

Township of Arcadia Board Meeting
August 15, 2024
Arcadia Township Hall
3422 Lake Street, Arcadia, Michigan 49613
Township Board Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call. Present:** Paul Brown, Supervisor; Laurie Mason, Trustee; Tracy Catlin, Clerk; Jojo (Josiah) Chacon-Lontin, Trustee. Absent: Brad Berkshire, Treasurer.
3. **Motion** by Trustee Chacon-Lontin to approve the agenda, 2nd by Clerk Catlin. AIF, passed.
4. **Fire Department.** Wes Hull reported the busiest 5-week period ever, with 14 medical runs and 2 fire runs. The department has also been busy with equipment cleaning, sanitizing and restocking, in addition to participating in the Arcadia and Onekama parades.
5. **Treasurer's Report.** Supervisor Brown reviewed the up-to-date fund balances and noted that accounts are proceeding as expected, including the expenditure of grant funds. **Motion** by Clerk Catlin to approve Treasurer's report, 2nd by Trustee Chacon-Lontin. AIF, passed.
6. **Clerk's Report/Listing of the Bills.** Clerk Catlin reported bills paid as listed, including grant monies spent for Finch Park electrical work and roof, and lake weed treatment. **Motion** by Trustee Chacon-Lontin to approve Clerk's Report/Listing of the Bills, 2nd by Trustee Mason. AIF, passed.
7. **Approve 7/31/2024 Special Board Meeting Minutes and 7/11/2024 Board Meeting Minutes.** **Motion** by Clerk Catlin to approve the 7/31/2024 Special Board Meeting Minutes and 7/11/2024 Board Meeting Minutes, 2nd by Trustee Chacon-Lontin. AIF, passed.
8. **Correspondence.** Note was made that the 8/12/2024 edition of the Manistee News Advocate newspaper features the upcoming MT Diner on the front page above the fold. Congratulations to Matt and Tracy Catlin!
9. **Planning Commission.** Brad Hopwood reported that the latest text amendments to the zoning ordinance have been sent to the attorney for review.
10. **Historical Committee.** An air conditioner for the Arcadia Museum has been ordered, thanks to a generous donation from an anonymous source.
11. **Cemetery Committee.** Nothing to report.
12. **Marina Committee.** Nothing major to report.
13. **Parks and Recreation Committee.** Matt Catlin noted that the recent Parks and Rec Committee included 20 people from the community with lots of energy and ideas, small and large. Information about clean-up projects will be on the M22 sign as well as facebook. Dumpster Day will be on September 14. More sand and possibly more beach grass are planned for the beach and its paths. Discussion is ongoing about long-term high-water protection. The Arcadia Marsh clean-up days are August 27 and September 3. Please consult the website for further details.
14. **Public Comment on Agenda Items** – on items as addressed.
15. **New Business**
 - a. **Arcadia Daze Recap.** Roger Brown thanked all of the volunteers, sponsors and community members for their work and support leading to another successful event. He reviewed all that was offered, including the historic train discussions and display at the Arcadia Museum, music at Ketch 22, a gorgeous display by Arcadia Fireworks, 5K run led by the Hopwoods, Arts and Crafts on 4th Street, Auto Muster courtesy of Ketch 22; pancake breakfasts by the Stierholz family and

friends and the McArthur family and friends. Ryan McKenna and his crew built a great Lion's float for the annual parade, which was capped off by the ever popular Clown Band. Kids' games for over 200 youngsters were coordinated by the Pakulas and their volunteers. All profits go back into the community, charitable contributions and scholarships. As a thank you to everyone in Arcadia that helps or is impacted by this event, the Lions will host hot dogs this Saturday from 4 to 6 pm at Finch Park. Next year's Arcadia Daze will be on July 25, 26 and 27.

- b. Tree Trimming.** This the second phase of this ARPA project (funded with federal grant money). Residents are asked to identify specific trees needing trimming. They must be within 18 feet of the center of the road. Competitive bids will be sought for the work. Please write or e-mail the supervisor or clerk with identifying information. The Tree Committee has been approved for a \$2000 grant from Consumers Energy for the planting of another 10 trees this fall. Thus far, all that have been planted are thriving!
- c. Process for Zoning and Other Complaints.** Supervisor Brown reiterated that enforcement is reactive and not proactive; action is triggered by complaints, which can be anonymous, which are then forwarded to the Manistee County Enforcement Officer for evaluation and processing. We pay for this service. Complaints need to be specific. There have been individuals that abused the complaint process in the past. Those types of complaints will not be forwarded for enforcement.
- d. Roads.** The new manager of the Manistee County Road Commission is currently using only county and state funds to patch and repair township roads into a better condition, with no cost to the township. He is collecting detailed data (inventory, maps, ratings, etc.) of all roads and will then meet with the township to plan for the next step of chip sealing and fog sealing. The goal is to get the roads in good shape to last at least 7 or 8 years. This next step will start next year. He will be attending a board meeting soon to review his data and develop plans for our area. Separately, concern was expressed regarding excessive speed and the increase in truck traffic on Glovers Lake Road near M22, which has been upgraded to a Class A road. Trustee Mason will pursue the possibilities of ways to slow things down.

16. Old Business

- a. Big Apple.** The building has now deteriorated enough to be considered blight. Consistent with the township's blight ordinance, the board decided to proceed with enforcement. **Motion** by Trustee Mason to move ahead with enforcement of blight ordinance violation, 2nd by Trustee Chacon-Lontin. Trustee Mason aye; Clerk Catlin aye; Trustee Chacon-Lontin aye; Supervisor Brown aye. AIF, passed.
- b. Election Update.** The road millage passed at the recent local election on August 6, 2024. The township of Arcadia has 660 registered voters. Those who are on the permanent ballot list will receive ballots for future elections in the mail. Early voting for the November 5 election will again be available at the Manistee Township office in Manistee from October 26 through November 3, 2024. Voting on Election day will be conducted on November 5, 2024, in the Arcadia Township Hall.
- c. Potential Land Acquisition.** Bond proposal, as discussed at 7/31/2024 special board meeting, will appear on the November 5, 2024 ballot for a decision by the voting public.
- d. Community Visioning.** Projects funded by our successful grant are continuing and/or accomplished. The kiosk at the PVCC and the water trail map and Grebe Park signs should be in place by the end of October.

17. Public Comment – Other Items.

Thank you to the tree keepers, whose work is visible and pleasing to all!

Complaint process was reviewed.

Discussion was held regarding the possible property acquisition of two parcels on Lake Street. This included reiteration of several specifics that were addressed at the special board meeting on July 31, 2024. It was noted by several members of the public that this issue is one to be included on the ballot in November and decided by the voters in that referendum.

18. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Clerk Catlin, 2nd by Trustee Mason. All in favor, passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.