

January 9, 2024

**Empire Township Board
Regular Meeting**

Supervisor Carl Noonan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Also present were members Casey Noonan, Neiswonger, Price and Deegan. Motion-Casey Noonan; support-Deegan to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 regular meeting as written. All ayes.

Assessor Report: Board reviewed a resolution that would allow the assessor to allow extensions of poverty exemption for persons receiving a fixed income from public assistance. After discussion, motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to adopt Resolution 2024-01, a Resolution to Allow Extension of Poverty Exemption For Those Persons Receiving a Fixed Income From Public Assistance, as presented. Roll call taken: All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report: 1.) Treasurer Price explained that he reviewed the Glen Lake Schools proposal to begin collecting their taxes in summer, rather than winter, to help the school's budget concerns. Price recommended that each parcel be charged \$2.50, the same as the State's allowance, to not lose any revenue. In addition, he recommended that the township still kept all bank interest and disbursements be made every 15 days, the State's requirement, as opposed to the school's requested weekly disbursement. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the agreement with the conditions outlined by the Treasurer: Charge \$2.50/parcel, township keeps all bank interest, and disbursements would be made every 15 days. All ayes. 2.) Price reported on CDs and bank accounts as of 12-31-2023. Report received as read. 3.) Price explained that the approved quote of \$2,000 to get the township hall media system up and working again went over by \$173.33. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the increase of the payment to \$2,173.33. All ayes.

Planning & Zoning Report: 1.) Zoning Administrator, Tim Cypher, issued the following permits/approvals in December: Accessory building-Fredrickson Rd. 2.) Board reviewed the latest Master Plan draft. Concerns were raised by Supervisor Noonan regarding wording "Consistent with legal precedent" under Long Term Objectives-Utilities & Services and the language in the "Shoreline Corridor" regarding maintaining the quality of South Bar Lake. Since 3/4 of the lake is within the village, Supervisor was concerned on how much control the township really has over the water quality of the lake. The Planning Commission was asked to review these two items. Motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan that the Township Board approves sending the Master Plan to the Planning Commission for final approval and adoption of the Master Plan, with Planning reviewing the two changes discussed tonight. All ayes. Micah Deegan also noted that that the Glen Lake Manor might submit a site plan application at their next meeting.

Supervisor Report: Supervisor Noonan informed the Board that Charles Godbout agreed to fill John Dalton's term on the Emergency Services Advisory Committee (ESAC). Mr. Dalton's exemplary service on ESAC was recognized by the Board. Motion-Carl Noonan; support-Deegan to appoint Charles Godbout to ESAC with a term expiring on 12/31/2025. All ayes. Supervisor will continue to look for an individual willing to serve in the seat vacated by Larry Krawczak.

Clerk Report: 1.) Notice received from the County Drain Commission that the township's estimated payment towards the district is \$16,600. 2.) Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to pay January 2024 monthly bills as presented and attached. All ayes. 3.) Clerk presented financial statement. Motion-Carl Noonan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the following amendments to the fund budgets: Transfer \$2840 from General Fund Prior Surplus to Treasurer: Equip.-100; Election: Supplies-2300, Mileage-200, Equip.-40; Twp Office: Supplies-200; Transfer \$28000 from Fire Fund

January 9, 2024

**Empire Township Board
Regular Meeting-Cont'd**

Prior Surplus to Capital Outlay-28000; Transfer \$2880 from Campground Fund Prior Surplus to Asst. Manager Wages-1480, Supplies-500, Repair & Maint.-900; Transfer \$10700 from Cemetery Fund Prior Surplus to Manager Wage-2000, Sexton Gen. Maint.-2000, PR Tax-200, Prof. Services-300, Ins.-200, Grave Markers-6000; and Transfer \$70 from Airport Fund Prior Surplus to Ins.-70. All ayes.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 8:38 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk

January 29, 2024

**Empire Township Board
Special Meeting**

Supervisor Carl Noonan called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. Also present were members Casey Noonan, Neiswonger, Price and Deegan. Purpose of the meeting was to review and possibly approve the township hall kitchen update plans and contracts.

The Board confirmed that they were strictly replacing and updating current things in the 1970-era kitchen with newer items, such as sinks, cupboards, and refrigerators.

After review of the plans drawn by Honor, Onekama Building Supply, motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the plans as presented by Honor, Onekama Building Supply. All ayes.

Due to the fact that a family member (a nephew and a cousin) was the contractor for the quote submitted by J. Schichtel Construction Co. LLC, Carl Noonan and Casey Noonan noted a possible conflict of interest and agreed to abstain from the next two votes.

Motion was made by Deegan; support-Price to hire J. Schichtel Construction Co. LLC to construct the kitchen project as presented. Three ayes (Neiswonger, Price and Deegan). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Deegan; support-Price to approve the quote for the project as presented by J. Schichtel Construction Co. LLC, with the project cost to not exceed \$150,000.00 and furthermore any line item in the contract that went over 20% of the listed cost needed to come before the Board for approval. Three ayes (Neiswonger, Price and Deegan). Motion carried.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 3:38 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk