

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JULY 11, 2022 FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL**

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor, S. Nelson, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Members present: S. Nelson, D. Brown, A Wagner, J. Church, R. Scott  
Members absent: NONE

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

**5. AGENDA**

Motion, J. Church, support, A. Wagner, CARRIED to approve the agenda.

**6. MINUTES**

Received Minutes:

Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes –June 13, 2022

Motion, R. Scott, support, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to accept the Township Board Regular meeting minutes for June 13, 2022.

**7. REPORTS**

The following reports were acknowledged:

- a. Financial Reports: The Treasurer and Clerk were in balance with the bank.
- b. Assessors Report for June 2022.

**8. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Ford River Planning Commission Meeting Minutes June 1, 2022

**9. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

- a. Fire Reports/Calls June 2022  
Brian Nelson, Fire Chief, was present.
- b. Fire Chief Updates
- c. Michigan Mutual Aid box alarm system Association Agreement-tabled

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED, to acknowledge the fire report.

**10. WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS**

- a. Water system report-June 2022
- b. Water Operator Mike Smith was present and gave updates.
- c. Billing Register June 2022.
- d. Water upgrades. Tabled.
- e. Hook up policy fees. Water Operator was able to get accurate quotes and the 1500.00 deposit for a new water hookup is in line with the cost of materials.
- f. Township has a partial load of gravel we will use on the water tower road.  
Jayne Church said she will spread it.

**11. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUSINESS**

- a. Zoning Administrator gave updates and the June Zoning report. K. Bateni interrupted the meeting to say the Zoning Administrators report is incomplete.

KB: Kymberlee Bateni  
CD: Charles Detiege  
JC: Jayne Church

KB: Jayne and Charlie would you like to tell the people what occurred here June 7th at 2pm? at my property?

CD: Sure I stopped at your property to see if you were home, you were not home, I talked to Sonya who was there at the time and I asked one question, if there was someone living in the back building and then I left.

KB: No you didn't Jayne can you help me?

JC: I got out of the truck, I walked to the front door and I stood there and listened to Charlie talk.

KB: That's not what's on the tape.

JC: I'd like to see the tape then

KB (Laughs) yeah, I... (unsure of the rest of sentence)

JC: Ok send me the proof then, I never said one word I was there as a witness for Charlie.

Kym argued with Jayne and said it was trespass.

Supervisor stopped her comments.

b. Master plan. A new request for quotes. Hopefully more time will help to get bids.

c. Township Attorney explained in detail the law on Short term rentals in R-1. It simply is not allowed unless there is a change in the Ordinance. There is an enforcement effort underway. The Township is committed to getting rid of any illegal short term rentals in R-1. The Ordinance allows for R-2 to have STR with a special use permit. All of the conditions of the special use permit must be satisfied including shared roadways. Questions were asked, and answered by Mr. Burkhart.

## 12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Audit. Supervisor Nelson gave an update on progress. A meeting is scheduled July 12, 2022 at 3pm. Clerk or Trustee can attend. This is holding up the next audit.

b. Marijuana. It is in the hands of the Attorney now.

c. Lions Club, water tabled.

d. Board of Appeals/ Alternate member. Supervisor realized the appointment of A. Degrand cannot take place because he is a member of the Fire Department and cannot serve on both. He will run another ad for next month.

## 13. NEW BUSINESS

a. Payment of bills:

i. GF Total: \$ 28,871.33

ii. WF Total: \$ 3233.99

iii. LF Total: \$ 136.83

Motion, J. Church, support, R. Scott, CARRIED to pay the bills as presented.

b. Cemetery/Russ. Russ Nelson suggested we use the area between the drive and the neighboring property to utilize for a cremation area. Tabled.

c. Supervisor/ Junk violations. Supervisor has sent violations letters so we are moving forward in getting things cleaned up. The Oman property is now compliant.

#### 14. PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENT.

S. Nelson: Playground inspection will take place on 7/13/2022 for the MRNR grant. Delta County Township Association 38th Annual Picnic will be on July 28th at Pioneer Trail Park.

J Kaplan: Feels as though there should be more discussion on the Cemetery subject and it should be back on the agenda.

Also, Part of his FOIA request was denied, concerning fishing. He feels the Township should reconsider his request and be open with transparency.

He offers an apology to Scott Pendergraft from a year ago when he had a confrontation on his property. He thought it was Scott, and it turned out to be someone else.

Last, his wife is running for County Commissioner in the August 2nd Primary as a Republican and part of the reason she is running is because the County Commission extended a 10 year, no contract no bid contract to the Conservation District for continued management of our County parks including OB Fuller which has been cut off from all day use.

Highline Bethany gave a brief presentation about their new program and the ability to use road signs for marketing in the Township. There is no cost for the program.

