

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: Tim Cypher

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – The board briefly discussed the agenda. **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 May 9, 2023. **Noonan moved, T. Carter seconded to approve the May 9, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

PERTINENT COMMUNICATIONS: A number of communications regarding the gravel legislation have been received and distributed to the board and public.

PRESENTATION: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

a) **TREASURER’S REPORT:** J. Carter had previously submitted the treasurer’s report to the board. Receipts total \$54,471.49. Disbursements \$12,846.02. Balance \$915,619.26.

J. Carter presented the Summer Tax Resolution, Resolution 10-2023.

Summer Tax is due and payable July 1 through September 14, 2023 for no interest. September 15, 2023 through February 28, 2024 interest is charged at a rate of 1% per month or part thereof. February 15 through February 28, 2024, Kasson Township assesses a 3% penalty on unpaid taxes. March 1, 2024, taxes become delinquent and are paid to the Leelanau County Treasurer only.

Boomer moved, Noonan seconded to approve the Summer Tax Resolution, Resolution 10-2023. Roll call vote: T. Carter (yes), J. Carter (yes), Noonan (yes), Boomer (yes), Julian (yes). All in favor, motion carried.

b) **BUDGET REPORT:** Boomer presented a budget report for May. The board briefly discussed.

c) **BILL APPROVAL** – Boomer had previously presented the check detail. The board briefly discussed. **T. Carter moved to pay the bills as presented; seconded by Noonan. All in favor, motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **Cemeteries** – Boomer has been working on mapping and research regarding the cemeteries. There are a number of missing corner markers, which Boomer believes are made of cement. She has not been able to find replacements for these commercially. She will be approaching a local cement artist about possibly making replacements later this week. T. Carter mentioned that he believes Benzonia Township may have found similar markers from a maker in Wisconsin, and Julian will speak to a representative from Leelanau Redi-Mix.
- b. **Mining/Gravel Legislation** – Julian and Boomer have sent out a number of emails to the board and public on this topic. The gravel bills will be discussed in committee again tomorrow, June 13, and if it passes there, it will go to the full House of Representatives either Tuesday or Wednesday. Julian has been in close communication with the MTA, various attorneys and representatives about the topic. Julian has received verbal confirmation from both the Representative and the Senator for our area that they are in support of the townships against the current bills.
- 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. Cypher stated that Grier’s review has been delayed due to the gravel issues, but he hopes to have his review to the Board by the July meeting.
- e. **Other Unfinished Business** - None

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. **Cedar Fire Ambulance Purchase** – The CAFR Board had forwarded information regarding a proposed ambulance purchase to the township boards (see attached) for discussion this month, as well as a draft resolution for approval either tonight or in July (see attached). Julian summarized the proposed purchase. **Noonan moved, J. Carter seconded to approve Resolution 11-2023, Resolution to Approve Ambulance Financing. Roll call vote: T. Carter (yes), J. Carter (yes), Noonan (yes), Boomer (yes), Julian (yes). All in favor, motion carried.**
- b. **Park Tables & Benches** – Julian and Boomer have looked at the benches at the Maple City Park, and they are in fairly rough shape. They have been sanded down at least once already, and should probably be replaced. The board asked Julian to get quotes for both the tables and new benches and bring them back to the board for review in July. The existing benches will be removed and disposed of.
- c. **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 still not yet had a chance to look at the drawings submitted by Gosling Czubak.
- b. **Township Hall Renovation** – Leelanau Construction is working on permitting for the township hall work. The new flag pole has been 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 also spoken with the County Commission Chairman on the topic.

REPORTS: Planning Commission (PC) – T. Carter reported that there was a special meeting in May regarding the Enduro event, at which the application was tabled at the applicant’s request. The Findings of Fact are currently in draft form. The regular May meeting was cancelled. The June meeting is June 19 – Enduro will not be on the agenda, per Cypher.

Zoning Administrator (ZA) – Cypher had previously submitted written reports to the board, and he summarized those for the board. He continues to be in touch with the Enduro applicants, as well as the legal counsel for the township, the applicant, and the neighbors, as there are a number of points still under discussion regarding this proposal.

Supervisor – Julian summarized his activities for the month. There is currently a farm market sign that has been placed on the corner of Newman Road and Kasson Center Road. It is currently unknown whether the sign is in the right-of-way or on township property. Julian, Cypher and the Road Commission are currently working on this item.

Assessor – Standard assessing business is ongoing.

Fire Board – Julian summarized the Fire Board meeting for June. The third new hire has been finalized, and started Friday, June 9.

