

November 2nd, 2021 MEETING MINUTES
OF THE TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP BOARD
3546 S. Straits Highway, Indian River, MI

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. with Pledge of Allegiance by Supervisor Ridley.

Roll call by Clerk Dawn Webb. Board members present were Mike Ridley Supervisor; Dawn Webb, Clerk; Bobbi Balazovic, Treasurer; Trustees, Janet Vance and Robert Kramer. A quorum of the board was present.

Minutes of the October 5th Regular Meeting Minutes – Minutes were accepted. Motion to accept by Webb support by Ridley, motion carried.

Roll Call to adopt the minutes as written:

Kramer – No,
Webb – Yes,
Ridley – Yes,
Balazovic – Yes,
Vance – No

Kramer made a motion to amend the minutes – **Vance SUPPORTED**

Roll call:

Kramer – Yes
Webb – No
Ridley – No
Balazovic - No
Vance - Yes

Kramer read his objection and correction into the minutes.

Objection: I made a motion it was very, very clear. I heard stuff; well we didn't understand. Well, you know what, it was five to zip. So, if you didn't understand that's not on me that's on you. It's very clear to me what I said, and I don't like my words twisted or changed or my intent changed because we're having a fight over the hiring policy. It's not right. So welcome to fantasy football and welcome to re-writing history. Thank you.

Correction: Kramer made a motion to send Vance's last draft of hiring policy, the organization chart and questions and concerns to the lawyer, with comments due to Mike Ridley by Monday. Supported by Balazovic. Motion carried.

Minutes were accepted. Motion to accept OCTOBER 5TH REGULAR MINUTES AS WRITTEN MADE by Webb support by Ridley, motion carried.

Roll Call to adopt the minutes as written:

Kramer – No,
Webb – Yes,
Ridley- Yes,
Balazovic –Yes,
Vance – No

Minutes of the October 26th Special Meeting Minutes – Minutes were accepted as written. Motion to accept by Vance support by Webb, motion carried.

Adopt Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda with addition of a discussion of Office Assistant hours and pay **and TO** schedule a workshop to discuss **HIRING POLICY**, for Saturday morning at 9 am made by Vance supported by Webb. Motion carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - Carol Freismuth commented that she wanted to start the meeting with the notion that she actually supports this board and that they believe in progress, positive community projects and don't have personal vendettas. Supervisor called point of order because comments needed to be on agenda items.

Scott Swanson read excerpts letter from a Michigan Press Association Attorney regarding the Boards FOIA Policy for charging fees.

Correspondence – Marcia **ROCHELEAU** is looking for someone to sit on the 911 Board.

MR. RON ODENWALD

ATTORNEY LUCE-HERMAN

Treasurer's Report

General acct \$2,386,408.07

Tax accounts \$13,686.22

Both with interest.

Motion to accept the Treasurers report and pay bills made by Kramer support Vance, motion carried.

Reports:

- **Police Report** – Chief Temple reported that they got a grant approved for snowmobile patrol and announced Kathy Jewell has decided to retire February 1st.
- **DDA Report** – Mike Ridley – settled a bill with OHM for 50% reduction.
- **Parks Commission** – Jennifer Andrew thanked Pat and Jane McGinnis for making the map of Cooperation Park and they will be putting it on the website. Working on five-year plan and revenue for the parks.
- **Planning Commission** – Mike Cherveney – nothing new.
- **FOIA** – Webb reported 21 new FOIA's since last meeting with documents/answers provided for 2 of them. Also clarified that the decision to charge for FOIA's was started by previous clerk Dolly Rodriguez prior to her leaving office.
- **Library Report** – Kelsey Rukowski reported that they are starting a homebound service for those people who cannot come to the library. They have registration forms that can be picked up or you can register for the service online. Check out the website for other news and services.
- **Sewer** – Kramer talked about Mead and Hunt's proposal on larger surge tank at a cost of over \$700K. **Read Anna Schwab's email regarding earmarks.**

Women's Club Cindy Fisher brought in a sample of the flowerpots that the women's club purchased to replace the barrels that are placed in town on the sidewalks. They would like to put four or five across

the front of the Township Hall. Motion to approve five flowerpots in front of TWP hall made by Kramer support by Ridley – motion carried.

RFP Sewer Plant EQ tank/Pole Building Kramer recommended we table discussion.

Poverty Application Language - State requires the removal of language from Poverty Tax Exemption “under no circumstances shall poverty exemption be granted on a principal residence purchased within two years from the appeal date”.

Motion made by Vance support by Webb. Motion carried.

Assessing Assistant pay - Motion by Balazovic to increase hourly pay to \$16.50 effective immediately and amend the budget line for assistant assessor to increase the amount by \$2000, support by Kramer. Motion carried.

Sue Fisher pay/duties - Motion made by Webb to continue to pay Sue Fisher’s wages out of the Administrative Assistant’s budget line through the end of December 2021. Support by Ridley - motion carried

Essential Workers Hazard Pay - Tabled

Discussion of the Office Assistant’s pay and hours Tabled

Workshop Set for Saturday morning at 9am for Hiring Policy

Public Comments

- Six citizens made public comments

Board Comments

- Three board members made comments

Motion to Adjourn

- Made by Ridley second by Kramer meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Dawn M. Webb, Clerk

Michael Ridley, Supervisor