

**HOWELL TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**
3525 Byron Road
Howell, MI 48855
October 11, 2021
6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Coddington	Supervisor
Jean Graham	Clerk
Jonathan Hohenstein	Treasurer
Matthew Counts	Trustee
Harold Melton	Trustee
Mike Newstead	Trustee
Jeff Smith	Trustee (Arrival time 6:45)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

Supervisor Coddington called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

October 11, 2021

MOTION by Melton, seconded by Hohenstein, **“TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 11, 2021 AGENDA AS AMENDED: ADD UNDER 8C - AMENDED WATER SERVICE CHARGES PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 181 RESOLUTION #10.11.497.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

September 13, 2021

A) REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Hohenstein, seconded by Melton, **“TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried. (See September 13, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.)

CORRESPONDENCE:

Capital Group/American Funds Summary Prospectus October 1, 2021. No questions.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

No Response

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. MiSIGNAL

Josh Rowe, a part owner of MiSignal gave a presentation to the Howell Township Board. The presentation included an overview of his company, services and what they have to offer Howell Township residents. A need has previously been established for such services in Howell Township. A letter of understanding was received by the board prior to the meeting summarizing the details of a proposed arrangement between Howell Township

and MiSignal to extend high-speed broadband internet throughout the Township. A discussion which included a question-and-answer session followed the presentation. MiSignal will commit at least \$350,000.00 to the project as long as Howell Township commits \$350,000.00 of ARPA funds. High-speed broadband services for residential homes will not exceed \$75.00 per month and will start at a rate of \$70.00 per home per month. There will be no initial hookup fees to bring the service to homes. The project will start with the unserved areas within the Township first, taking up to 6 months to complete those area. It is projected the entire project will take 18 months to complete.

MOTION by Graham, seconded by Newstead to **“MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT THIS LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING FROM MISIGNAL OF HOWELL FOR FIBER OPTIC BROADBAND PROJECT IN HOWELL TOWNSHIP AS WRITTEN.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

MOTION by Counts, seconded by Graham to **“SUSPEND ALL CONTRACT AGREEMENTS WITH COMCAST RELATED TO BROADBAND CONSTRUCTION WITH HOWELL TOWNSHIP.”** Discussion followed. **MOTION AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOW:** **MOTION** by Counts, seconded by Graham to **“SUSPEND ALL NEW BUILDOUT AGREEMENTS WITH COMCAST THAT WERE CREATED IN 2021.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

B. BUDGET AMENDMENTS - GENERATOR

Clerk Graham reviewed the General Funds worksheet in the meeting packet. She reminded the board that the actual Ion generator and installation of said generator has been previously approved by the board on September 13, 2021. Graham asked the Board for a motion for approval on the amendment for the generator. Discussion was held regarding a natural gas meter upgrade for the new flow rate. **MOTION** by Counts, seconded by Hohenstein **“TO INCREASE THE TOWNSHIP AT LARGE CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET TO \$35,000.00 TO COVER THE APPROVED GENERATOR AND INSTALLATION.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

C. WATER SERVICE RESOLUTION

Treasurer Hohenstein explained to the Board MHOG had increased their water rate and the old resolution wording did not allow for automatic increases which will require a new resolution. The new resolution would include the wording for the automatic increase that would accrue in the future. **MOTION** by Hohenstein, seconded by Melton to **“TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION 10.21.497 AMENDED WATER SERVICE CHARGES PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE #181 AS PRESENTED.”** Discussion followed. A roll-call vote was taken: Hohenstein – yes, Smith – yes, Counts – yes, Newstead – yes, Coddington – yes, Graham – yes, Melton – yes. Motion passes 7 to 0.

REPORTS:

A. SUPERVISOR:

(Supervisor Coddington reported on the following items)

- MHOG Water Issues Update.
- Discussion held on Tanger Outlet’s interest in removing some of the end buildings and put in multifamily housing.

B. TREASURER:

(Treasurer Hohenstein reported on the following items)

- Hohenstein reviewed the G2G Cloud Solutions Summary for the quarter.