T. Nelson: County Commissioner District 3. Boundaries have changed for Commission. She is running for Commissioner and wants us all to know there has been changes including a Solar Ordinance.

The County is looking at turning over the Zoning to the Townships. There will be a meeting on Tuesday August 9th at the Service Center.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion, A. Wagner, Support, J. Church, CARRIED to adjourn at 9:19pm

*Lynn Brown, Clerk*  
*8-8-2022*

6

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 8, 2022 FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL**

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by, D. Brown, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Members present: S. D. Brown, A Wagner, J. Church,

Members absent: S. Nelson (via zoom from Bark River, Delta County, Michigan)

R. Scott (via zoom from River Falls, Pierce County, Wisconsin)

a. Election of Moderator

Motion, D. Brown, support, A. Wagner CARRIED to elect J. Church the Moderator of this meeting because of the absence of Supervisor Nelson.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Joe Kaplan explained that he thinks he should have access to information provided by Attorney Bergman. His FOIA request was denied and he would like to have it on record that there is no fishing or recreation. He believes this document could provide that information.

**5. AGENDA**

Motion, A. Wagner, support, D. Brown, CARRIED to approve the agenda.

**6. MINUTES**

Received Minutes:

Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes -July 11, 2022

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED, to accept the Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes for July 11, 2022.

Election Commission Meeting Minutes-July 11, 2022

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED, to accept the Election Commission Meeting Minutes for July 11, 2022.

**7. REPORTS**

The following reports were acknowledged:

- a. Financial Reports. The Treasurer and Clerk were in balance with the bank.
- b. Assessors Report for July 2022.

**8. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Ford River Planning Commission Meeting Minutes July 6, 2022
- b. Delta Solid Waste Management Authority Meeting Minutes June 8, 2022

**9. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

- a. Fire Reports/Calls July 2022  
Brian Nelson, Fire Chief, was present.
- b. Fire Chief Updates

Motion, A. Wagner, support, D. Brown, CARRIED, to acknowledge the fire report.

**c. Michigan Mutual Aid box alarm system Association Agreement**

Motion, A. Wagner, support, D. Brown, CARRIED to accept the Michigan Mutual Aid box alarm system Association Agreement.

Motion, D. Brown, support, A. Wagner CARRIED to approve a new Fire Department member, Matt Adams.

**10. WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS**

- a. Water system report July 2022  
Water Operator Mike Smith was present and gave updates.
- b. Water upgrades. Tabled.
- c. Billing Register July 2022.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, D. Brown, CARRIED, to acknowledge the Water Report

**11. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUSINESS**

- a. Zoning Administrator gave updates and the July Zoning report.

**12. COUNTY COMMISSIONER BUSINESS**

- a. District #3/report/update  
Teresa Nelson was not present.

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Audit. The State of Michigan is handling Mr. Dewer
- b. Marijuana. Tabled
- c. Lions Club. Ford River Township cannot aid in cost of putting water in.
- d. Board of Appeals/ Alternate member. Tabled.
- e. Cemetery/Russ. Tabled

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Payment of bills:
  - i. GF Total: \$ 34,918.82
  - ii. WF Total: \$ 2314.09
  - iii. LF Total: \$ 189.38

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED to pay the bills as presented.

**b. Aspire Network**

Motion, A. Wagner, support, D. Brown, CARRIED to accept the Application for access to and ongoing use of public ways by telecommunications providers as presented by Aspire Network 1, LLC

**c. Kaplan Appeal: Moderator J. Church read the following:**

**Kaplan FOIA appeal**

Under the FOIA, the Township is obliged to respond within ten (10) business days. However, that ten (10) business day period does not commence until the next regularly

scheduled Board meeting on August 8, 2022. MCL 15.240(2). As a result, the response will be due on August 19, 2022.

The Board will assume that your appeal identifies the reasons or reasons for the Appeal and within ten (10) business days it will do 1 of the following:

- (1) reverse the disclosure denial;
- (2) issue a written notice to you upholding the disclosure denial; or
- (3) reverse the disclosure denial in part and issue a written notice to you upholding the disclosure denial in part.

The response is due not from the Board but from the "head of the Public Body". MCL 15.240(2).

The Township Supervisor will respond to your request in a timely fashion.

**d. Planning Commission Training**

Motion, A. Wagner, support D. Brown to spend up to \$1500.00 for training for up to seven people to get training.

**14. PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENT.**

**Mike England:** has an uncle buried in the River Cemetery and would like to know how he could get in there to visit the Cemetery.

**D. Brown:** Supervisor will have an update on Junk complaints next meeting.

**M. Smith:** We are not required to have a fence at the water tower.

**M. Smith:** Is considering a job offer in Presque Isle Maine, he just wants us to know he is going there to check it out next week.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion, A. Wagner, Support, D. Brown, CARRIED to adjourn at 7:49pm

*Alvin Brown 9-12-22*