

**TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**May 30, 2023 Time: 6:00 pm**  
**3546 S. Straits Hwy. Indian River, MI 49749**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

AGENDA:

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items
4. Budget Workshop
5. Airport Forestry
6. Ex-Officio
7. Sewer Emergency Generator
8. Bills
9. Budget Adjustments
10. Public Comments
11. Board Comments
12. Adjournment

MINUTES:

1. Call to order: Supervisor Kramer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Roll Call: Supervisor Kramer, Clerk Reidsma, Treasurer Dillaha, Trustee Vance  
All present. A Quorum is present. One open trustee seat.
3. Public Comment on Agenda items: (Open 6:01, Closed 6:03)  
Chief Temple: rules of public comment  
M. Chervaney: MEDC/RRC
4. Budget Workshop: After much discussion, the Board reached a tentative Budget agreement for the Fiscal Year 2023-24. The proposed budget will be available on-line for public consumption prior to a public review on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 pm.  
  
**Motion:** Kramer made a motion to break from the budget workshop, and move to the agenda items. Vance seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0
5. Airport Forestry: A consulting forester (Greg Drogowski) was working with Airport manager Andy Bowman and Supervisor Kramer to bid out the 30 acres to cut and lumber. Drogowski is a broker and would bid out the job. His rate would be \$2,500, and the Township would net about \$20,000 - 25,000. These funds would be restricted for airport safety projects only. The cutting would cover the required cleared distance, leave a tree line buffer around the airport itself, and then harvest behind the buffer for the desired trees. Necessary stump grinding would be at an

additional cost. Board discussed the need for more data to determine the viability versus costs, and making the airport more revenue neutral.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by Kramer to have the Board's approval for the Supervisor, to represent the Board, sign the Forestry agreement with the proceeds to go to the Airport for safety improvements with a net of \$20,000-25,000 after stump removal. Second was made by Vance. Motion passed 4-0

6. Ex-Officio appointment: The MTA does not recommend that the Supervisor serve on the Planning Commission. A new ex-officio from the Township Board must be appointed. Kramer asked for volunteer from the Board. The meeting's times vary.

**MOTION:** Kramer made a motion to table this discussion until a new Trustee can be appointed. Reidsma seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

7. Sewer Emergency Generator: A new emergency generator has been purchased, but not delivered. We need a gas line installed before installation. The Gas Company is the only company qualified to do this, so it will be a sole source contract.

**MOTION:** Kramer moved to authorize the Supervisor to get a quote from DTE for a gas line for our emergency generator. Vance seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

8. Bills: Error was made on invoice #7730 (date of entry). Correction noted by Reidsma.

**MOTION:** Kramer moved that we pay the bills. Vance seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

9. Budget Adjustment: DDA requested to change the audit cost share be reduced. A procedure will be developed before next year. The final distribution would be:

Police -- \$3540.96, DDA -- \$307, LIBRARY – \$795.53, SEWERS \$793.17, TWP – \$2863.50

**MOTION:** Reidsma moved to change the Auditor fees final distribution to other departments, based upon DDA input from a prior meeting, as presented. Seconded by Kramer. Passed 4-0.

**MOTION:** Moved by Trustee Vance to approve new Signature Cards for the Tax Account at Citizens National Bank to add Jay Reidsma, Janice Dillaha, and Cindy Wimer, as well as remove Eric Jacobson and Bobbi Balazovic from the existing signature cards. Dillaha seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

**MOTION:** Kramer moved to return to the budget workshop for discussion, along with additional discussion of these items. Vance seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

- Commercial Sewer District: Steve Mann, Bond Counsel, will look at the Sewer Amortization Schedule to make sure it is correct. He will get back to us in a couple of weeks.
- Sewer Engineering Cost: Engineering costs have been coming out of the Township General Fund, and that would save us \$4,500 preparation fee plus interest on a short term bond. Working with EPA, Steve Mann, and Mann's advice was to continue our

current payment process. A bond (loan) is not necessary at this time. Re-evaluate at a later time. Steve Mann to send us document on the REU "Connection Fee" calculations.

- Wahbee Road/Chippewa Beach Road: Needs crack sealing. Kramer would like to defer this discussion until look into the responsible party for payment.
- Club Road: Vance made a report on Club Road. The road should be done sometime in early fall.

**MOTION:**

Trustee Vance moved to purchase two "Boat Launch" directional signs to be placed at the corners of Club Road and M-68. Kramer seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

10. Public Comments (opened: 9:02 closed: 9:03)

P. McGinnis: Oak Hill Cemetery. Suggested a cemetery sign on Chippewa Beach Road.

11. Board Comments: 2 Board members had comments.

12. Meeting adjourned: 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jay Reidsma, Township Clerk