

Argentine Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2021

Call to Order @ 7:00 p.m.

This meeting was held on video conference, per Michigan Health Department order prohibiting in person meetings.

Supervisor Saad led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Saad, present (Argentine Twp.) James, present (Argentine Twp.), Conner, present (Argentine Twp.), Graves, present (Sumter County, FL), and Schmidt, present (Sarasota Co. FL).

Motion by James, seconded by Saad to approve minutes of December 21, 2020 Regular Board Meeting: Roll call: Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, James, yes, Saad, yes, Conner, yes, Motion passed 5-0

Correspondence is available to view.

Budget Amendments

Acct#	debit	credit
230-301-727.000	\$1799.00	
230-301-744.000		\$1000.00
230-301-958.000		\$799.00
Increase account #s		
101-000-566.000		\$173,545.00
101-750-976.000		\$173,545.00

Graves said we received money from a grant on January 14, 2021 for the pathway and this entry will amend the budget to account for the payment.

Motion by Graves, seconded by Conner to approve budget amendments as presented. Roll call: Schmidt, yes, James, yes and Saad, yes, Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Saad to approve payment of expenditures as presented in the board package. Roll call: Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, James, yes, Saad, yes. Motion passed 5-0

Public Comments: Thomas Hallman-8000 Windwood Beach Dr. Inquired about Dam repair and what the plan will be moving forward.

Ken Sprenger-16425 Belfast Dr. Wants the status on repair of Peninsular and Belfast Dr. repairs. Saad: We received the Pacer Rating from Genesee County Road Commission and this will give us numbers about moving forward.

Graves: Repairs have a lot to do with scheduling through Genesee County Road Commission.

Schmidt: Genesee County Road Commission pays for the engineering portion and it is based on their timeline and not the township.

Barb Santee-Belfast Dr. Does the Pacer Rating include Belfast Dr. and Peninsular Dr?

Marty Vyskocil-8284 Peninsular Dr. Regarding Genesee County Road Commission Engineering, are there other options?

Saad: It is all up to Genesee County Road Commission who the engineers are.

Reports: Police Department- A written report was submitted by Chief Allen. Chief Allen advised that the department revised and reviewed it's Use of Force Policy to be in compliance with President Donald Trump's revisions on Law Enforcement reform orders. The Use of Force Policy was required to be reviewed and accredited by the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, and then forwarded to the United States Department of Justice. This was needed in order to show compliance, which going forward be required within the grant application process for future federal grant awards.

COVID vaccines are rolling out for Front line workers and we only have 2 left to receive the vaccine.

Fire Department-A written report was submitted by Chief Kurtz. We have had 10 people within the department receive the vaccine. Congratulation to Firefighter Jaime Ockerman for being named Fire Fighter of the Year 2020.

I have also received from Chief Matt Lafferty letter of resignation/retirement from the department.

I ask that the Board accept his letter with the knowledge that he leaves in good standing with the department should he wish to return to firefighting in the future.

Flow testing for the SCBA packs were conducted and completed on January 8, 2021. I am working on getting a date for hose testing with National Hose Testing (NHT) to make up for delays with the virus restrictions. We replaced all 3 batteries on Brush Truck 17.

The membership of the department agreed to replace the signage on the building. We will be looking into options and cost of replacement.

I am requesting to purchase a generator for Rescue 18, 2 portable water pumps and 10 Streamlight flashlight.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Saad, to approve purchases of the generator for Rescue 18, 2 portable water pumps and 10 Streamlight flashlights for approximately \$4000.00.

Roll call: James, yes, Saad, yes, Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes. Motion passed 5-0

Fire Department Recognition: Fire Fighter of the Year 2020 Jaime Ockerman has greatly increased her response to calls during the pandemic.

Motion by Saad, seconded by James to accept Matt Lafferty resignation from the Fire Department. Roll call: Saad, yes, Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, James, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion by Saad, seconded by Graves to promote Jeremy Kurtz from interim to Chief and continue 6 months additional probation. Roll call: Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, James, yes, Saad, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Building Department Saad reported that 1 permit was issued that totaled \$2,206.10.

Zoning Department Saad reported that 4 permits were issued that totaled \$1,045.00.

