

Minutes of Argentine Township Regular Board Meeting April 30, 2018

Call to Order @ 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Saad led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Hallman, present, Saad, present, Conner, present, Graves, present, and Schmidt, present. Absent: none.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by, Hallman to adopt the Minutes of March 19, 2018 Regular Board Meeting as printed. Motion passed.

Correspondence is available to view.

Motion, Conner, seconded by Hallman to approve the budget amendments, as recommended by the Clerk. Motion passed.

Motion, Saad, seconded by, Conner to approve payment of bills as printed in the board package. Motion passed.

Public comment: Drew Shapiro, currently is our County Commissioner, is a candidate for 51st. State of Representatives. Commissioner Shapiro introduced himself and has a brief update on what he has accomplished. The Board of Commissioners had planned to transfer \$50,000 of the earmarked Veteran Millage monies to sponsor a PGA tournament. 500 signatures were presented to the Board and they reversed their decision.

The Board of Commissioners also wants to spend \$1,000,000 to purchase a now defunct racetrack. It appears that this may also be reversed.

Commissioner Shapiro also proposed that \$300,000 be transferred from the county general fund to the road fund. This would give additional money to repair roads instead of just patching spots. The minutes of the Board of Commissioners are not posted online. It is very inconvenient for a person to access these minutes. We need transparency and should post all minutes online. Commissioner Shapiro said he wants to improve infrastructure, transparency and education.

Treasurer Schmidt commented that \$300,000.00 would not even pave 1/3 of a mile. That amount divided up among the entire county would not even begin to benefit Argentine Township.

Treasurer Schmidt also asked about a newspaper article where Commissioner Shapiro had said all the local officials are "corrupt." Schmidt said he takes offense at that statement since it is not true.

Commissioner Shapiro replied that he thinks his statement is being taken out of context. The Board thanked Commissioner Shapiro for coming.

David Lossing, Democrat candidate for the 51st District State House of Representatives. Mr. Lossing has served 18 years in the City of Linden, the last 12 years as the mayor. He is very active with the Shiawassee River Coalition. Mr. Lossing wants to focus on jobs, conditions of the roads and restoring revenue sharing cuts. Restoring revenue sharing

could take 2 decades to make it happen. Lossing said Argentine Township has been shorted approximately \$900,000 in lost revenue. This money could have been spent on police, fire and roads. Amazon did not locate in Michigan due to a lack of an educated workforce. We need to upgrade infrastructure and help students with the last funding gap to go to college.

Ian Shetron, Republican candidate for the 51st State House of Representatives. Mr. Shetron introduced himself and said his background is in communication. He works with the Luntz Global and works remotely at home. Mr. Shetron said he listens to what people are saying. Mr. Shetron said his platform will focus on rolling the state income tax back to 3.9% from 4.25%. He wants to phase out the tax on pensions, roads and reforming No Fault Auto Insurance. He noted that the Legislature tried to reform this, but politics prevailed and the bill failed.

Terry Groves, 16207 Knobhill Dr. – Asked the Board to do something to improve the audio in the Township Board Room. It is very difficult for persons with hearing impairment to hear what is being said.

Jeff Peak, 11050 Charles Dr. - The fire permit procedure needs to be reformed to make it convenient for residents to get a permit. There is an issue with kids riding 4 wheel vehicles and motorcycles on Murry Road. It is dangerous. I am concerned that a kid will be getting killed in an accident. The police should patrol this area after school lets out.

James Wells- 16244Bird Rd. – I was gone for about 3 months. I have security cameras installed. I want to thank our police for the vacation home checks. My camera showed that they checked it every day and walked around the house.

Reports:

Police Department: A written report was submitted. Chief Allen said he and Detective Fulton attended training to prepare Supervisors and Officers for dealing with “line of duty deaths”, and also on prevention of police officer suicides.

Jeff Mulnex attended the 2018 Marine Academy, which certifies him in the State of Michigan’s Marine Law and allows him to be a trainer on boat safety.

State Police Sergeant Rick Jones trained Becky Nemecheck on the Michigan Sex Offender Registry laws. In conjunction with the training the department will conduct a sweep/inspection for compliance for sex offenders who live in our township.

The Police Department renovations are nearing completion.

We plan to hold ALICE training with the schools. Approximately 150 staff members will be trained on what to do in an active shooter situation. The training date will be August 28th.

Fire Department: A written report was submitted. Chief Lafferty said the department is at 148 runs. Firefighters Jeremy Davis and Terry Balewski have completed The Genesee County Fire Academy. New turnout gear has arrived. We will be updating our agreement with Genesys Regional Medical Center for continuing Education. The price of \$800 will remain the same.

Engine 47-11 is back in service.

We are anticipating the arrival of the wheels soon.