C. CLERK:

(Clerk Graham reported on the following items)

- EMS Contract- Howell Township has received a contract from Livingston County EMS to hold election services at their complex. The contract will allow the Township access to the rooms for three days for a fee of \$100.00. Contract has been turned over to the Township lawyers for review.
- Board approval was asked for Graham and Deputy Clerk Murrish to attend four online training classes/recordings at \$25.00 each for a total cost of \$100.00. **MOTION** by Hohenstein, seconded by Counts to **“APPROVE CURRENT CLASS AND FUTURE CLASSES FOR THE CLERK’S DEPARTMENT AS REQUESTED.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.
- ZBA Meeting- Joe Daus has requested a change in Zoning Board of Appeal’s meeting dates to the 3rd Tuesday of the month.
- A review of all calendars within the meeting packet was done and no changes are needed.
- Board Alternates and Member Changes are as follows:
 - M. Newstead – Appointed Planning Commission Board Alternate
 - J. Smith – Removed from the Planning Commission Board Member Alternate
 - J. Smith – Appointed Zoning Board of Appeals Member
 - H. Melton – Appointed Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate

MOTION by Hohenstein, seconded by Counts to **“TO ACCEPT ALL CHANGES TO BOARD ALTERNATES, BOARD MEMBERS AND NEW ZBA MEETING DATE AS PRESENTED.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

D. ZONING:

(See Zoning Administrator Daus’s prepared written report)

E. ASSESSING:

(See Assessor Kilpela’s prepared written report)

F. FIRE AUTHORITY:

(Supervisor Coddington reported on the following items)

- Turnout Gear- Ten new sets of turnout gear will be purchased.

G. MHOG:

(Trustee Counts/Coddington reported on the following items.)

- Chestnut Crossing-Retention Pond issues and water service update.
- Pineview Village- Hometown Village in Marion Township had a case dismissed in federal court and is now in circuit court with a similar case as Pineview Village.
- Padnos- MHOG declined request to provide water service.
- Tamarack Place- Update regarding the installation of the water service line.

H. PLANNING COMMISSION:

(Trustee Counts reported on the following items)

- Hydraulic Drive- Re-zoning ten-acre parcel on Hydraulic Drive for outside storage.
- Credit Union on M-59- Re-zoning and site plan approval.
- Post cards will go out to all homeowners asking them to complete a master plan survey.
- Walking Path Study has been approved. No building was approved.
- M-59 and Oak Grove Road studies have been sent to MDOT for a left turn signal review.

I. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA):

- No report.

J. WWTP:

- Waste Water Treatment Plant Manager, Matthew Holtz, gave the board a summary of the September 28, 2021 WWTP Meeting. He also gave a progress update on violations issued to the treatment plant.
- Mr. Holtz took questions and comments from the Board.
- Treasurer Hohenstein asked Mr. Holtz to forward any reports he receives from the State regarding outstanding violations to the Board.

K. HAPRA:

(Clerk Graham reported on the following items)

- A discussion was held regarding Howell City Park and boat launch passes.
- No new contract has been signed with HAPRA.
- Clerk Graham listed the following upcoming events held by HAPRA:
 - Operation Catch Me If You Can- An Alien Scavenger Hunt
 - Legend of Sleepy Howell
 - Headless Horseman 5K

L. PROPERTY COMMITTEE

(Treasurer Hohenstein reported on the following items)

- Annex Group- All special assessments and connection fees have been paid in full.
- Bonds- Brent Kilpela is looking into what cost savings if any would be involved in paying bonds off early.
- Pineview Village- HOA to meet soon, Township updates from HOA soon.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Debby Johnson, 1760 Layton Road, Fowlerville MI 48836

- Mrs. Johnson addressed the Board regarding human resource issues and concerns she had on how her letter of resignation was handled.

DISBURSEMENTS: REGULAR AND CHECK REGISTER:

MOTION by Hohenstein, seconded by Newstead, to **“TO APPROVE THE REGULAR DISBURSEMENTS AS PRESENTED AND ANY NORMAL AND CUSTOMARY PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH.”** Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Hohenstein, seconded by Newstead, **“TO ADJOURN.”** Motion carried. The meeting adjourned (7:47 pm)

As Presented: X

Howell Township Clerk

As Amended: _____

As Corrected: _____

Mike Coddington
Howell Township Supervisor

Dated: November 22, 2021

Teresa Murrish, Recording Secretary