

**CEDAR TOWNSHIP
MINUTES
July 18, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at Cedar Township Hall at 7:00 p.m., 9115 170th Avenue, Reed City, Michigan. Board members present: Supervisor Loren Stieg, Treasurer Heather Battle, Clerk Shirley Apsey, Trustee Mary Clark, Trustee Ed Lundborg, Deputy Clerk, Cindy Gadbois and Deputy Treasurer, Jean Schember. Township residents present; Roxanne Brower, Dee Steig, Doug Lockhart, Bob & Sandra Leyrer, assessor James Neinhuis and Molly Neinhuis. Also, Lincoln Fire Chief, Dave Belden.

Supervisor calls meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

- **Motion** to approve June 18, 2023 meeting minutes as presented made by Heather and seconded by Mary. All members voting yes.
- Treasurer's Report presented by Heather; accepted by Mary, seconded by Jean. Report placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS: Update on 9 Mile Road repairs. Road work continues with county hauling sand to fill in swamp area that has been causing flooding and road closure. Trustee, Ed Lundborg suggests that county be contacted about having a second brine done on the detour road, 150th Ave due to the increased usage because of 9 Mile closure.

NEW BUSINESS: Board received new fire contract, 2023-2025, from Lincoln Fire Department with new cost increase based on our current yearly taxable value. Mr. Belden informed Board that this is standard pricing for statewide fees for fire contacts. Cedar's taxable value for 2023 is \$27,949,682.00 thus new cost for Cedar fire contact at 1 mil would be \$27,949.68 with second year to increase to 1.25 mil. Mr. Belden said that other area townships they cover will be charged using same value rating. Many are also considering a Special Assessment tax to cover this cost. At this time, Board does not have any recourse but to agree to new contract. Shirley asked that the increase in price be covered by amending the budget before signing any new contract.

•**Motion:** Amend the 2023-2024 township fire budget by increase of \$28,000.00 to cover new fire contract increase made by Mary; seconded by Cindy with all members voting yes.

Next month Board will address the new fire contract.

Due to 2 planning board members resigning, Board is appointed 2 new members to fill these positions.

•**Motion:** Board appoints Tim Schember and Dave Rodgers to the Planning Board to fill vacancies, made by Mary; seconded by Cindy. All members voting yes.

Loren received call from residents asking about an Air BNB operating in our township. Complaints are it is a small building with no indoor plumbing (outside port-a-john) and advertised as “rustic” experience priced at \$35/night. The Osceola County building inspector has been called to check out. Not aware of any permits being issued and no information was ever been brought to the Board about starting this. This will be addressed.

The property that was previously being looked at as a mud bog track is now been purchased by somebody else and a neighbor has reported that some greenhouses are present in back property. Loren has asked that County Sheriff, Mark Cool, to look into the greenhouses and verify they are not growing any illegal substances.

Assessor informed Board about the new BS&A software that will provide a township public records search online through our website. This will not cost our township and only business professionals will be charged to access your public data. Board agrees that this is needed and approves the Assessor to add to our website.

Bills were presented for approval; moved by Mary, seconded by Heather, to approve checks 7736-7742.

● **Motion** to adjourn was made by Mary, seconded by Ed; all members voting yes.

Shirley Apsey, Clerk
8:22 pm