



Osceola Township Board Meeting Minutes September 13, 2023

Approved
10/11/2023

Osceola Township Hall, 8995 95th Ave, Evart, MI 49631

Board members present: Supervisor Tim Ladd, Treasurer Martin Nieman, Clerk Jenny Rounds, Trustee Connie Holmes, Trustee Darlene Schroeder. Absent: none. Guests: Larry Lauman, Ken Stigers, Tom Jankens, Duane Anderson, Sherri Bancroft, Kimber Westmaas.

Supervisor Tim Ladd called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. No printed agenda—agenda items are regular reports, discussing township hall options and paying bills.

Motion by Nieman and supported by Holmes to approve August regular board meeting minutes. Motion approved by board. **Motion by Holmes and supported by Rounds to approve the treasurer's report.** Motion approved by board.

Public Comments: none

Old Business:

Fire Department Report: grant for dry wells; considering new building; new Sylvan rep.

Library Report: none

New Business:

Assessor Report: visited properties with building permits pulled.

Hall discussion:

- Need some office space and area the public can visit, small kitchen, ADA compliant.
- Are fireproof rooms for voting equipment and record storage required?
- Use basement for storage?
- Sherri Bancroft recommended a McBain architect for prints
- If costs are \$200/sf, and we want 2000 sf, cost would be around \$400,000, plus \$50,000 for prints. Probably looking at \$500,000 total. Note: 30'x60' = 1800 sf
- Could leave parking area unpaved.
- Could ask for a set of as-built prints?
- Funding: cash from timber 300K; hall 50K, general fund budget 50k, sale of smaller woodlot 75K = total of 445K.
- Include an easement on the 26.6 acres lot (sell 25 acres plus easement) for access to back lot from road. Other lot is 119 acres. Consider whether it is better to sell larger lot also, or hang on to it and provide funding from general fund budget as listed above. However, we are losing a funding source for our general fund with the loss of being able to timber that property for many years, so finances will be tighter in general fund.

Action items:

- Tim: reach out to Kelly Eckerd, a local realtor, regarding property sale.
- Kimber: check on width of electrical easement.
- Tim/Marty: walk property to evaluate placement of easement portion
- Tim: reach out to surveyor re: price
- Board members: visit Green and Richmond Township halls for ideas.

Financial Business: Motion by *Nieman* and supported by *Ladd* to pay bills as listed on the expense sheet/payroll. Motion approved by board.

Public Comments:

- Tim is taking enforcement action on River Rd property, E of 70th. Formal complaint received from resident; health dept. has also opened an enforcement action. Tim will stop by property to drop off letter.
- State level—proposal to remove local control from solar/wind.
- Concern about wedding venue on 95th—needs to be addressed—noise and lights are an issue.

Motion by *Rounds* and supported by *Nieman* to adjourn meeting at 6:40 pm. Motion approved by board.

Submitted by: Jennifer Rounds-Osceola Twp. Clerk

Jennifer L. Rounds