

**HOWELL TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES**

3525 Byron Road Howell, MI 48855  
September 11, 2023  
6:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mike Coddington      Supervisor  
Sue Daus              Clerk  
Jonathan Hohenstein    Treasurer  
Matthew Counts        Trustee  
Jeff Smith              Trustee  
  
Bob Wilson              Trustee

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Harold Melton              Trustee

**Also in Attendance:**

Phil Westmoreland – Spicer Engineering  
John Bradley – Spicer Engineering  
Three people were in the audience.

Supervisor Coddington called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The roll was called. Supervisor Coddington requested members to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

September 11, 2023

Request by Wilson to add Oakland Tactical to the agenda as item 8 E.

**Motion** by Smith, **Second** by Hohenstein, **“To approve the September 11, 2023 meeting agenda as presented.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

August 14, 2023

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **“To approve the August 14, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.”**  
Motion carried.

August 28, 2023

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **“To approve the August 28, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.”**  
Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No additions. No questions.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. Pioneer Cemetery Drainage Project  
Phil Westmoreland from Spicer Engineering discussed the project and the changes that were made and the claims from Trustee Wilson. **Motion** by Wilson, **"To pay Bowman on Friday if there is nothing earth-shattering that me and Mr. Spicer come up with on Friday at 3:00."** Motion received no support. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, **"To make final payment to Bowman Excavating for \$69,500."** Motion carried.
  
- B. Cemetery Maintenance  
Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the Board's previous motion regarding the contract for maintenance of the Township cemeteries. Discussion followed. Consensus of the Board to get snow plowing bids for Pioneer Cemetery and to put the lawn maintenance for the cemeteries out to bid for the 2024 mowing season.
  
- C. Compensation for Township Property  
Treasurer Hohenstein discussed compensating the sewer and water fund for the properties the Board has set aside for future general Township use. Discussion followed. Consensus of the Board to come back with more information.
  
- D. Hawk Meadows – Easement  
Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the request for a utility easement for Hawk Meadows and the Property Committee's work on the easement. Hawk Meadows owner James Ottinger addressed the Board. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Wilson, **"To accept the utility easement for sewer and water, subject to attorney review, for \$5,000 and James Ottinger waiving all legal claims against the Township regarding their REUs."** Motion carried.
  
- E. Oakland Tactical  
Discussion on Oakland Tactical. **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Smith **"To table until such a time that a legal review can be provided."** Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Aileen Arledge – Request for Payment  
Aileen submitted a letter requesting payment for the 2022 elections and describing the circumstances surrounding the 2022 elections and treatment from previous Clerk Jean Graham and previous Deputy Clerk Angela Guillen. **Motion** by Wilson, **Second** by Hohenstein, **"To pay Aileen Arledge \$420 as requested."** Motion carried.
  
- B. Peter Manwiller – Planning Commission Resignation  
**Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, **"To accept Peter Manwiller's resignation from the Planning Commission as presented."** Motion carried.
  
- C. Guardian Alarm  
Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the quote from Guardian Alarm for security system upgrades. Discussion followed. Consensus of the Board to gather more information and bring it back to the Board.

D. DTE – Proposed LED Conversion

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the quote from DTE to convert the Township Hall's lights to LED. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Smith, **Second** by Counts, **"To accept the quote for the DTE replacement to LED, provided it allows a replacement to be a bulb only and not the entire fixture of all of the lighting fixtures as presented."** Motion carried.

E. Board of Review

Request from Assessor Kilpela for changes to the Board of Review membership. **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, **"To appoint Jon Dekoninck to the Board of Review and add Rob Spaulding as the alternate for the remainder of the term ending 12/31/2024."** Motion carried.

F. Property Sale – 22-Acres Tooley Road

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the purchase agreement for 22-acres of vacant land on Tooley Road. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **"To accept the offer from Joss Construction for \$311,000 as presented."** A roll-call vote was taken: Smith – yes, Hohenstein – yes, Coddington – yes, Counts – yes, Wilson – no, Daus - yes. Motion carried (5-1).

**Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **"To accept resolution 09.23.528 authorization of property sale as presented."** A roll-call vote was taken: Hohenstein – yes, Coddington – yes, Counts – yes, Daus – yes, Wilson – no, Smith – yes. Motion carried (5-1).

10. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Bill Graham: Spoke on the Pioneer Cemetery project, Bowman Excavating, his relationship with the Bowman family, and previously made derogatory comments about the Grahams by Trustee Wilson.

11. **REPORTS:**

A. SUPERVISOR:

B. TREASURER:

Discussed Tribar Manufacturing utility bills and water shut-off notices, updated the Board on the Brewer Road private drain agreement, and updated the Board on summer tax collection.

C. CLERK:

D. ZONING:

No report submitted.

E. ASSESSING:

(See Assessor Kilpela's report)

Request from Assessor Kilpela for continuing education. **Motion** by Smith, **Second** by Counts, **"To approve the expenditure of \$425.50 back to Mr. Kilpela for his training and stay during that training."** Motion carried.

F. FIRE AUTHORITY:

Supervisor Coddington reported on the Fire Authority meeting.

G. MHOG:

Trustee Counts reported on the MHOG meeting.

H. PLANNING COMMISSION:

Trustee Counts reported on the Planning Commission.

I. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA):

There was no ZBA meeting in August.

J. WWTP:

(See Treasurer Hohenstein's report)

K. HAPRA:

No report submitted. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Counts, "**To appoint Sue Daus as the Howell Township HAPRA Board member.**" Motion carried.

L. PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

(See Treasurer Hohenstein's report) Treasurer Hohenstein updated the Board on Pineview Village.

M. PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

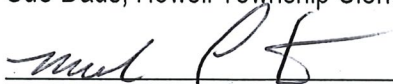
No report submitted. Treasurer Hohenstein updated the Board on the status of the Recreation Master Plan.

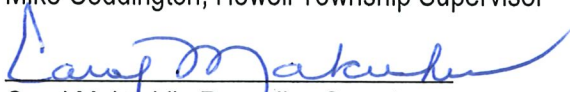
**DISBURSEMENTS: REGULAR PAYMENTS AND CHECK REGISTER:**

**Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, "**To accept the disbursements as presented and any normal and customary payments for the month.**" Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, "**To adjourn.**" Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

  
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Sue Daus, Howell Township Clerk

  
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Mike Coddington, Howell Township Supervisor

  
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Carol Makushik, Recording Secretary