

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2024 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, R. Valentine, A. Wagner and J. Church
Members absent: NONE

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Zoning would like to discuss training.

J. Church asked why we are doing salary resolutions in February instead of March like last year. D. Brown thought they were done in February, as they usually are. D. Brown looked at minutes and stated they were actually done in March last year, but they should be done in February so Supervisor Nelson can finalize the budget and present the General Appropriations act in March.

5. AGENDA

Motion, B. Valentine, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to approve the agenda.

6. MINUTES

Motion, R. Valentine, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to approve the January 8, 2024 Regular Board meeting minutes.

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by S. Nelson, CARRIED to approve the Election Commission meeting minutes from January 8, 2024

7. ATTORNEY BURKHART

Mr. Burkhardt was present.

Motion, D. Brown supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to go into closed session with Attorney Burkhardt to consider specific pending litigation Ford River vs Bateni.

Roll call: AYES: A. Wagner, J. Church, R. Valentine, D. Brown, S. Nelson
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

Motion, D. Brown supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to go back into public session with no action taken during closed session.

Roll call: AYES: A. Wagner, J. Church, R. Valentine, D. Brown, S. Nelson
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

8. CONSENT TO AGENDA

- a. Financial Reports January 2024.
- b. Assessors Report for January 2024.

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to approve the Consent to agenda items.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Delta County Clerks association Meeting minutes January 11, 2024.

10. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

- a. Fire Reports/Calls January 2024
Brian Nelson, Fire Chief, was present.

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to approve the fire report for January 2024

- b. The Fire Chief gave updates.

11. WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

- a. Water system report-January 2024

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to accept the water report for January 2024.

- b. Water operator updates. Troy Rodman gave updates.
- c. Billing Register. All normal. Working with the clerk on problem areas.

12. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUSINESS

- a. The Zoning Administrator gave updates and the January 2024 Zoning report.
- b. Master plan update: Draft should be available this week.

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by D. Brown, CARRIED to spend up to \$820.00 for training for The Zoning administrator, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Planning commission.

Roll call vote was taken: AYES: A. Wagner, R. Valentine, D. Brown, S. Nelson
NAYS: None ABSTAIN: J. Church

13. COUNTY COMMISSIONER BUSINESS

- a. District #3 report/update
ABSENT

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. 911 signs: No update.
- b. Policy update: Trustee Church asked the Board to read through what was presented for the next meeting. TABLED
- c. Litigation updates:
 - i. Ford River Township vs Batini: multiple zoning violations. Deposition
 - ii Kaplan vs Ford River Township: FOIA violation. Settlement requested: \$12,296.34.
 - iii. Accusation of violating open meetings act. No update.
 - iiii. Bateni vs Ford River Township discrimination complaint
- d. Appointments
 - iii. Zoning Board of Appeals. term ending 12/31/2026 TABLED
- e. Security system bids TABLED

15. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Payment of bills
 - i. GF Total: \$ 25,176.61
 - ii. WF Total: \$ 5,185.69

- iii. LF Total: \$ 279.29
- b. Water Heater. Supervisor will follow up.
- c. Budget/supervisor

Motion, Robert Valentine, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to move \$500.00 from the Contingency fund to the Supervisors budget.

- d. Website. TABLED.
- e. Township fee listing. TABLED
- f. Approval of Salaries and Wages TABLED
- g. Resolutions for FY 2024-2025 Board Salaries TABLED
- h. Nault resolution. The Nault's went before the Planning Commission on January 17, 2024. They have asked the Board to sign a Resolution allowing a tasting room. A. Wagner read the resolution to Sarah. (via ZOOM) Discussion took place. This resolution does not allow a tasting room. It is a resolution to either support or not support Nault's application for a Tasting Room. In order to sign a resolution in favor of the Nault's application process, the Board needs more information and doesn't have the application. J. Church indicates we need to go over the information. Supervisor Nelson said we cannot approve something we don't know what they are applying for. Treasurer Wagner has asked for all paperwork to be sent to the Board for consideration at the Special meeting on February 21, 2024. A. Wagner asks when the Special use permit will be finalized and that we need a list of contingencies attached to the special use permit. A. Wagner asks for all paperwork from Sarah to be emailed or dropped off by February 14, 2024 as she will be here all day at the hall for Sarah to bring it in. That way we will all have time to review. Trustee Wagner asked when the special use permit will be issued. C. Detiege answered the Permit doesn't get signed until he gets information back from Naults which were part of the contingencies.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Joe Kaplan addressed the Board with his concerns regarding Kaplan vs Ford River Township.

17. BOARD COMMENT.

Supervisor asks if anyone in the area is able to build us a sign according to DNR specs.

18. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to adjourn at 8:31 pm
Minutes approved by:

Debbi R. Brown, Township Clerk

Date