager West's knowledge and patience related to this matter. He stated he is meeting with the County Administrator, the Drain Commissioner, and the County Board Chair tomorrow. He stated that those on the County Board, or County government, that are not sure of the facts and figures of the issues need to listen to Manager West and Drain Commissioner Jonckheere, both very knowledgeable individuals, but coming at the issues from different perspectives. He believes the parties involved need to meet at the same time so that both sides of the issue can be heard together to maybe bring a quicker resolution to the issues. Manager West thanked Commissioner Nakagiri for his role in advocating for the residents of Hartland township.

Supervisor Fountain stated that most disheartening thing for him was that there has been no one from the any County Administration that has contacted him or Manager West other than to ask what we thought were doing or to let us know that we did not know what we were talking about regarding this issue. He stated he is very disappointed to have been disrespected by the County Board of Commissioners regarding this issue. He stated we have been requesting information from the LCBPW for a long time and never received anything until Manager West was placed on that Board, and he thanked Commissioner Nakagiri for getting that done. This issue has been going on for so long and to still not be able to sit down in a room and hear both sides of the story is disappointing. The numbers that Manager West uses for his analysis come from the Drain Commission and to allow the residents to subsidize the SRS regarding the readiness to serve (RTS) for the last fifteen years with no remorse is hard to understand. Furthermore he stated that he does not understand how the septage haulers concerns continue to outweigh the residents regarding the SRS. He stated he believes the hauler rates have remained constant for many years.

10. Adjournment

Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Motion made by Clerk Ciofu, Seconded by Trustee O'Connell.

Voting Yea: Supervisor Fountain, Clerk Ciofu, Treasurer Horning, Trustee McMullen, Trustee O'Connell

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: Trustee Germane (remote), Trustee Petrucci (remote)

Absent: None

Submitted by



Larry N. Ciofu, Clerk