

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Supervisor Milkey called the regular meeting of the Township of Manchester to order at 7pm.

Cub Scout Pack 426 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, John Seefeld; Recording Secretary Brenda Bancroft; Absent: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief Bill Scully, Field Representative for Debbie Dingell Georgia Frost, Washtenaw County Commissioner Shannon Beeman, Sybil Kolon, Carl Werner, Melanie Davis, Bill Bray, Mike Lowery, Mike Ciescah, Terry Walter, Danielle Kippnick, Roy Weidmayer.

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA:

Add under New Business, D) Cryptocurrency Ordinance; add under Old Business d) Broadband Mini-Grant Program.

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

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

CARRIED.

Add under New Business, E) Robotic Teams Canoe Race Request; F) Meeting Date Change for May 9, 2023.

Motion Thompson, Second Jarvis to approve additional amendments to the agenda.

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

CARRIED.

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF VARIOUS MINUTES:

Board received the draft minutes of the Manchester Township Regular Board Meeting of 3/14/23.

Amend minutes under New Business: Broadband to correct a typo – MECC should be MEC.

Motion Seefeld, second Fusilier, to approve the minutes from the Manchester Township Regular Board Meeting of 3/14/23 as amended.

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

CARRIED.

OTHER MINUTES ON FILE:

Manchester Township Planning Commission meeting of April 6, 2023; Manchester Village Council meeting of March 6, 2023; Manchester Village Council meeting of March 20, 2023.

TREASURER'S REPORT: \$1,606,578.51

Motion Proctor, second Seefeld, to accept Treasurer's report as presented.

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

CARRIED.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Motion Fusilier, second Jarvis, to approve payment of bills from the General Fund for \$15,070.71 as presented.

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

CARRIED.

GEORGIA FROST FROM OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN DEBBIE DINGELL (MI-06):

Georgia Frost, field representative for Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, spoke to the Board regarding how they can assist Manchester Township and Western Washtenaw County.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bill Bray spoke about his concerns regarding the blight on Lakeview Drive. Was hoping to have community involvement to clean up the blight and perhaps to get a dumpster to help.

Mike Lowry spoke about his concerns with Kirk Rd and that it has significant drainage problems as well as a lack of maintenance.

Washtenaw County Commissioner Shannon Beeman commented that a DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) Town Hall will occur on May 9th, 2023 at Saline City Hall. Time TBD.

Sybil Kolon spoke about DEI and her support of it and its benefit for Manchester Township.

Roy Weidmayer spoke that the poor service and poor conditions on Kirk Rd.

Terry Walter spoke about the poor condition of the dirt roads and that they need a major overhaul, especially in regards to Kirk Rd..

Melanie Davis commented that Lakeview Drive is a one-lane dead-end road and is concerned regarding access by emergency personnel if there were a fire due to the blight, the poor condition of the road, and how narrow it is. Is also concerned that the county trucks have likely been turning around in her driveway as it's a dead-end and is damaging her property.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- a) Fire Department Activity Report: Responded to 49 calls for service in March 2023.
- b) Fire Chief's Report: Monthly officer's meeting was held March 22, 2023. Membership meeting & training was held March 29, 2023. Attended the WAMAA meeting April 4, 2023. Fire Chief Bill Scully presented a resignation letter from Jonathan King. Fire Chief Scully & Assistant Chief Kouba are attending training on solar power on April 12, 2023. Currently working on day time & night time coverage.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/BUSINESS:

- a) Zoning Administrator: Zoning Administrator Carl Macomber was unable to attend and Supervisor Milkey presented the following on his behalf: Permits for 2 new residences; 1 barn or garage; 1 address. Did note that there are lots of potholes.
- b) Planning Commission: Trustee Fusilier asked for input regarding the Joint Planning Commission and what the future view for Manchester Township should look like. He also presented a report from April's Planning Commission meeting. An Agritourism Ordinance from the Planning Commission was approved for review for the Township Board.
- c) Supervisor: Supervisor Milkey received an invitation for a virtual public meeting with the Washtenaw County Road Commission via Zoom on April 27, 2023. Supervisor Milkey has attended meetings regarding the Alumni Field where the Chicken Broil and Community Fair are held – talking about how to keep that in public use and potential improvements.
- d) Facilities Buildings/Grounds: Concrete pads in front of the doors are settling again at the Township Hall. Supervisor Milkey will be seeking bids for removal/replacement of the concrete. Supervisor Milkey has also spoken with the fire department regarding firefighters possibly performing maintenance at the Township Hall.
- e) Boards/Meetings: Sybil Kolon reported that there will be a meeting on April 27, 2023 for the River Raisin Watershed Council.
- f) Broadband: No Report.
- g) Parks & Rec: Jarvis reported she is looking at changing the speed limit at Gieske & Parr Roads so they can include those roads for use with golf carts between the new campground and town.
- h) Cemetery: 2 calls for burial requests. New Sexton repaired the storm damage quickly from the recent ice storm.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners: Received a letter from the Chief Deputy Clerk Edward R. Golembiewski urging the Township to pass legislation to normalize diplomatic relations with the Republic of Cuba. Also sent a copy of a resolution adopted by the Washtenaw County, Michigan Board of Commissioners on March 1, 2023 titled “A RESOLUTION TO URGE PRESIDENT BIDEN AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO NORMALIZE TRADE AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA BY DISSOLVING THE CURRENT U.S. TRADE EMBARGO, REMOVING CUBA FROM THE STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM LIST AND OTHER BARRIERS”.