Clerk/Elections Report – Boomer forwarded information to the board regarding progress on new election laws. Very little information in final form has been presented to township clerks yet. There will be no August election for Kasson; the status of a November election is still unknown.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Hall Use and Buildings and Grounds Reports –There are no issues with building and grounds. There has been use by the local 4-H group and the community music group.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Stephanie Mills – She sees people selling firewood, and is concerned with the fire danger. She wonders about the possibility of offering a campfire danger leaflet that could be included by vendors in their firewood bundles.

Mike Verschaeve – He thanks the board for their attention to the gravel mining issue. He and other members of the Kasson Township Neighborhood Association support the board in their efforts to fight the current bills. He also asked that the neighbors be informed if the Enduro event proposal moves forward. He would like a four-way stop be considered in Maple City as part of the renovations, as traffic moves through there quite quickly. The village is getting to be a busy place and it can be difficult to make it across the street with the traffic not stopping.

BOARD COMMENT: T. Carter said that farmers used to do prescribed burns back in the 1950s. Boomer agreed, but stated most people who live in the area now have not seen any major prescribed burns like the ones recently carried out in the National Park. Noonan asked people to be careful on the roads – there are a lot of cars, bicycles and pedestrians out there.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 11 at 7 pm.

Motion by Noonan to adjourn, second by J. Carter / **All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Submitted by:
Dana Boomer, Township Clerk

06/02/2023

Cedar Area Fire & Rescue has spent the last several months reviewing the purchase of a new ambulance. The review process has determined that a new Road Rescue Ultramedic Ambulance will be the best choice for the department, as we continue our transition to ALS status providing full-time paramedic-level care for our citizens.

When received, this ambulance would be placed into service as the first-response ambulance, the current first-response ambulance would be used as the reserve or second-response ambulance, and the current second-response ambulance would be sold. The current second-response ambulance was purchased in 2012, and so is currently 11 years old. Current ambulance builds are currently working on a timeline of two to three years from order to delivery. The 2012 ambulance will be 13-14 years old by the time the new ambulance is received, and therefore quickly aging out of service.

The staff and board at Cedar Area Fire & Rescue have extensively researched financing options. Unfortunately, the zero-percent interest option for ambulance financing previously offered by Cherryland Electric is not available for this purchase. It has been determined that the best option for financing for the new ambulance is through Tax-Exempt Leasing Corp., which is the financing unit used by Road Rescue and chosen by many of their purchasing departments. The financing will be for a maximum purchase of \$400,000, with a \$50,000 down payment. The remaining maximum of \$350,000 will be financed over 7 years. The interest rate quoted as of May 24, 2023 is 5.89%, but the quote was valid for 14 days, and so the quoted interest rate may change.

The Cedar Area Fire & Rescue Fire Board requests that you review and discuss this capital purchase and proposed financing at your June Township Board meetings. The Board requests that any questions that arise from those discussions be forwarded to the Fire Board prior to their July meeting, scheduled for July 6. Unless major questions arise, the Fire Board is tentatively requesting approval for the financing at the July Township Board meetings. Attached is a draft resolution for the approval of financing, for review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Julian", is written over a horizontal line.

Greg Julian, Chairman

Cedar Area Fire and Rescue Board

11-2023
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMBULANCE FINANCING
BY CEDAR AREA FIRE & RESCUE

At the regular meeting of the Kasson Township Board, Leelanau County, Michigan, held on the 12th day of June, 2023.

WHEREAS, Cedar Area Fire & Rescue wishes to apply for financing for an ambulance, and

WHEREAS, Cedar Area Fire & Rescue is required, through the Interlocal Fire Department Agreement, to gain approval from each of the four participating township boards before borrowing funds or entering into an agreement for installment payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kasson Township Board does hereby formally approve allowing Cedar Area Fire & Rescue to pursue the borrowing of funds from Tax-Exempt Leasing Corp for financing over a seven-year period, for the purpose of purchasing an ambulance in FY 2023/2024, for a total amount not to exceed \$400,000. The interest rate as of May 24, 2023 is quoted as 5.89%, but it is acknowledged that this may change prior to the authorized purchase.

The KASSON TOWNSHIP BOARD MOVED to support the adoption of the foregoing resolution, which was adopted on June 12, 2023, at the regular meeting of the Kasson Township Board, Leelanau County, Michigan.

Motion made by Noonan, seconded by J. Carter, to adopt the foregoing Resolution. Upon roll call vote:

The following voted aye: J. Carter, T. Carter, Noonan, Boomer, Julian

The following voted nay: None

The Chairman of the Kasson Township Board declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted on June 12, 2023.

Dated: _____

Signed: _____, Chairman

_____, Clerk