

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**May 9, 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**

Zoning Administrator added to agenda.

**5. AGENDA**

Motion, R. Scott, support, J. Church, CARRIED to approve the agenda.

**6. MINUTES**

Received Minutes:

Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes –April 11, 2022

Motion, R. Scott, support, J. Church, CARRIED, to accept the Township Board Regular meeting minutes for April 11, 2022.

**7. REPORTS**

The following reports were acknowledged:

- a. Financial Reports for April 2022. The Treasurer and Clerk were in balance with the bank. Treasurer presented an explanation on how the balancing is done along with bank statements that will now be included in packets for the Board to review.
- b. Assessors Report for April 2022.

**8. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Ford River Planning Commission Meeting Minutes April 6, 2022

**9. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

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

Motion, A. Wagner, support, R. Scott, CARRIED, to acknowledge the fire report.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, R. Scott, CARRIED to purchase a drop tank for Unit #4 for up to \$1500.00

Chief Nelson thanks the public for the great turn out for the Pancake breakfast and bake sale.

**10. WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS**

- a. Water system report-March 2022

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

- b. Water Operator Mike Smith was present and gave updates.
- c. Billing Register April 2022.
- d. Water upgrades. Tabled.
- e. Hook up policy fees. Tabled.
- f. Water Operator position

Motion, A. Wagner, support, D. Brown, CARRIED to dismiss the employment of Mark Rose as our water operator due to constantly late reports, a lack of timely and clear communication and failure to comply with State mandates.

Roll Call:

J. Church  
 A. Wagner  
 R. Scott  
 D. Brown  
 S. Nelson

Nays:  
 None

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED to pay Mark Rose March and April salary.

Roll Call:

J. Church  
 A. Wagner  
 R. Scott  
 D. Brown  
 S. Nelson

Nays:  
 None

Motion, A. Wagner, support J. Church, CARRIED to hire Mike Smith as Township Water Operator.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, R. Scott, CARRIED to hire Dixon Engineering for a tower inspection for \$4850.00

Motion, A. Wagner, support, D. Brown, CARRIED to purchase a Miss Dig locator for up to \$3,600.00

Supervisor will run ad for S4 water operator.

**11. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUSINESS**

- a. Zoning Administrator gave updates and report.  
 Township will be working on a Capital Improvement plan starting with a joint workshop with the Planning commission and Township Board on May 16, 2022.

**12. UNFINISHED BOUSINESS**

- a. Audit. State if Michigan has given us 14 days to complete.
- b. Marijuana. The Planning Commission is working on this.
- c. Inventory sheets have distributed to begin creating an accurate inventory.

- d. Lawn Mower: Tabled.
- e. Planning Commission position. Supervisor Nelson recommends appointing Rick Ness to the Planning Commission.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED to appoint Rick Ness to the Planning Commission.

- f. BOA. Supervisor recommends appointing Randy Scott to the Board of Appeals.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED to appoint Randy Scott to the Board of Appeals.

- g. J.5 cleanup. Property owner gave update on clean up, Property owner requests an extension until June 25, 2022 but feels they can still have home removed by the deadline of May 28, 2022.

Motion, J. Church, support, A. Wagner, CARRIED to extend the deadline to June 25<sup>th</sup> for the clean up on J.5 Road.

### 13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Payment of bills:
  - i. GF Total: \$ 41,433.69
  - ii. WF Total: \$ 8,708.19

Motion, R. Scott, support, J. Church, CARRIED to pay the bills \$41,433.69 from the General fund and \$8,708.19 from the Water fund.

- b. Rory Mattson Delta Conservation District gave an explanation about how Fuller Park came to be a Campground only (Picnic area is now across the Highway.) The County's decision was based on usage of the picnic area and that there is no budget to upgrade the restrooms and septic to be able to open it to a municipal Beach.
- c. Tyler Technologies. Clerk requests training on the Cemetery program. The cost of the training is \$250.00 and they will install the program at the time of training.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED, to allow the Clerk training from Tyler Technologies for \$250.00

- d. Playground. We have a broken slide.

Motion, A. Wagner, support, J. Church, CARRIED, to replace the broken slide for \$2705.00.

- e. Public Comment Policy. Tabled. Will bring back next month in policy form.
- f. Roads. Delta County Road Commission has requested the Township pay for ½ of the roads that are scheduled to get gravel.

Motion, J. Church, Support, R. Scott, CARRIED to pay DCRC \$28,086.81 for roads.

- g. Highline Internet. A representative was present to answer questions.

- h. FOIA. Clerk stated there doesn't seem to be a FOIA policy on file. Supervisor obtained a blanket policy from the MTA. This policy and all the forms should be available on the website for the public to use. Clerk stated that last month, a resident publicly accused her of ignoring a FOIA request. Clerk takes these requests very seriously and wants it on the record that the request in question was answered within the five days allowed, but the person requesting the documents did not pay the fee so the FOIA request was not filled.

Motion, A. Wagner, Support, R. Scott, CARRIED, to adopt the Performance Resolution for Municipalities from Michigan Department of Transportation.

Roll Call:

J. Church

A. Wagner

R. Scott

D. Brown

S. Nelson

Nays:

None.

#### **14. PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENT.**

**R. Nelson:** Noticed people stumbling on the threshold on the front door. Should we have that marked somehow?

**J. Anderson:**

Received a letter concerning the re-zoning for short term rentals in Z1.

Supervisor explained that the Master Plan must be changed first and there are procedures that must be followed. No decisions will be made for a long time, and the letter that went out to residents did not originate at the Township.

**T. Nelson:**

1. The County could possibly be giving the Zoning back to the Townships.
2. She wants to inform the public of the changes in her district and how they are combining two districts into one.
3. She met with McBroom to hopefully find the money to finish the 911 signs.

**J. Kaplan:**

1. Likes the idea of Public Policy.
2. he made public comment at county meeting from Ford River Townships recreation plan on the survey comments requesting the local community be granted access to the picnic area, boat launch, playground and beachfront at Fuller Park Campground. This is not a request the County is willing to entertain as they do not have the budget. He received a note from one of the planners at CUPPAD they claim they spoke with park manager to see if there could be a joint grant with the township to expand and was told no way.
3. In mid-March they had a meeting with J. Church, S. Nelson and T. Burkhart and have no feedback since then on things that were discussed. The Easement agreement still isn't recognized, and they are still getting trespassers. Its been a year since this first started and he hopes the Township does their part in informing the community what they can and cannot do on our and your property.

**M. Smith:**

1. has to inventory lines in the water system.
2. Hydrants: maybe come up with a contest to paint hydrants.

**R. Scott**

States when he left the meeting this morning there were a lot of questions about the possibility of Townships handling their own planning. He feels there will be many questions from other Townships.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion, A. Wagner, Support, R. Scott, CARRIED to adjourn at 9:23pm

*Jim Braun 4/13/2022*