Board is currently reviewing this topic and will place this on the agenda for next month’s meeting.

- b) Canon Copier: Clerk Proctor received a quote regarding replacing the copier. Will ask for more information from the vendor and will bring that back to the Board for the next meeting.
- c) Blight Update: 1284 Lakeview Drive: Supervisor Milkey reported that Carl Macomber had issued a civil infraction ticket for blight. This ticket has since been paid, but the blight has not been alleviated. Is looking at different avenues for how to address this, including a boiler plate police ordinance. Carl Macomber will be reaching out again to the tenant regarding the blight. 17416 West Austin Road: Contacted the owners in January 2023 that this building fell under the Dangerous Building Ordinance and owners indicated a desire to demolish the house. Owners had contacted the Fire Department to use the house for a practice burn, however, Fire Chief Scully determined that house is too deteriorated to safely do so and declined. Carl Macomber issued a letter to give the owners 2 weeks to have a plan to have the house and property cleaned up. 13374 Ely Road: A house was supposed to be torn down 11 years ago, as a condition of a new house building permit that was issued. Carl Macomber has issued a violation notice giving them 2 weeks to submit a plan and a date for demolition.

- d) Cryptocurrency Ordinance:

Motion Jarvis, Second Seefeld to approve Ordinance No. 99 “Ordinance Establishing Cryptocurrency Mining Moratorium” as presented.

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

CARRIED.

- e) Robotic Teams Canoe Race Request

Danielle Kippnick, from the Manchester Robotics Team, requested a written letter of permission from the Manchester Township Board for the upcoming Canoe Race in May. This letter is required for the permit to be issued by the DNR. Ms. Kippnick has already received written permission from Sharon Township, as the race also runs through their area. The Board agreed to provide that written letter of permission.

f) Meeting Date Change for May 9, 2023.

The Board discussed moving the Manchester Township Board meeting date or time so that the Board members would be able to attend the DEI meeting in Saline on May 9, 2023.

Motion Fusilier, Second Milkey, to move the Manchester Township Board Meeting of May 9, 2023 to 7:30pm. Fusilier withdrew his motion.

Motion Fusilier, Second Milkey, to move the Manchester Township Board Meeting to May 8, 2023 at 7pm.

Voice Vote: Aye. **CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Village of Manchester: No report.

b) Washtenaw County Road Commission: The Board discussed the primary and secondary roads and what projects should be a priority. The Board would like a quote to rebuild Kirk Road from Schleweis to M-52, which is 1.2 miles, due to its poor condition. Would also like to know what the potential longevity would be to use limestone instead of road gravel. Will have this on the May agenda.

c) **Update on Solar, Mining, and Wind Ordinance Revision:** Fusilier, Jarvis & Milkey had discussed potentially creating a Solar Farm Zoning District in the Southeast corner of Manchester Township. Also working on discussion for battery storage for updated ordinance. This language is with the attorneys. Would like to have this Solar Ordinance for the Board for review in June 2023. Thompson reported the Mining/Wind Ordinance updates are also with the attorneys for review.

d) **Broadband Mini-Grant Program:** Moutinho is requesting that this topic to be also added to the agenda for the May 2023 meeting. Is also asking for application information for this program to be placed on the website for Manchester Township residents, as well as posted at the Township Hall. Would like to request a \$5,000 grant for connecting those in need with internet and MEC at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Field Representative Georgia Frost commented that the Congressional Art Contest is currently happening for High School Students – the winner from each district has their artwork displayed at the Capitol building. Also commented that Western Washtenaw is trying to convene a Housing Group to discuss housing as a regional issue.

Roy Weidmayer commented that the limestone is a soft surface and urged the Board to do research regarding how to repair the roads.

Shannon Beeman commented that she would to assist with helping to find residents that would benefit from the Broadband connection fee assistance.

Jerome Taylor commented that he had tried to work with Pat Zamenski regarding tax assessment concerns and has not received a sufficient response.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Fusilier is excited about how they're trying to bring the community together with the Joint Planning Commission and that people seem to have the community at heart.

Thompson sympathizes with everyone regarding the roads. Thanked the public for participating and attending.

Moutinho discovered that Township Halls can become Red Cross Relief Centers and would fit nicely with the disaster relief plans to take care of their residents. Will be doing some more research regarding this and will report to the Board.

Jarvis commented that the community has donated \$7,000 to the Robotics and AES has agreed to match that. They have also \$2,000 to Senior Center and also supported Café Aspire. Thanked the public for coming and urged them to contact the County Road Commission for their concerns with the condition of the roads in Manchester Township.

Milkey thanked Washtenaw County Commissioner Shannon Beeman for attending the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Washtenaw County Road Commission Staff & Monthly Report
On file.
- b) Washtenaw County Sherriff Monthly Report
On file.
- c) Thank you from Manchester Area Senior Citizens

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion Thompson, second Proctor to adjourn the meeting.
Voice Vote: Aye. **CARRIED.**

Board adjourned at 9:03PM

Approved: May 8, 2023

Danell Proctor
Clerk