Planning Commission: Trustee James reported the need to update the Master Plan and we under a mandate to present a updated copy to the County. It was last revised in 2014. It was completely redone approximately 23 years ago. It is suggested we have a fresh start. We received only one proposal from Carlisle Wortman for \$9,500.00 and an additional \$800.00 for additional surveys and the projected timeline for that would be March 2022. We should look into other proposals. Looking to the Board to consider that in the budget but I am of the belief we need to get more proposals. We also discussed the C2 Storage facility on Silver Lake Rd. they are not in compliance of its original site plan. The landscaping has not been completed and they have expanded their outside storage beyond the buildings. The original plan calls for outside storage behind the buildings only.

Graves: When is our deadline for the Master Plan? Per Mr. Kelley we have passed the deadline.

Saad: suggests that the Planning Commission get further proposals and as a board discuss looking into it on our own. The Planning Commission should come up with a list of criteria for bids process and we will bid it out and see who responds. Schmidt Fenton Twp. sent us their Master Plan and who did theirs? Saad: They updated theirs on their own. I do not want to decide to just amend the Master Plan before we hear back from the Planning Commission to see what is more beneficial for the township and tax payers. James wants to know how we address the storage facility issue. Saad: We will send a letter from Code Enforcement regarding the violations.

Meier Road Bridge: Saad: There is an Issue of the fence and we have been dealing with this since August. The Homeowners did not obtain a permit. I would like to see some clarification in the language to distinguish River Lots from lake lots.

Attorney: David Lattie advised the Board he would like to send some proposed language or Zoning Ordinance amendment that will have to run through the normal process of approval through the Planning Commission and the Board.

Roger Kelley: ZBA did grant them a variance to keep the fence at the roadside by the house but that it needs to be brought down to 48 inches.

Old Business: None

New Business: Resolution 2021-1 Consumers Energy Lighting Services.

Motion by Graves, seconded by Saad to approve Resolution 2021-1 Consumers Energy Lighting Services. Roll call: Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, James, yes, Saad, yes, Conner, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Tahoe out for bid: This was voted on at the August 2020 meeting and the vote still stands. Graves will be moving forward with the sale of the Tahoe.

MDNR Grant-Status/School Lights Snow Removal & Final Costs: Saad said in order to fulfil all the requirements of the MDNR Grant the Michigan portion of the 3 part grant we received there is lighting that had to be switched out at the school. The school has 10 light post with mercury/halogen bulbs in it now. Each one of those will come out and be replaced with 2 cobra heads on each pole going from 10 to 20 total lights. But LED rather than the more expensive mercury/halogen. Cost is \$10,000 and the school and Southern Lakes approached me for a portion of that money and asked who is going to pay for it? The township has a Memorandum of

Understanding with the schools to only contribute \$5,000.00 per year towards ongoing maintenance of the pathway. We also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the County Parks Department and agree to maintain our pathway to the Genesee County Standards. Genesee County Standards is we do not plow the pathway. The school will be replacing the lights and be compliant with the grant. We will not submit our final grant paperwork until installation date has been confirmed by Consumers Energy.

Public Comment: None

Business from Board Members

Saad: I spoke with Alex regarding the Dam and they are going to attempt an inflatable cofferdam system. They think it will be cheap and work. Unknown when they are planning to do this.

Graves: County 911 wants to put a proposal on the ballot. They suggested May for a renewal for the 911 surcharge. That would cost the township approximately \$7,000.00 to \$10,000. If they could wait and possibly combine it in August with something else, we would not have to pay that. We do not have the money in the budget for the May ballot. I contacted Shaun Shumaker our County Commissioner and he agrees with me. I also sent a message to Mark Young the chair and did not get a response. There is a virtual meeting Wednesday at 9 a.m. where we can speak that this is a bad thing to do and put on each municipality. We also need to renew the Board of Review members.

Motion by James, seconded by Saad to renew Board of Review Members terms expiring December 2022, Dagmar Miller, Amber Chamber and Bruce Allen. Roll call: Saad, yes, Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, James, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Schmidt: Letters went out to everyone for Sewer District #7 concerning the operations and how residents should treat the system. Poverty Guidelines need to be addressed tonight. Poverty Guidelines have not changed from 2020 to 2021 except for each additional unit of a family that number changed and went up to \$4,480.00.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by James to approve Poverty Guidelines as printed. Roll call: Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, James, yes, Saad, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

James: On behalf of Greg Smith who brought this up at the Planning Commission meeting he was interested in discussing having full time presence at the Fire Department.

Conner: Will look up the logos that were designed in the past and possibly pass them onto the Seniors at the High School in the Graphic Arts classes. They can work on a few options for our new signs/logos designs.

Adjournment @ 8:16 p.m.

Minutes taken by Becky Nemecheck

Joseph Graves, Clerk

Brian Saad, Supervisor