

SUBMITTED: 1-16-24

APPROVED: 2-19-2024

**BINGHAM TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
January 15, 2024, 7:00 pm**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Midge Werner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Midge Werner, Supervisor	Present
Kathy Morio, Clerk	Present
Sandra Grant, Treasurer	Present
Jeff Layman, Trustee	Absent (excused)
Todd Stone, Trustee	Present
<i>Quorum Present</i>	

**In attendance:** Steve Patmore, Zach Marano, Brian Kindt

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4. AGENDA APPROVAL**

Todd Stone suggested two additions to the agenda: Brian Kindt with a presentation of website development to be put under the first Public Comment, and the Gosling Czubak proposal to be put under Old Business (item #8D).

**Todd/moved, Midge/supported to approve the agenda for January 18, 2024 as presented and amended. Motion carried.**

**5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST - None**

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

December 18, 2023

**Sandra/moved, Todd/supported to approve the minutes of December 18, 2023 as presented. Motion carried.**

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

A. Brian Kindt, a member of the Parks and Rec committee, has been working on a website for the Township. The Board members received a draft of what has been done. Brian reviewed common hosting sites, obtained a hosting in August, and later obtained a license. The website also includes a Google workspace for Parks and Rec. Brian explained what the website can do and its potential to do beyond what is needed at this point.

Midge questioned the intent of the website – is it to provide information to residents or to encourage tourism in this area? She would prefer that it be an informational tool for residents. Brian explained that both ideas were part of the thought process when writing text for the website. It is a draft, and it is anticipated that the Board

would approve or edit any text. The parks are located in residential areas, and the low-key nature of such can be part of the text. Furthermore, the history of the parks is being investigated and interesting facts about the locations will be included in the text as agreed.

The Board agreed that the website is very easy to navigate. The website could also be a way to get feedback from the public about the parks and the 5-year plan. The website is able to provide demographic information about those who have visited the site. There was discussion about how Brian would be paid for his work. The Township does not have a credit card. Other ways of payment will be explored.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Township Hall roof project –Kurtis Graham provided a bid for roofing the old part of the Township building for \$11,000. The documents were distributed to the Board members.

**Midge/moved and Sandra/supported to accept the bid of \$11,000 from Kurtis Graham for the roofing of the entire Township building. Motion carried.**

- B. Roof repair pumphouse at Maple Grove Cemetery

Kurtis looked at it. He suggested that all the shingles be stripped off and replaced with industrial type shingles. He would clean up the area once the work is completed. The roof may need some repair as well. He would do this work in the spring. The cost would be \$1,500.

**Midge/moved and Sandra/supported to approve the plan for reroofing the pumphouse at \$1,500 and recognize that additional costs may be needed to repair the roof. Motion carried.**

- C. Construction update – Most of the exterior work is done. The Board needs to discuss what needs to be done in the interior. The plan calls for a double entrance pocket door. The Board agreed that a double door is not needed and a single pocket door would provide more wall space on the interior. The windows in that area could be retained or taken out. Leaving the windows or taking them out was discussed. It was the consensus of the Board have a single door and to take the windows out. Paint color of the interior was discussed. The Board agreed that all the walls should be a lighter color. Carpet, carpet tiles, and vinyl floors were discussed. The entry way could be tile and the rest could be carpet to cut down on dirt in the entryway. Also, carpet may help keep the noise down. Rental rugs could be used in the entry way during elections. The Board will continue to explore appropriate solutions.

- D. Gosling Czubak proposal for parking lot.

The parking lot at Boughey Park needs to be redone. The bids from Gosling Czubak were reviewed. Gosling Czubak divided the initial work into two phases: Phase 1 costing \$3,400 and Phase 2 costing \$3,850. There was discussion about budget. The Township has met with Gosling Czubak to discuss the basics and the vision. However, a figure of what the Township could afford and what the Township was willing to spend was not discussed. There was further discussion about this. Having

the Road Commission do the work may be less costly. Funds that the Township has available was discussed. Sandra would like the parking lot to be paved at about \$70,000. Todd will look again at the previous plan for paving. The public's perception of this work as a benefit was discussed. This topic was tabled and will need further discussion.

**9. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**10. COMMITTEE, STAFF AND OFFICER REPORTS**

a. Parks and Recreation Committee – Todd Stone

Previously the Board discussed implications of park stewards' conversations with visitors. Park stewards are not to enforce rules or speak for the township on any rules. Midge contacted the attorney, Thomas Grier, for further advice. He sent a letter outlining his advice. The attorney said the subject should not be in the by-laws but in the Parks and Rec ordinance. It is and he stated that the ordinance is good the way it is written. The ordinance states that the Sheriff Department will enforce rules. There was continued discussion about this and the need for a similar ordinance regulating blight.

**Todd/moved, Kathy/supported, to amend the Park and Rec Committee by-laws to increase the members of the Park and Rec Committee from 7 up to 11 and to allow the secretary to post relative information to the Parks and Rec website with approval. Motion carried.**

**Midge/moved, Sandy/supported to authorize Todd to repair 2 grills costing up to \$200. Motion carried.**

- b. Building and Grounds Committee – Kathy Morio. This was previously discussed in this meeting.
- c. Cemetery Committee – Midge Werner. No report
- d. Zoning Administrator/STR Administrator – Steve Patmore reported that registered STR's are up to 45. The Board members got a list of the present applications. There is new State legislation on renewable energy. Local governments will lose some of their own regulation of large projects. The local government can still regulate small projects. The recommendation is for Townships to approve the new legislation. Steve Patmore attended a traffic conference.
- e. Planning Commission – Steve Patmore, Jeff Layman. The Planning Commission did not meet in January.
- f. Fire Authority - (documents mailed) – Sandra Grant reported that they met and it was business as usual. There will be a get together in February. There was a training for fires started by electric cars.
- g. Assessor's Quarterly Report ( January, April, July, October)  
**Midge/moved, Sandra/supported to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.**

Angela Friske is retiring on April 14, 2024. Midge would like to form a committee for recruiting a new Assessor.

**Sandra/moved, Midge/supported to accept Angela Friske's resignation as Assessor with regrets on April 14, 2024. Motion carried.**

h. Treasurer – Sandra Grant

Taxes are coming in.

i. Trustee – no reports

j. Clerk

- Vendor and Payroll Reports

The Leelanau Enterprise needs to be renewed for 1 year, \$47.00, or 2 years for \$83.00. Virginia Schultz would like to register for a workshop on March 4, 2024 for \$100.

**Sandy/moved, Todd/supported to renew the Leelanau Enterprise for two years at \$83 and approve Virginia Schultz's registration for a Board of Review training for \$100. Motion carried.**

Two other late payments were submitted: KCI assessment notices for \$1,026.87 and Todd Stone reimbursement for the purchase of 2 picnic tables for \$2,085.35.

**Kathy/moved, Midge/supported additional expenses for KCI assessments at \$1,026.87 and \$2,085.35 for picnic tables, leaving a vendor balance of \$36,475.62 and a payroll balance of 10,618.97. Motion carried.**

Kathy reported that 1,080 absentee ballot applications were mailed out January 12<sup>th</sup>.

k. Supervisor - Midge has talked with someone who is a planner and may be helpful to the Parks and Rec Committee in working on the 5-year plan and in writing grants.

There was continued discussion about this.

## **11. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cindy Kacin offered comments about the park paving and enforcement of rules in the parks.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kacin

Recording Secretary