Firefighter Justin McCormick never responded to the letter Chief Lafferty mailed to him. Chief Lafferty is recommending the Board terminate his employment with Argentine Township.

Moved by Hallman, seconded by Saad to terminate the employment of Firefighter Justin McCormick, as recommended by Chief Lafferty.

Discussion: Schmidt asked if Justin McCormick owed us any money. Chief Lafferty said He owes us \$1,200. Mr. Lattie said he will collect this money for us. Motion passed.

Building Department: Saad said there were 19 building and zoning permits issued that total \$12,528.30.

Planning Commission: Trustee Conner- The Planning Commission discussed a safety path ordinance. The owner of 7226 Silver lake Rd. expressed opposition while other residents expressed their support. The Township's planner was asked to get comparables from neighboring communities and bring them back to the next meeting on May 12th.

Attorney: Attorney David Lattie gave an oral report. Lattie asked for time saved for a closed session to discuss the proposed Police contract. If the terms are acceptable, the Board may want to adopt the contract after our session.

I have an evidentiary hearing scheduled on the Williston case with Judge Farrah. This is to ask that the qualifications of the appraisal be removed. The appraisal is artificially inflated. I will ask the Judge to strike the testimony from the appraiser. The case should come up for trial by July. Treasurer Schmidt may be asked to testify.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Saad to enter closed session to discuss the Police Contract. Roll call: Schmidt, yes, Saad, yes, Hallman, yes and Graves, Yes. Trustee Conner abstained from the vote. Motion passed.

The Board entered closed session at 8:01 p.m.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Hallman to return to regular session. Motion passed. The Board returned to regular session at 8:11 p.m. No votes were taken during closed session.

The POAM organization voted to accept the contract offer of a 3% raise each year for each of the 4 years of the contract, retroactive to March when the contract had expired. The contract year will go through December 31, 2021. The other change is that authority will return to the board to make decisions on any starting wage pay.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Saad, to accept the terms of the tentative agreement as printed. Motion passed. Trustee Conner abstained from the vote.

Old Business; Lawn Maintenance

The Board discussed how we bid or get quotes on contracted services. Clerk Graves was concerned about spending money on bids that we publish in the newspaper and get no response. Mr. Lattie said we have advertised in the paper in the past but we could change our policy and procedure. Lattie will bring a new policy and procedure for bids to the Board.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Hallman to sign the lawn care proposal with Royalty Services for 2018 in the amount of \$35.00 per cut for both the Police Department and Township Hall. Motion passed.

New Business: Sale of Township Property 01-22-551-037.

Treasurer Schmidt is requesting the Board authorize him to sell parcel ID# 01-22-551-037.

Schmidt asked for authorization from the Board to negotiate the sale of 2 lots on the west side of McCaslin Lake. that we purchased through foreclosure. Schmidt said he would like to split the lot and sell to each neighbor if they are interested. Otherwise, 1 neighbor has asked to purchase it for \$5,000.

Moved by Hallman, seconded by Saad to authorize Treasurer Schmidt to negotiate the sale of these lots. Motion passed.

Business from Board Members:

Hallman-Gen-X Pyrotechnics contacted me. The state fire marshal now requires the permits for fireworks to be in 90 days ahead of time. Moved by Hallman, seconded by Graves to approved the permit for Saturday September 1st with a rain date of September 2nd for the Lobdell/Bennett Lakes fireworks. Motion passed.

Ditches on Haviland Beach Drive are deep and it is directing water to flow between Majestic Woods Drive and Windwood Beach Dr. The county needs to fill in an area to keep water from flowing the wrong way. Additionally, a resident filled in part of the new ditching on Haviland Beach Dr., north of Windwood Beach Dr. The county is going to ask him to remove the filled in area or charge him and the county will remove the fill material.

Schmidt- I had a meeting about the easement for the path with Mr. and Mrs. Ryan and our respective attorneys. The attorneys will get some additional information and we will meet again in a couple of weeks.

Conner- I have an idea for an ordinance to prohibit the sale of anything classified as drug paraphilia in businesses located within Argentine Township borders. Conner will work on this.

Graves- The Public Accuracy Test will be tomorrow at 10 a.m.

The office will be open on Saturday May 5th from 10: a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for absentee voting. The election is Tuesday, May 8th.

Saad- We have 4 quotes for the paving of Police Department parking lot. 2 quotes were comparable. The quote from Affordable Asphalt is in the amount of \$24,875.00.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Hallman to accept the quote from Affordable Asphalt to pave the Police Department parking lot in the amount of \$24,875. Motion passed 4-1 with Saad voting no.

Public comment: Roger Kelley- asked about Whitehead Dr. paving project. Wants the County Road Commission to come back and take care of the issues with the shoulder of the road settling.

Adjournment@ 8:37 p.m.

Denise Graves, Clerk

Brian Saad, Supervisor