

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Supervisor Milkey called the regular meeting of the Township of Manchester to order at 7:00p.m.

Cub Scout Pack 421 presented the American flag for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Ron Milkey, Clerk Danell Proctor, Treasurer Kim Thompson, Trustee Lisa Moutinho, Trustee Krista Jarvis, Trustee Mike Fusilier, Recording Secretary Brenda Bancroft; Absent: Trustee John Seefeld.

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief Bill Scully, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Kouba, Sybil Kolon, Carl Werner, Carol Wotring, David Tamagne, Matthew Bednarski.

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA:

Add under New Business: e) Farmland Preservation; f) Broadband Mini Grant Program; g) Carl Werner – Zoning Update Report

Motion Thompson, second Proctor, to approve the agenda as amended.

Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld.

CARRIED.

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF VARIOUS MINUTES:

Board received the draft minutes of the Manchester Township Regular Board Meeting of 2/14/23, and the Manchester Township Special Meeting of 2/14/23.

The minutes from the Manchester Township Regular Board meeting of 2/14/23 to be amended as follows: Brenda Bancroft, Recording Secretary, to be marked as absent as she was not present; Under Old Business, b) Recycling Bins – it should read “decibel” meter instead of decimal meter.

Moved by Fusilier, second Jarvis, to approve the minutes from the Manchester Township Regular Board Meeting of 2/14/23 as amended.

Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld.

CARRIED.

Motion by Fusilier, second Thompson to approve the Manchester Township Special Meeting Minutes of 2/14/23 as presented.

Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld.

CARRIED.

Board accepted minutes from the Manchester Township Planning Commission 3/2/23 meeting.

OTHER MINUTES ON FILE: Accepted minutes from the Manchester Village Council/Manchester Schools Board of Education Special Joint Meeting on 2/6/23;

Manchester Village Council Regular Meeting on 2/6/23; Manchester Village Council Regular Meeting on 2/20/23; Manchester Village Council Special Meeting on 2/27/23.

TREASURER'S REPORT: \$1,687,699.34

Motion Fusilier, second Proctor, to accept Treasurer's report as presented.
Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld.
CARRIED.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Motion Thompson, second Milkey, to approve payment of bills from the General Fund for \$32,408.44 as presented.
Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld.
CARRIED.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

The new Community Resource Center Executive Director Carol Wotring & President David Tamagne presented an informative slideshow to the Board. They would like Manchester Township to assist in referring residents who may need their services and to also provide a flyers and other information regarding the CRC in the Township Hall lobby, as well as the Township website. They also encouraged the Manchester Township Board to attend their events. The CRC asked the Board on any ideas on how better to reach out to the residents, including in neighboring townships that they serve.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sybil Kolon thanked Mike Fusilier on adding the topic of Land Preservation to the agenda, especially as she serves on the Manchester Township Planning Commission. She also inquired on the status with the Board regarding the recent Agritourism ordinance.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- a) Fire Department Activity Report: 103 calls for service for February 2023 – 61 calls between February 21th-February 25th due to the winter storm.
- b) Fire Chief's Report: Monthly officer's meeting was held on 2/15/23. Membership meeting on 2/22/23 was cancelled due to high volume of calls from the winter storm. Attended the WAMAA meeting on 3/7/23 in Superior Township. Manchester Township sections 25, 26, 35 & 36 will be covered by Manchester Township Fire Department starting 4/1/23 – they had been previously covered by the Clinton Fire Department.

Fire Chief Scully recommended to the Township Board to approve hiring Matthew Bednarski to position of Probationary Firefighter for the Manchester Township Fire Department.

Motion Milkey, Second Thompson, to accept Fire Chief Scully's recommendation to hire Matthew Bednarski as a Probationary Firefighter to the Manchester Township Fire Department.

Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld. **CARRIED.**

Fire Chief Scully presented a contract with Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Department providing aid to Manchester Township.

Motion Proctor, Second Fusilier to accept the contract with Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Department as presented.

Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld. **CARRIED.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/BUSINESS:

- a) Zoning Administrator: Zoning Administrator Carl Macomber was unable to attend and Supervisor Milkey presented the following on his behalf: issued 2 permits for barns/garage, 1 new address/variance, & 2 new houses in the township currently filling out applications.
- b) Planning Commission: Fusilier provided a report regarding a Joint Planning meeting between the Village and Township on March 2, 2023. Will be meeting every month prior to the regular Manchester Township Planning Commission meetings. Fusilier also provided a report to the Board regarding the regular Manchester Township Planning Commission meeting of March 2, 2023.
- c) Supervisor: Supervisor Milkey reported that seasonal road weight restrictions will be lifted on March 17. Milkey attended a Zoom meeting with Consumers Energy regarding this last winter storm and reported that this was the 6th largest outage event in their history. Consumers Energy informed Milkey that they will increase trimming along the easements from ground to sky around the power lines to hopefully mitigate future outages. Received an invitation to apply for a Consumers Energy Grant Program, and will do so with a Joint Grant Application with Manchester Village to enhance community engagement & downtown development. Township had previously applied for a SPARK grant for additional trail funding – did not make the first cut, but still eligible for the next round to be selected. At the February Township Board meeting, the Board had tabled the Consumers Energy Franchise Agreement and the attorneys are working on the next draft which should be presented at the next meeting in April. Milkey informed the Board that Senator Jeff Irwin will have a meet and greet at Millie's Coffeehouse on Saturday, March 18th. Milkey also informed the board that Georgia Frost, Field Representative for Representative Debbie Dingell, will be presenting at April's Township Board Meeting and discussing what their office is doing to serve rural communities. Alize Asberry Payne, the Racial Equity Officer for Washtenaw County, has been invited to provide a presentation regarding Racial Equity and Milkey hopes to have that on the agenda for either the April or May meetings.
- d) Facilities Buildings/Grounds: No report.

