

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FLUSHING

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

ADMINISTRATION:

SUPERVISOR: Frederick R. Thorsby

CLERK: Wendy D. Meinburg

TREASURER: Terry A. Peck

TRUSTEES:

William Bain

Linda Minarik

Joshua Upleger

Sharilynn K. Willette

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY:

MATTHEW S. MCKONE PLLC

117 W. Oliver Street

Owosso, MI 48867

810-410-4204

- I. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:00 P.M. by **SUPERVISOR THORSBY** with Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
- II. **ROLL CALL: Thorsby, Meinburg, Peck, Bain, Minarik, Upleger, Willette**
Attorney Matt McKone was also present.

MEMBERS ABSENT: 0

OTHER INDIVIDUALS PRESENT: Chris Czyzio, Dennis Judson, Chief VanAlstine and 6 others.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 2023.

Treasurer Terry Peck MOVED, supported by Clerk Wendy Meinburg, to adopt the agenda for September 14, 2023.

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 10, 2023.

Clerk Wendy Meinburg MOVED, supported by Treasurer Terry Peck to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2023 Board Meeting.

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

Treasurer Terry Peck MOVED, supported by Trustee Bill Bain to approve the payment of bills as presented.

Explanation was given pertaining to the bill shared by Flushing City for the 5 Year Recreational Plan.

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Minarik, Upleger, Thorsby, Bain, Peck, Meinburg, Willette

NAYS: 0

ABSENT:0

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 7:04 P.M.

No Comment.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 7:05 P.M.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Motion on RESOLUTION 23-10 COUNTY AUTHORIZING FLUSHING TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO RESTRICT SOME MONEYS FROM THE GENERAL FUND.

Clerk Meinburg MOVED, supported by Treasurer Peck, to approve Resolution 23-10, County authorizing Flushing Township Board of Trustees to Restrict some moneys from the General Fund.

Treasurer Peck explained that this was a request to place money in our treasury as restricted which could be used for Capital Improvements.

Trustee Minarik asked why should this money be restricted and not just left in the General Fund.

Supervisor Thorsby replied that this was a way to set money aside for Capital Improvements so that it would be available for a large project if needed. Any request to use these monies for a Capital Improvement would still need to be presented to the Board for their approval.

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Thorsby, Willette, Upleger, Peck, Meinburg, Bain

NAYS: Minarik

ABSENT:0

THE MOTION carried.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation and possible motion on Text My Gov.

Supervisor Thorsby stated that there was no login information was received from the Text My Gov representative, therefore, this item was would not be addressed.

2. PUBLIC HEARING – NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TRUTH AND TAXATION MILLAGE CALCULATIONS AND RETURN MILLAGE RATES TO PREROLLED BACK RATES.

Clerk Meinburg MOVED, supported by Treasurer Peck, to open the Public Hearing at 7:21 P.M.

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

Supervisor Thorsby stated that they can put the information that was prepared by Assessor Judson up on the screen. He asked if there were any questions.

Bob Aldredge, a Flushing Township resident, asked if this roll back would increase our taxes. He stated that previous minutes stated that the Township is sound currently, and asked

why must more taxes be paid. Why wouldn't we pay the least amount of taxes? He asked why the residents couldn't get a break this year.

Supervisor Thorsby stated that taxes would be kept the same, but if the taxes were rolled back year after year, the Township would no longer be financially sound.

Trustee Minarik **MOVED**, supported by Treasurer Peck to close the Public Hearing at 7:29 P.M.

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

3. Motion to approve RESOLUTION 23-11, A RESOLUTION REGARDING MILLAGE LEVY (TRUTH IN TAXATION) FOR 2023 better known as the "Flushing Township 2023 Millage Levy Authorization" adopted pursuant to MCL 211.24e(3).

Clerk Meinburg stated a correction needed to be made on the agenda for Resolution 23-11. It should read "2023" and not "2022". Correction has been noted.

Trustee Minarik questioned the percentage as presented in the resolution.

Assessor Judson stated that the rate of inflation is the taxable values of 5%. He stated it is all correct.

Treasurer Peck explained that we run on a .5 mill, and back in the 80's the Board operated at a 1.0 mil but cut it to .5 to save taxpayers money and that is the way it's been since.

