

Arcadia Township Board Meeting Minutes
Arcadia Township Hall
3422 Lake Street, Arcadia, Mi
November 10, 2022 7:00pm

Present: Supervisor Paul Brown, Brad Berkshire, Treasurer; Pat Manke, Trustee; Laurel Mason, Trustee. Absent – Andrea Maidens, Clerk

Supervisor Brown introduced himself as the new Arcadia Township Supervisor. Our new Supervisor also thanked all those who worked the polls at our Township Hall on election day.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Trustee Manke 2nd by Treasurer Berkshire. **AIF-passed.**

Public Comment: none

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Berkshire stated that the winter tax bills will be sent out December 1, 2022 and that there will be office hours Dec 27, 2022 and February 28, 2023 from 9am – 5 pm.

Clerk's Report – Listing of the Bills: Motion to approve the Clerk's listing of the bills as presented by Trustee Manke, 2nd by Treasurer Berkshire. Supervisor Brown aye, Treasurer Berkshire – aye, Trustee Manke – aye, Trustee Mason, aye. **AIF- passed.**

Motion to approve 10/13/2022 Board Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the amended 10-13-2022 Board Meeting Minutes by Trustee Manke, 2nd by Treasurer Berkshire, **AIF – passed.**

Motion to approve the 10/18/2022 Special Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the amended 9-17-22 Special Meeting notes by Trustee Manke, 2nd by Treasurer Berkshire. **AIF – passed.**

Correspondence: none

Planning Commission: Commission member Shannon Westgate stated that there was no meeting this month, however, regarding short term vacation rentals, there is no specific ordinance with the exception of the current language regarding motels. The commission is waiting to hear back from the zoning officials at Manistee County regarding the numerous complaints made regarding VRBO's in Arcadia. A request will be made to Manistee County for their ordinance official to attend a future Township meeting to field questions. The Township attorney is working with the Planning Commission. There is also potential legislation at the state level and therefore it may be necessary to wait until the State of Michigan proceeds with their determination.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Hull reported that there were 9 medical runs and 5 fire runs, mainly due to power lines coming down due to a recent storm. The Fire Department is preparing for winter with getting out their cold water rescue suits. The Fire Department will be hosting Santa and driving through town on Saturday December 17, 2022. November 30, 2022 Superior Energy will be coming to the firehouse to talk about gas leaks, all are welcome. The Arcadia Fire Department also received a \$250.00 donation from the Lutheran Camp Association.

Historical Commission: Ed Howard reported that the heating system is not functional and funding to purchase a new furnace is needed ASAP. Mr. Howard stated that the Township owns the building and the Historical Society has fulfilled its obligation and has no funding available. The cost of a new furnace is approximately \$3920.00. The Lions Club is willing to donate \$1,500, there is \$1300 available from the Manistee County Community Fund and the remaining amount of \$1090 will, hopefully, be provided by Arcadia Township through a budget reconciliation. Treasurer Berkshire suggested the possibility of a 0.2 Millage to provide the Historical Museum the operating funds that are needed to maintain the building.

Cemetery Committee: Patti Wilson stated that clean-up has been occurring at the Cemetery. The Committee had hoped to install a road side fence this year but it will happen next year.

Marina Concerns: Treasurer Berkshire announced that the millage passed for the dredging of Arcadia Lake. The millage will be seen on the Winter tax bill coming out in December and will be present for 5 years.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Trustee Manke stated that there have been inquiries from other beach town communities regarding the Mobi Mats.

Website Committee: Trustee Mason stated that Shannon Westgate is willing to advise the Committee regarding the updating of the website. Patti Wilson stated that she is willing to continue with this function if needed.

Old Business:

- a. ARPA Funds; Three bids are needed for dead tree/limb removal. Securing bids will occur in the spring time.
- b. Arcadia Township Clerk position; The opening was posted on the sign at Lake St and M-22 and as a result an inquiry was made by an individual who resides in the township. Additionally, if no one applies for this position the Township has 45 days to find an individual or Manistee County steps in and will assign an individual, at, most likely, a high cost to the Township. Patti Wilson, former Township Clerk, stated that the position is underpaid, especially since more responsibilities have been placed on local clerks from the County.

New Business:

- a. Workers Compensation Renewal – Liberty Mutual. The Township Supervisor and Township Clerk names have to be updated on the policy.
- b. Township IT/Phone situation – The Township will be reviewing its current IT and phone situation. Supervisor Brown will be taking the lead with this initiative.
- c. Arcadia Township Christmas Decoration – aged and in need of repair Christmas Decoration located in the Township Hall basement. Ryan McKenna has looked at these decorations and is willing to refurbish if he is able to own them. Ryan stated that he is willing to loan them back to the Township if requested. **Motion** to give the decorations to Ryan McKenna for the purpose of refurbishing with the future option of loaning them back to Arcadia Township, for the Christmas Holiday if requested. Motion made by Trustee Manke, 2nd by Treasurer Berkshire. Supervisor Brown – aye, Treasurer Berkshire – aye, Trustee Manke – aye, Trustee Mason – aye, **AIF – passed.**
- d. Big Apple Update – Treasurer Berkshire has discussed this concern with the Planning Commission President Brad Hopwood. Notices have been sent to the owner who has not responded. The matter has been referred to the Township Attorney.

Public Comment: Regarding the proposals for snow removal as well as lake dredging, Roger Brown has suggested that Supervisor Brown speak with Jim Stoops. Lynn Brown stated that our local Post Office had an inspection and Joanne was told to remove the bulletin boards, they were not allowed. The community relies on these communication boards for all kinds of community information. A new place is needed to post this information.

Adjourn at 8:07 pm.