

HOWELL TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES

3525 Byron Road Howell, MI 48855

March 4, 2024

6:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mike Coddington      Supervisor  
Sue Daus              Clerk  
Jonathan Hohenstein    Treasurer

Jeff Smith              Trustee  
Harold Melton         Trustee  
Bob Wilson             Trustee

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Matthew Counts      Trustee

**Also in Attendance:**

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 rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO THE BOARD:**

Treasurer Hohenstein requested to add item 7-C Walking Path Maintenance and 8-E Flag Services.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

March 4, 2024

**Motion** by Melton, **Second** by Hohenstein, **"To approve the agenda as amended."** Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

February 12, 2024

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Trustee Wilson requested two amendments to the February 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting minutes. Requested to add the following sentence to the end of 7-A Brewer Road Drainage – As requested by Bob Wilson, "Supervisor Coddington agreed to take care of the problem with the present ordinances that we have." Requested to remove the following from the ZBA Report, "by informing the property owner of Mr. Wilson's complaint." Discussion followed. **Motion** by Melton, **Second** by Smith, **"To accept Board meeting minutes from February 12<sup>th</sup> as amended."** Motion carried, one dissent.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. Cemetery Maintenance Bids

Treasurer Hohenstein summarized the bids received for cemetery maintenance. Discussion followed.

**Motion** by Wilson **"To accept Markus with clear definition of not being paid when they don't cut it."** Motion received no support. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Wilson, **Second** by Hohenstein **"For**

**them ones, for Sprungtown.”** Discussion on background check requirements followed. It was the recommendation of Trustee Wilson to get a \$10 national background check on the owners of the lawn maintenance company for sexual offenses and criminal records for the past 10-years. Motion carried.

B. 2024 Road Project Discussion

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the 2024 road project recommendations from the Livingston County Road Commission for both paved roads and gravel roads in the Township. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **“For the 2024 road projects to be: Layton Road’s paved section for \$112,625 and Bowen Road (Brewer to Tooley) limestone refurbishment and limited drainage for \$244,000.”** Motion carried.

C. Walking Path Maintenance

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the walking path maintenance proposal from Ever So Green and his discussions with the company. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **“To accept the bid from Ever So Green for \$498.00 for two applications of herbicide to the walking path as presented.”** Motion carried, one dissent.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Operating Engineers – Sewer and Water Extension Agreements

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the request to extend sewer and water service to Operating Engineers Local 324’s new building in Oceola Township and the steps necessary for approval. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **“To accept the water utility consent and franchise agreement as presented.”** Discussion followed. Motion carried, one dissent. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **“To accept the extraterritorial water and sewer service agreement as presented.”** Motion carried. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **“To accept the sewer utility consent and franchise agreement as presented.”** Motion carried.

B. Human Resources - Recommendations

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed results of interviews for the Deputy Treasurer and the recommendations of the Human Resources Committee. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **“To accept the Human Resources Committee recommendations as presented.”** Motion carried, one dissent.

C. ADU Ordinance Discussion

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the draft ADU Ordinance from Livingston County’s Planning Department. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Wilson, **Second** by Hohenstein, **“To send it to the Planning Commission to be looked at, to be considered.”** Motion carried, one dissent.

D. Marijuana Ordinance Discussion

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the letter requesting the Township pass an ordinance allowing Marijuana businesses in the Township. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Wilson, **Second** by Melton, **“To allow them to come into the area without having to circulate petitions, to allow dispensaries in our Township without having to go through the trouble of going door to door with petitions. There’s good uses for the product, it’s not the 60’s, Nixon is dead.”** Clarification was sought. **“There are a lot of people I know in this community that use weed, okay, and if I didn’t I would be dead by now, I would have lost my liver a long time ago, but anyway, a lot of people need it, a lot of glaucoma patients, there is a guy right there that probably needs it too, I don’t know him either, but I think we owe it to our community to allow people to have alternative medicines instead of**

**just the pharmaceutical crap and I think we need to allow it without a petition and send it to the Planning Commission for recommendations.”** Discussion followed. Roll call vote: Hohenstein – no, Wilson – yes, Smith – no, Daus – no, Coddington – no, Melton – yes. Motion failed 2-4.

E. Flag Services

Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the American flag and State flag services contract from Rocket Enterprise. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **“To accept the proposal from Rocket Enterprise as presented.”** Motion carried.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

John Mills, 1750 Oak Grove Rd.: Spoke about Markus Farms, Township grounds maintenance, rolls and responsibilities of Township employees and wage brackets, speaker system for the Board room.

Curt Hamilton, 1367 Crestwood Ln.: Spoke about Mr. Mills’s comments, clarity of the Township budget.

Jonathan Black, owner of Sprungtown Outdoor Services: Spoke on his willingness to undergo a background check.

**REPORTS:**

A. SUPERVISOR:

Supervisor Coddington reported that it has been a little busy since Zoning Administrator Daus left.

B. TREASURER:

No report

C. CLERK:

Clerk Daus spoke about the elections

D. ZONING:

See Zoning Administrator Daus's report

E. ASSESSING:

See Assessor Kilpela's report

F. FIRE AUTHORITY:

Supervisor Coddington reported on the Fire Authority

G. MHOG:

Supervisor Coddington reported on MHOG

H. PLANNING COMMISSION:

No report

I. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA):

Trustee Smith reported on the ZBA

J. WWTP:

See Treasurer Hohenstein's report

K. HAPRA:

Clerk Daus reported on HAPRA

L. PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

Treasurer Hohenstein reported that the 8-acre Bowen Road property purchase agreement was terminated

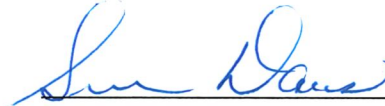
M. PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

No report

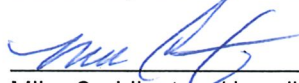
**DISBURSEMENTS: REGULAR PAYMENTS AND CHECK REGISTER:**

**Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **"To accept the disbursements as presented and any normal and customary payments for the month."** Discussion followed. Motion carried, one dissent.

**ADJOURNMENT:** **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Smith, **"To adjourn."** Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.



Sue Daus, Howell Township Clerk



Mike Coddington, Howell Township Supervisor



Tanya Davidson, Recording Secretary