

HARTLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING FINAL MINUTES  
May 16, 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, Trustee McMullen, Trustee O'Connell, Trustee Petrucci

ABSENT: None

Also present were Township Manager Bob West (remote from Toronto, Canada), Planning Director Troy Langer, and Public Works Director Mike Luce.

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

**Move to approve the agenda for the May 16, 2023 Hartland Township Board Meeting as presented.**

Motion made by Trustee Petrucci, Seconded by Trustee O'Connell.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

**5. Call to the Public**

A resident inquired as to where he could get a copy of the Board Package and was informed that they are all on the Townships website.

**6. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**Move to approve the consent agenda for the May 16, 2023 Hartland Township Board Meeting as presented.**

Motion made by Treasurer Horning, Seconded by Trustee Petrucci.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

- a. Approve Payment of Bills
- b. Approve Post Audit of Disbursements Between Board Meetings
- c. 04-06-23 Hartland Township Board Special Meeting Minutes - 6:30 p.m.
- d. 04-06-23 Hartland Township Board Special Meeting Minutes - 7:00 p.m.
- e. 04-18-23 Hartland Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes

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7. Pending & New Business

a. Rezoning Application #23-001 (Bergin Road and Old US-23)

Planning Director Troy Langer gave a brief overview of the typographical error in the resolution that was previously approved by the Board at the last meeting. He stated that he discussed this with the Township Attorney who suggested the corrected resolution go back to the Board for approval. He included the staff report with the amended motion to deny the rezoning request as the Board had intended.

**Move to deny the Rezoning Application #23-001 as outlined in the Staff Memorandum and Amended Resolution.**

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

Roll Call Vote Taken.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion passes: 7-0-0

b. Zoning Amendment #22-001 – Ordinance Amendment to Landscape Requirements to Section 5.7 (Dumpster Enclosure); Section 5.11 (landscaping and Screening); and Section 5.26 (Signs)

Planning Director Langer gave a brief overview of the proposed Ordinance to Amend Landscape Requirements to Section 5.7 (Dumpster Enclosure), Section 5.11 (Landscaping and Screening), and Section 5.26 (Signs). Director Langer stated this was to clarify confusing landscape requirements and to eliminate duplication of requirements. He provided an example of landscape mulch in landscape beds that were only maintained when new mulch was put in the bed. By reducing the requirements for landscape beds by allowing a greater lawn area that could be mowed on a regular basis it would make it easier for developers to maintain. He also discussed the monument sign requirements and the associated landscaping requirements around the monument sign that effectively block the beauty of the sign per the monument signage requirements. Therefore they are proposing to get rid of the requirement for monument sign landscaping and leave it up to the developer if they want to landscape around the sign. Other requirements that were slightly revised related to reducing the landscape requirements around dumpster enclosures, requirement that a landscape architect be required for all landscape plans, street tree requirements between the curb and sidewalks in developments, and alterations to the need for tree surveys in specific instances. He stated the Planning Commission (PC) recommended approval of the amendments and it went to the Livingston County Planning Commission, who also recommended approval of the amendments. Supervisor Fountain inquired as to whether these amendment would apply to existing developments that have a pattern book that would outline specific landscape requirements. Director Langer stated that this amendment is not necessarily going to address those pattern books, however there is a lot of mirroring between this ordinance and the pattern books. Trustee Germane inquired as to the update to the plant list and how it was determined. Director Langer stated that these changes were led by the highly regarded landscape architect we have on our PC, who pointed out there were many species no longer readily available as to the existing plant species on the list. Trustee Germane also inquired as to the landscape architect requirement and how this would be applied to a new owner of an existing building. Director Langer stated that we would work with the new owner in complying with our current ordinance, should they wish to make changes to the landscaping. Trustee Germane also inquired as to the referenced waiving of irrigation standards and Director Langer stated the current landscape ordinance requires irrigation. The amendment will allow for a waiver of the irrigation requirement provided the landscaping that would be put in would be to a standard that would be

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able to survive in the area not irrigated. Trustee Germane also inquired as to the policy regarding enforcing our landscape standards and Director Langer this would be a code enforcement issue where we try to work with those businesses to be fair in dealing with the issues they encounter in maintaining their landscape areas.