Treasurer Peck MOVED, supported by Trustee Willette to approve RESOLUTION 23-11, A RESOLUTION REGARDING MILLAGE LEVY (TRUTH IN TAXATION) FOR 2023 better known as the "Flushing Township 2023 Millage Levy Authorization" adopted pursuant to MCL 211.24e(3).

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Bain, Willette, Minarik, Meinburg, Thorsby, Upleger, Peck

NAYS: 0

ABSENT:0

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

4. Motion on the fiscal year ending March 2023.

Clerk Meinburg MOVED, supported by Treasurer Peck, to approve the fiscal year ending March 2023.

Supervisor Thorsby pointed out that the Township collects .5 mill in taxes which is \$153,500.00.

Treasurer Peck stated that tax collection ended September 14, 2023. He explained that these monies go to the County, which they will be returned to us for our operating budget.

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Upleger, Thorsby, Willette, Meinburg, Minarik, Peck, Bain

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

5. Motion on RESOLUTION 23-12 GENESEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Treasurer Peck MOVED, supported by Trustee Minarik, to approve on RESOLUTION 23-12 GENESEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT.

Treasurer Peck explained that the County Commissioners set up a community meeting, under political appointment, to determine the management of solid waste. He stated that if we accept this resolution as presented, it would cost anyone using the County sewer system millions. He recommended a no vote which would send this resolution back to the County to determine a more reasonable avenue to manage getting rid of the solid waste.

Attorney McKone clarified that the Treasurer is recommending a No vote in order to have this motion fail. He wanted to confirm that this was understood.

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 0

NAYS: Peck, Bain, Meinburg, Thorsby, Upleger, Minarik, Willette

ABSENT: 0

THE MOTION failed.

6. Motion on appointing Diane Bruner to Board of Review.

Clerk Meinburg MOVED, supported by Treasurer Peck, to appoint Diane Bruner to the Board of Review.

Supervisor Thorsby stated that Diane Bruner has been a realtor in this county for 40 plus years and accepted the nomination to the Board of Review. He highly recommended her being appointed for a two-year term to the Board of Review.

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Meinburg, Willette, Bain, Peck, Minarik, Upleger, Thorsby

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

THE MOTION carried.

7. Motion on appointing Trustee Joshua Upleger to Election Commission.

Trustee Willette MOVED, supported by Clerk Meinburg, to appoint Trustee Joshua Upleger to Election Commission.

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Peck, Minarik, Willette, Bain, Upleger, Thorsby, Meinburg

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

THE MOTION.

8. Motion on RESOLUTION 23-13 MAINTENANCE AND/OR REPAIR TO BOMAN, FIRMAN BRANCH #0195.

Clerk Meinburg MOVED, supported by Treasurer Peck, to approve RESOLUTION 23-13 MAINTENANCE AND/OR REPAIR TO BOMAN, FIRMAN BRANCH #0195.

Supervisor Thorsby explained that the County promised these residents this drain would be fixed last year. The total cost for the entire project is \$26,650.00. The County will pay 25% with the residents being responsible for 50%, which will be a one-year Special Assessment. We are recommending approval to cover 25% of the repair at a cost of \$6,662.50 for next budget year.

ACTION ON THE MOTION

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Meinburg, Minarik, Bain, Willette, Upleger, Thorsby, Peck

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

VI. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's Report – Supervisor

Supervisor Thorsby stated that the Board had a Special Meeting regarding the Apple Hill subdivision. Petitions were turned in to Clerk Meinburg for her to verify signatures. Currently, she has verified 49 signatures. There are a few residents out of state, which may bring the total up to 55. Paul Kelley, who has been working on the petitions, is present. There will be a Public Hearing scheduled at the October meeting, and the residents will be notified.

He stated that Beech Tree Lane subdivision, north of Potter Road, near Seymour Road, is interested in being paved. An estimate will be needed from the Road Commission. There are about 30 parcels in this subdivision. The residents would like to have an informational meeting scheduled. He stated a Board meeting will be scheduled after the October meeting. He asked Clerk Meinburg to provide him with a date when the Board could meet.

Clerk Meinburg stated that she would put an e-mail out to determine a good date after October 12, 2023.

Attorney McKone stated that meeting will be posted as it will be an open meeting of the entire Board.

Trustee Willette asked what was the status of the Ponderosa Reservation?