- e) Boards/Meetings: Sybil Kolon presented River Raisin Watershed will have their next meeting 4/27/23 at the Tecumseh Parks and Rec Building. They busy are gearing up for spring events.
- f) Broadband: no report.
- g) Parks & Rec: Jarvis reported the Supervisor Milkey, Manchester Village, and herself met with the Washtenaw County Parks Director Coy Vaughn regarding potential funding sources to assist underserved areas. Jarvis asked the Board if Parr & Gieske Roads should be considered for inclusion with the Manchester Village Golf Cart Ordinance, and would also like to consider Wald Strasse as well.
- h) Cemetery: Proctor received approval for the new sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Lawn Mowing Bids:

Reynolds Cemetery for 2023: ER Lawn Service - \$275 per mow. Spring Clean-up (if necessary) \$50 per manhour.

Manchester Township Hall 2023: T&N Service Inc - \$65 per mow at Township Building; tree & hedge trimming is \$120 per time; \$60 per mow for lot across Macomb Street; \$160 per time for Fall/Spring Clean-up. Bid includes a fuel surcharge if gas is \$3.20 per gallon or higher.

Motion Milkey, second Proctor, to accept both Lawn Mowing Bids as presented.

Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld. **CARRIED.**

- b) Manchester Area Warming Shelter
Supervisor Milkey credited Trustee Moutinho for the idea of opening the Township Hall during the ice storm disaster. He would like to open a discussion on providing a Warming Shelter this for this area, and would like input and ideas on where one could be established for area residents, potentially with school building and churches.
- c) 2023 Huron Valley Night Hawks Ride Schedule
Motion Milkey, Second Fusilier, to approve the schedule as presented.
Voice Vote: Aye. **CARRIED.**
- d) Washtenaw County Road Commission
The Board reviewed a report from Washtenaw County Road Commission regarding Funding Local Road Improvements in Washtenaw County – Spring 2023. Supervisor Milkey will ask for more clarification regarding some concerns. Will revisit this at the April 2023 meeting.
- e) Land Preservation Discussion
Trustee Fusilier asked the Board if they would like to pursue developing a route for Land Preservation within Manchester Township. If so, he would like additional direction and input for the Manchester Planning Commission.

Purchase Development Rights is one avenue that can be pursued to jumpstart this process.

Motion Milkey, Second Thompson, to request the Manchester Township Planning Commission start working on a Purchase Development Rights Ordinance.

Voice Vote: Aye. **CARRIED.**

f) Broadband Mini Grant Program

Trustee Moutinho has been speaking with MEC and is looking at how to benefit low-income residents regarding the \$100 connection fee. There is a federal program that will help in reducing costs for low-income households. Would like to pursue with the Township how to implement this assistance with Township residents.

g) Carl Werner - Zoning Update Report

Carl Werner reported that he's made great progress with the Zoning Ordinance Book. Has increased the font size and updated formatting so it's consistent throughout the entire book and easier to read. Will continue to work on this, and when complete, will help streamline the process for making additions or changes in the future.

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Village of Manchester: No update.

b) Recycling Bins: No update.

c) Manchester Area Senior Center:

The new Senior Center is pulling together – they hope to have it ready in April 2023. Has asked for the Township's support to purchase two easy chairs while they finish the room's renovation.

Motion Thompson, Second Milkey, to purchase two easy chairs at the cost of \$550.00 for the Manchester Area Senior Center.

Ayes: Milkey, Proctor, Thompson, Moutinho, Jarvis, Fusilier. Absent: Seefeld. **CARRIED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sybil Kolon commented regarding the glass in the recycling bins and if it's a concern with the mixed-use bins.

Carl Werner commented that the comingled glass bins have greatly reduced the noise.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Jarvis thanked Carl Werner for his hard work, and also thanked Lisa Moutinho regarding opening the Township Hall as a warming center.

Moutinho thanked the fire department for helping with opening the Township Hall during the ice storm and for everyone's assistance.

Fusilier thanked Sybil Kolon for helping to bring the Land Preservation meeting to the area and for her input regarding this topic. Also thanked Carl Werner for his help with reformatting the ordinances.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Washtenaw County Road Commission Staff & Monthly Report
On file.
- b) Washtenaw County Sherriff Monthly Report
On file.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion Fusilier to adjourn, second Proctor.
Voice Vote: Aye. **CARRIED.**

Board adjourned at 9:14 PM

Danell Proctor
Clerk

Approved: April 11, 2023