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FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 14, 2024 FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL

AMENDED

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

5. AGENDA

Supervisor Nelson asked to move Attorney Burkhart to the end of the meeting.
R. Valentine added 14.h Audit

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

6. MINUTES

Correction to September 9th 2024 minutes:

C. Williams commented on CEDARS was misunderstood to be CEARS

Motion, R. Valentine, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to accept the Township Board Regular Meeting minutes as corrected for September 9, 2024

7. ATTORNEY BURKHART (MOVED TO 15c)

8. CONSENT TO AGENDA

- a. Assessor Report
- b. Fire Report
- c. Water Systems report
- d. Water billing register
- e. Payment of bills

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

9. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes September 4, 2024
- b. Delta County Clerks Association meeting minutes September, 2024
- c. Zoning Administrators report

10. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

- a. Fire updates The Fire Chief gave updates.
Pancake Breakfast October 27, 2024
- b. Cadet program

Motion, B. Valentine, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to approve the Cadet Program subject to getting clarity on acceptable duties before we put cadets in a hazardous situation.

11. WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

- a. Water operator updates.
- b. Terry Bittner

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by D. Brown CARRIED to pay Terry Bitner \$1,100.00 for gravel at the Water tower site.

ROLL CALL: AYES: A. Wagner, B. Valentine, D. Brown, S. Nelson

NAYS: NONE ABSENT: NONE ABSTAIN: J. Church

12. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUSINESS

- a. Zoning update
- b. Master plan update: ready for Planning commission approval.

13. COUNTY COMMISSIONER BUSINESS

- a. Myra was present and gave county updates. Congratulations to Charles Detiege for being inducted into the Eskymo Hall of Fame.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. 911 signs: Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that Ford River will receive \$23,456.00 from the Community Foundation.

Motion, D. Brown, supported by J. Church CARRIED to approve Project Service, Inc. not to exceed \$59,758.00 to complete the project.

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

- b. Policy update: TABLED
- c. Litigation updates:
 - i. Ford River Township vs Bateni: Court date September 20th.
 - ii. Accusation of violating open meetings act. No update.
 - iii. Bateni vs Ford River Township discrimination complaint
Trustee J. Church presented documents she FOIA'd from the Michigan State Police concerning a personal investigation

ABOUT J. CHURCH, A. WAGNER, D. BROWN AND A TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEE.

- d. Playground updates. Supervisor Nelson gave updates.
- e. Township maintenance position.

Motion, R. Valentine, supported by A. Wagner CARRIED to approve Supervisor Nelson's recommendation to hire David Hamelin for the maintenance position.

- f. Snow plowing/lawn care. Maintenance position filled
- g. Junk update. Supervisor Nelson gave an update.
- h. Audit. Trustee Valentine has been unsuccessful reaching Campbell Auditing.

15. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Petty cash. TABLED
- b. Financial reports
 - i. Fire department fundraising. Treasurer Wagner has now added financials for the Fire Department.

ii. New accounts. Treasurer Wagner informed the Board she discovered fraudulent activity on the Townships checking accounts. The old accounts have been closed and new accounts have been opened.

iii. First-bank

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to close the two checking accounts that had fraudulent activity and re-open the two new accounts at First-Bank.

Roll Call: AYES: J. Church, A. Wagner, D. Brown and S. Nelson

ABSTAIN: R. Valentine NAYS: NONE ABSENT:NONE

Motion, R. Valentine, supported by J. Church CARRIED to approve the financial reports.

c. Attorney Burkhart (moved from 7A)

Motion, D. Brown, supported by R. Valentine, CARRIED to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation.

Roll Call: AYES: J. Church, A. Wagner, D. Brown, R. Valentine and S. Nelson

NAYS: NONE ABSENT: NONE

Motion, J. Church, supported by R. Valentine CARRIED to go back into open session with no decisions being made during closed session.

Roll Call: AYES: J. Church, A. Wagner, D. Brown, R. Valentine and S. Nelson

NAYS: NONE ABSENT: NONE

16. PUBLIC COMMENT.

C. Williams thanks R. Valentine.

1. Cadet program
2. Bid on 911 signs
3. Audit

17. BOARD COMMENT.

S. Nelson. Gave information about UPPCO's appliance pick up.

R. Valentine: informed the public to lock their doors, a truck was stolen on Portage Pt.

J. Church: Commented again on the personal FOIA documents she presented.

18. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion, A. Wagner, supported by J. Church, CARRIED to Adjourn at 9:27pm.


Debbi R. Brown, Township Clerk


Date