Supervisor Thorsby stated that this is a sewer project and he is waiting to hear from the Drain Commission regarding estimates, and financing. This will be a large project. The original meeting regarding this project was two months ago.

Supervisor Thorsby stated that Fred Peivandi, Director of the Road Commission, is retiring, and they are promoting Randall Dellaposta. Mr. Peivandi has done a fantastic job and worked well with the Township. He believes Randy will also do a great job and continue the relationship with the Township.

Zoning and Code Enforcement Report

Zoning Administrator Chris Czyzio stated that the Family Dollar project at Elms and McKinley has been through the Planning Commission and approved conditionally on the site plan and special use for Genesee County permits and are underway.

Zoning Board of Appeals – The sign variance for Valero gas station near the corner of McKinley and Mt. Morris is the same as the existing sign in front of the party store. It's the same sign as the one downtown Flushing. The variance was approved to use that sign.

Mr. Czyzio stated that he reached out to developers regarding the southwest corner of McKinley and Mt. Morris Road and received no response. It has been a month since they were willing to go forward.

He stated that enforcement activity has gone down. He has closed out quite a few on the list, and has opened up a few more.

Fire Department Report – No Report
FANG Activity Report – No Report

2. Clerk's Report – Clerk

Clerk Meinburg stated that Karla Carpenter retired, and Brooke Terriyah was put in her position and is doing very well.

Clerk Meinburg stated she met with the County this last week with all the Clerks looking at new equipment needed for the 9 days of voting, and it all depends on how the State determines that. If the legislature closes session by the end of October, everything established for the new rules would be in place. If they wait until mid-November, that may change what rules are implemented. We will prepare for the February date but it still could be the March date.

Clerk Meinburg stated that Doug Pickett of Rowe Engineering, who originally worked on our Master Plan, passed away. We were his first township. He retired only two months ago. He worked on our first and our last Master Plan. He was a really nice guy and will be greatly missed.

3. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer
Financial Report June 2023

Treasurer Peck stated he wanted to re-point the investments. There is one maturing for the Police Department where next week \$500,000 will be put back in the Police area, and we will need to determine how much is needed for the next few months so another investment could be made for them.

He stated regarding the main water problem in the County. He was appointed

Treasurer Peck stated he was appointed to the Karegnondi Water Authority and attended his first meeting. He explained that when they started, they had several 40-year bonds, which they were able to re-issue and buy back saving \$23 million dollars. When the 40-year bond matures, and the bond is paid off, the water bills for the residents will drop drastically at that time. He believes Jeff Wright will go down in history for Genesee County. He's a brilliant man.

4. Flushing Township Police Department – Police Chief

Chief VanAlstine stated schools are back in session and that Officer Catlin has been assigned to the high school. Chief also stated that the training for the drone has been completed.

Trustee Willette stated that she has heard wonderful things from the high school staff, and has actually observed Officer Catlin interacting with the young children at Seymour during pickup time.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 8:17 P.M.

Buddy Dalton, 8360 W. Mt. Morris Road commented on noise concerns he had about his neighbor, Pine Tree Barn.

Jennifer Travis, owner of Pine Tree Barn was present and made comments on how she has tried to be more accommodating.

Supervisor Thorsby stated that there is nothing the members of the Board can do, that this issue needs to be directed to the Police Chief and/or Code Enforcement Officer.

Chief VanAlstine stated that his goal is to make the citizens and business owners happy and he is willing to work with anyone.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: 8:27 P.M.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

Discussion was had pertaining to new pavilion landscaping and board packet construction. Discussion was also had concerning the recent State level control of solar energy, wind energy and short-term rentals. The Township was told by Michigan Township Association, and Supervisor Thorsby just filled out a survey regarding this issue. He also read an article in the Bridge News report that it is the State's intention to file a bill soon, and believes that is the direction the State is going. Supervisor Thorsby stated that he had feared that for a while, and heard recently that the Governor wanted it to be under the Public Service Commission.

IX. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: OCTOBER 12, 2023 with a Public Hearing.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Upleger MOVED, supported by Bill Bain to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M.

THE MOTION carried unanimously.

WENDY D. MEINBURG, Clerk

APPROVED DATE

FREDERICK R. THORSBY, Supervisor

RECORDING SECRETARY: Pam Cookingham, Recording Secretary
09/11/2023