

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Julian called the regular meeting of the Kasson Township Board to order at 7:00 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Members Present: Greg Julian – Supervisor, Dana Boomer - Clerk, Julia Carter – Treasurer, Tad Carter – Trustee, Roger Noonan – Trustee  
Member(s) Absent: None  
Staff Present: Allison Hubley-Patterson

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA** – The board briefly discussed the agenda. The new flagpole will be discussed under Township Hall Renovation. **J. Carter moved to approve the agenda as presented. Noonan seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MINUTES** – The board discussed the minutes from the regular meeting on April 11, 2023. **Noonan moved, T. Carter seconded to approve the April 11, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

**PERTINENT COMMUNICATIONS:** Communications regarding the Enduro Motorcross Event have been received by several board members. Those are being turned over to Tim Cypher for distribution and retention.

**PRESENTATION:** None

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

- a) **TREASURER’S REPORT:** J. Carter had previously submitted the treasurer’s report to the board. Receipts total \$793.78. Disbursements \$89,973.87. Balance \$873,993.79. J. Carter would not be able to attend the June regular meeting. The board briefly discussed. **Boomer moved to move the June meeting to Monday, June 12. Noonan seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**
- b) **BUDGET REPORT:** Boomer presented a budget report for April. The board briefly discussed.
- c) **BILL APPROVAL** – Boomer had previously presented the check detail. The board briefly discussed. **Noonan moved to pay the bills as presented; seconded by T. Carter. All in favor, motion carried.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a. **Cemeteries** – Noonan reported that the fence project at the cemetery has been finished, with the new township fence being installed. Boomer sold three lots at the East Kasson Cemetery. This item can be removed from the agenda going forward, as major projects are completed.
- b. **Mining/Gravel Legislation** – Julian and Boomer have sent out a number of emails to the board and public on this topic. Three new bills have been introduced to the House of Representatives, which would remove local control of gravel mining – these were announced last Thursday. Julian

spent the weekend communicating with legislators, the media, legal counsel, and other affected townships. Those bills were heard by the committee today, and testimony was presented on behalf of Kasson Township by Gerry Fisher. There was a substantial amount of testimony by both sides on the topic. There were no votes taken today, and the issue will continue to be discussed in further committee meetings.

- c. **Sidewalk Ordinance** – No discussion - tabled
- d. **Township Master Plan** – An updated version of the Master Plan has been forwarded to Township Attorney Grier for review. This item will continue to be tabled until the plan is re-forwarded to the Township Board.
- e. **Other Unfinished Business** - None

**NEW BUSINESS –**

- a. **Other New Business** - None

**CAPITAL PROJECTS – EXPLORATION**

- a. **Maple City Improvement Project** – Julian and T. Carter spoke with Craig Brown from the LCRC, who has not yet had a chance to look at the drawings submitted by Gosling Czubak. Julian spoke with DTE about landscaping the new installation in Maple City; but has so far only been able to speak to the Detroit office, who stated they would contact the Traverse City office.
- b. **Township Hall Renovation** – Leelanau Construction is working on permitting for the township hall work. Julian has been working with Bay Supply and Marketing, who has provided quotes for a solar-powered, top-mounted, downward-directed light for the new flag pole. This would make it unnecessary to run power to the new flag pole. The solar powered system is substantially cheaper than a hard-wired light, but may not be quite as durable or long-lasting. The flag pole is on-order, and may be able to be installed by Memorial Day weekend. The board had consensus to have the solar powered system installed.
- c. **Fire Department Capital Improvements** – Julian has been continuing to work on finding potential properties for a new fire station, reaching out to both realtors and citizens in the area. He has realtors working on reaching out to property owners in the target area about the possibility of selling a parcel to the township. Because of the lack of available properties found over the last year, he also mentioned the possibility of approaching the County again regarding their property.

**REPORTS: Planning Commission (PC)** – The regular April meeting focused on a public hearing on the proposed Enduro race, with over 100 people attending. A special May meeting was then scheduled, which was held last night at the Solon Township Hall, which had over 150 people attending. The special May meeting was scheduled to begin reviewing the draft Findings of Fact. Cypher had been working with Grier on the draft Findings of Fact, and attorneys had been hired by both the applicant and the neighborhood group opposing the application. This process will continue at the regular meeting next week, which will also be held at the Solon Township Hall.

**Zoning Administrator (ZA)** – Cypher had previously submitted written reports to the board. Hubley-Patterson summarized Cypher's reports for the month.

**Supervisor** – Julian summarized his activities for the month. Spectrum fiber internet is coming down Maple City Road, so he has been working to see if they are going to be running fiber by the Township Hall.

**Assessor** – Standard assessing business is ongoing.

**Fire Board** – Julian summarized the Fire Board meeting for April. The third open position has been offered to a candidate, and has been accepted. That hiring will be finalized in June. The interlocal agreement committee met and reviewed the proposed updates to the agreement. The final draft is being prepared for final review by the committee, and then by the township boards and their attorneys.

**Clerk/Elections Report** – None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: Hall Use and Buildings and Grounds Reports** –There are no issues with building and grounds.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Jeff Ross – Darga Road – He was at the meeting last night, and thanked the PC for moving the venue to allow for more people to attend more comfortably. He thanked PC Member Dave Noonan for his comments at the end of the meeting, which he felt were spot on. It helped to frame the issue, and can help reduce redundancy. He felt it might be helpful to give a better frame to the issue at the beginning of the meeting, and request that comments from members of the public stick to facts about the proposed use and its potential impacts, both pros and cons. He and his wife submitted emails, with questions he would like to see answered at the next meeting. There has been mis-information and a lack of information about the number of events and the potential ramifications of it. He called Representative Coffia’s office, asking her to support the township regarding the gravel legislation.

Mike Lanham – Regarding the gravel legislation, he encouraged the board members to keep on this to preserve local control.

Don Drabik – He echoed Mike Lanham’s comments regarding the gravel legislation. He has forwarded the emails to neighbors and the Glen Lake Association.

**BOARD COMMENT:** T. Carter made a comment at the end of a PC about the ability of the applicant to do what he wants on his property – he feels this was taken out of context. His intent was to say that private individuals can do private activities on their land; he did not mean that people can do any commercial activity they want on their property.

Julian stated that he can see the need for an introduction to the meeting, as many citizens unfortunately seem to not fully understand how local government and zoning work. The township board and PC meetings used to be attended by local high school students as part of their government classes – this has not happened in years.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7 pm.

**Motion** by Noonan to adjourn, second by J. Carter / **All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Submitted by:  
Dana Boomer, Township Clerk