

**HOWELL TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

3525 Byron Road Howell, MI 48855
October 3, 2022, 6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Coddington	Supervisor
Jean Graham	Clerk
Jonathan Hohenstein	Treasurer
Matthew Counts	Trustee
Harold Melton	Trustee
Michael Newstead	Trustee
	Trustee

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeff Smith

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Michelle Spisz, Tim Boal.

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

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

October 3, 2022

MOTION by Counts, **SECOND** by Melton, **"TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 3, 2022 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH AMENDMENT TO ADD SEWER & WATER RATE DISCUSSION AS ITEM D. UNDER NEW BUSINESS."** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

September 12, 2022,

MOTION by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Melton, **"TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED."** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

MOTION by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Newstead, **"TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 CLOSED MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED."** Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Michelle Spisz introduced herself to the Board and stated she is running for County Commissioner. She described the success of Military Appreciation Day at Fowlerville High School on September 23, 2022.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Dangerous Building Resolution 07-22-511

Clerk Graham explained in detail the property at 1073 Barron and included current pictures. She discussed the next steps to move forward in the resolution of blight on the property. Treasurer Hohenstein discussed ramifications if there is a daily fee for blight on the property. Member Counts

discussed taxes. **MOTION** by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Melton, **“TO MOVE FORWARD AND OBTAIN ESTIMATES FOR THE COST OF DEMOLITION AND CLEAN-UP OF THE DANGEROUS BUILDING AT 1073 BARRON, HOWELL MI.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

B. Pioneer Cemetery Work Change Directive

Clerk Graham inquired on the cost of the work change directive. The project plan for Pioneer Cemetery was discussed in detail. **MOTION** by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Newstead, **“TO ACCEPT THE CHANGE DIRECTIVE FOR THE CEMETERY CONSTRUCTION AS PRESENTED.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

C. MIHAF Partner

Treasurer Hohenstein explained there is a program for qualified residents to utilize Covid relief funds to pay delinquent taxes or delinquent utility bills. He stated if we agree to be a partner, there are steps to take to be in the program. **MOTION** by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Graham, **“TO BECOME A PARTNER WITH THE MICHIGAN HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND PROGRAM.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

D. Sewer & Water Rate Discussion

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed MHOG raising their water rates recently and noted the Township has a higher rate. In previous discussions regarding debt and bond pay off, the Township should consider lowering rates over time as MHOG's rate rises. **MOTION** by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Graham, **“TO HOLD THE TOWNSHIP RATE STEADY AND ABSORB THE MHOG RATE INCREASE AS PRESENTED.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

MOTION by Counts, **SECOND** by Newstead, **“TO DEVIATE FROM THE AGENDA.”** Discussion followed. Motion Carried.

REPORTS:

A. SUPERVISOR:

Supervisor Coddington discussed a Burkhart Road house being used as a rental house and the challenges surrounding it.

B. TREASURER:

Treasurer Hohenstein inquired if the clean-up date May 20, 2023 was acceptable to utilize and print the notice on the winter tax bill. He further noted his department collecting taxes and did the biggest disbursement in Howell Township history.

C. CLERK:

Elections – Clerk Graham indicated preliminary testing was done on the election machines and we have sent out over 1,000 absentee ballots. The public accuracy testing is scheduled for October 20, 2022 at 9am. She presented the 2023 Board Meeting Schedule and indicated it may need an adjustment for one meeting as it falls on Columbus Day. **MOTION** by Counts, **SECOND** by Graham, **“TO ACCEPT THE 2023 BOARD MEETINGS WITH AMENDMENTS.”** Clerk Graham indicated the MAMC (Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks) Master Academy Conference is upcoming and she would like to attend with her Deputy Clerk. She is asking for approval from the Board for the conference and accommodations. **MOTION** by Counts, **SECOND** by Hohenstein, **“TO APPROVE THE CLERK AND DEPUTY CLERK ATTEND THE MAMC MASTER ACADEMY.”** 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 gave an update on the recent Fire Authority meeting.)
- G. MHOG:
(Trustee Counts gave an update on the recent MHOG meeting.)
- H. PLANNING COMMISSION:
(Trustee Counts gave an update on the Planning Commission meeting.)
- I. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)
(Trustee Melton gave an update on the Zoning Commission meeting.)
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- J. WWTP:
Clerk Graham discussed the BioTech Agronomics, Inc. contract renewal. The Board decided to table the renewal and bring back for later discussion.
- K. HAPRA
(See prepared written report by Graham.)
- L. PROPERTY COMMITTEE:
Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the North Burkhart Road property stating a letter was sent from the attorney.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no public comments.

DISBURSEMENTS: REGULAR AND CHECK REGISTER:

MOTION by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Counts, **"TO APPROVE THE REGULAR DISBURSEMENTS AS PRESENTED, ALSO ANY NORMAL AND CUSTOMARY PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH."** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

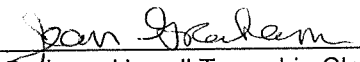
CLOSED SESSION MOTIONS:

MOTION by Hohenstein, **SECOND** by Graham. **"TO MOVE INTO A CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268(h) TO DISCUSS PINEVIEW VILLAGE."** A roll call vote was taken: Hohenstein – Y, Graham – Y, Counts – Y, Newstead – Y, Coddington – Y, Melton – Y.

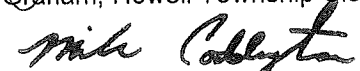
MOTION by Counts, **SECOND** by Newstead, **TO ENTER BACK INTO OPEN SESSION."** Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Newstead, **SECOND** by Melton, **"TO ADJOURN."** Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.



Jean Graham, Howell Township Clerk



Mike Coddington, Howell Township
Supervisor



Angela Guillen, Recording Secretary