

Township of Arcadia Board Meeting
September 12, 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; Brad Berkshire, Treasurer.
3. **Motion** by Trustee Chacon-Lontin to approve the agenda with an amendment to add Recycling under New Business, 2nd by Clerk Catlin. AIF, passed.
4. **Fire Department.** Wes Hull reported that activity is somewhat back to normal, with 4 medical and 3 fire runs. He said that the truck pumper was tested, new licenses were obtained for medical use of the trucks, water pump practice was conducted in Grebe Park, and that the new hookup for fuel tanks works great.
5. **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Berkshire reviewed the current fund balances and said that the auditors are wrapping up their work, with few recommendations. Summer taxes are due 9/16/2024, and on that date he will have township office hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for residents who wish to pay their taxes in person. Taxes have been paid thus far on 60% of the parcels. **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 presented the listing of bills for August, which include training for a new EMT for the Fire Department and repairs to the fishing dock. **Motion** by Trustee Chacon-Lontin to approve Clerk's Report/Listing of the Bills, 2nd by Trustee Mason. AIF, passed.
7. **Motion** by Clerk Catlin to approve the 8/26/2024 Special Board Meeting Minutes and 8/15/2024 Board Meeting Minutes, 2nd by Trustee Mason. AIF, passed.
8. **Correspondence.** None.
9. **Planning Commission.** Work continues on text amendments. The next meeting of the planning commission will be the first Thursday of next month.
10. **Historical Committee.** Air conditioning for the Arcadia Museum has been installed. Jean Sitter expressed thanks to all who have supported the museum. It will be open on Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. until the end of October, weather permitting. Next Thursday, the Methodist Church will host a program on Shipwrecks and Storms. All are invited.
11. **Cemetery Committee.** Patti Wilson has resigned from this committee.
12. **Marina Committee.** This has been a great year for the marina, with lots of positive comments.
13. **Parks and Recreation Committee.** Matt Catlin expressed thanks for many volunteers this year. Plans include this Sunday at 10 a.m. work at Finch Park and Sunday 9/29 at 10 a.m. Pickert Park cleanup. Updates are posted on the M22 signs, the township website and Facebook. The last Parks and Rec meeting of this year will be October 1 at 7 p.m.
14. **Public Comment on Agenda Items** – on items as addressed.
15. **New Business**
 - a. **Roads.** Manistee County Road Commission Manager Brad Kluczynski and Supervisor Brad Lakso described plans that are in the works and currently being implemented for repair and routine maintenance of all roads, with the goal of "keeping good roads good." He said that every dollar spent on maintenance saves \$7 in major expense later on. The board is working with Brad to

determine which roads in our township will be addressed next year. Help with plans and asset management of vehicles, beaches, parks, roads and buildings is available through Mr. Kluczynski. Supervisor Brown strongly endorsed the concept of long-term planning versus short-term fixes. Also discussed was road damage during this summer's golf course construction, M22 work scheduled for next summer, crosswalks to be put in place, possibility of speed limits on Glovers Lake (set by the State Police based on 85th percentile speed studies), the costs of traffic counts and digital signs reflecting speeds. Our ORV ordinance was acknowledged. The brine solution used as a binder on gravel roads is tested prior to application and does not pose a danger to health. The topics of seasonal roads and the dump site on Erdman Road were also raised. Appreciation was expressed for the responsiveness of the commission staff and for recent improvements.

- b. Recycling.** Karla Smith-Kasten from BARC provided copies of next year's contract to the board for its review and will return next month to clarify and finalize. The county does continue to generate a great deal of recycling, with Arcadia having the second-highest volume.
- c. Dumpster Day – September 14.** Reminder: No hazardous household waste.
- d. Winter Marina Storage.** Jim Stoops has new equipment to take big boats out of the water and would like to explore the possibility of parking them during the winter in the marina parking lot. This would result in an additional income source for the marina. **Motion** by Clerk Catlin to enter discussion with Jim Stoops about an agreement to use marina parking for winter boat storage, 2nd by Treasurer Berkshire. AIF, passed.
- e. Arcadia Lake – Starry Stonewort.** This invasive species was found in the lake. The Conservancy will test the marsh for the same.

16. Old Business

- a. Tree Trimming.** Residents were asked to submit requests for tree trimming with descriptions of exact location by September 30, at which time the board will invite bids for the work.
- b. Big Apple.** A citation has been issued and an informal hearing is being scheduled.
- c. Election Update.** Clerk Catlin described voter choices for the upcoming November 5 election:
 - Vote via absentee ballot. Please notify the clerk of any change of address, as the Post Office does NOT forward ballots.
 - Vote in person during the 9-day early voting period in Manistee Township.
 - Vote in person on election day at the township hall.
- d. Potential Land Acquisition.** Purchase contract to be executed next week for \$940,000 with contingencies for bond approval, environmental assessment, and limitation for 49 years of land use for public recreation purposes only. This issue will appear on the ballot as "Property Acquisition Bond Proposal."
- e. Community Visioning.** Proceeding as per plans; some excess funds to be used for beach grass.

17. Public Comment – Other Items. An inquiry was made regarding yearly baseline water testing in Lake Arcadia. Clerk Catlin will bring feedback to the next meeting. It was suggested that communication to the public about the possible property acquisition include a map of the subject property on the township website. Sidewalk repair was brought up. This is very expensive, and could perhaps be accomplished through cost-sharing with the property owner. This issue is not currently part of the township budget.

18. Motion to adjourn by Clerk Catlin, 2nd by Treasurer Berkshire. AIF, passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.