**Move to approve the Amendment as Outlined in the Resolution.**

Motion made by Trustee Germane, Seconded by Trustee O'Connell. Roll call vote taken.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion passes: 7-0-0

**8. Board Reports**

Trustee O'Connell - No report.

Trustee McMullen - No report.

Trustee Petrucci - No report.

Clerk Ciofu - No report

Treasurer Horning - Stated the Farmers Market opened last Saturday and every booth was sold out with a waiting list of three or four people inquiring to join in. It was fun, even with the cool weather, to see people out visiting and shopping. It was a great opening day for the Farmer's Market

Trustee Germane - No report

Supervisor Fountain - Stated that the Large Item Clean Up day is this Saturday at the Hartland High School from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for all Hartland residents.

[BRIEF RECESS]

**9. Information / Discussion**

**Manager's Report**

Manager West stated that we are receiving feedback from the community regarding ticks in the park and he stated this is a state-wide issue and we are exploring options to see what we can do to minimize the problem. He also stated that this is the time of the year that our gravel roads become dry and dusty, and that road chloride is applied every year around the holidays and is on schedule. Manager West informed the Board that employee health care costs are increasing, but came in under our budgeted amount. He stated liability and property insurance were also up as worker's compensation was higher than what we budgeted, due to the addition of the new water system employee. Manager West gave a brief update on the Septage Receiving Station regarding the pending claim that has been filed.

**Safer Roads Plan Millage Review**

Manager West gave a brief overview of the results of the road projects from the original 2014 Safer Roads Millage that generated around \$9 million dollars. He provided a detailed chart of the completed projects included in the original Safer Roads Plan and the additional projects that were completed due to cost savings from the original projects. He then presented a plan for a potential renewal of the Road Millage in 2024. He stated that 100% of the 2014 Safer Roads Millage was used for Hartland Township Roads. Supervisor Fountain stated the we have done a lot of sidewalks in the Township and he inquired as to whether the road millage funds were used for these

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projects. Manager West stated the initial 2014 millage plan included pathways throughout the Township. The 2014 Roads Task Force, a committee of around 30 residents within the community, stated that if we were to do the road millage, it should be 100% used for roads, and the pathways portion of the plan was removed. At that time, the Township Board stated that they would fund the pathways plan over ten years if the millage passed, so all of the millage funds were dedicated to roads. Manager West then presented a potential road renewal plan that would need to go before the residents for approval. Primary projects would be the paving of Pleasant Valley and Bergin Road. He stated that they have worked closely with the Livingston County Road Commission (LCRC) to develop a cost sharing plan that would effectively get \$17 million of road projects completed for a \$9.4 million millage over ten years if approved. A resident inquired as to the paving of Clyde Road. Manager West stated that Oakland County received federal “urban grant” funds to pave their portion of Clyde Road. We are not classified as urban at this time but, we are fairly close, and Manager West stated he would not want to spend a large sum of money to pave Clyde Road and find out in a few years we would have access to federal funds to complete this project. Treasurer Horning stated that a while back, residents of Clyde Road did not want Clyde Road paved due to traffic and speed issues. Trustee Petrucci requested that the presentation of the proposed millage renewal include a paragraph regarding the extensive process the Township has taken to propose this millage renewal and to make the presentation documentation more easily understandable for the residents of the Township.

Trustee Germane inquired as to the Old US-23 repaving project and Manager West stated that the LCRC generally does not start major road projects until school lets out, so he believes the project would have a late June starting date. Trustee Germane also stated that he understands that MDOT will be finishing up pavement marking on the M-59 road construction that was done last year and he inquired as to whether we could get MDOT to restripe under the US-23 bridge as these markings are very faded. Manager West stated that because this is a turning area the tires from vehicles wear out the pavement markings there much quicker. He stated he will discuss this with MDOT and said that we are also looking at the feasibility of having additional lights placed under the bridge. Trustee Germane then inquired as to the milestones that need to be completed to get this on the ballot. Manager West stated that it will partly depend on the responses to the Citizens Survey and a potential town hall meeting with residents regarding the issue. Clerk Ciofu stated that it is important in proposing this potential new millage, that we communicate the LCRC cost sharing aspect that would allow us to get \$17 million of road repairs with our \$9.4 million proposal.

## 10. Adjournment

### **Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.**

Motion made by Clerk Ciofu, Seconded by Trustee McMullen.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Submitted by



Larry N. Ciofu, Clerk