

TENTATIVE (pending approval March 7, 2024)

Riley Township

February 1, 202

7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Potts at 7:00 PM. Board members present Feldpausch, Lawless, Martens and Powell. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Feldpausch, support by Powell to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Lawless, support by Martens to approve December 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer's report presented showing balances of:

Special Project Fund \$254355.52

General Fund Checking \$145294.75

Road and Bridge Fund \$9706.52

ARPA Designated Fund \$

Cemetery \$

TOTAL \$627045.23

Motion by Lawless, support by Martens to approve treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

County Commissioner Ken Mitchell:

There has been a recommendation from the group that was assembled to provide input on the language for the wind and solar regulation at the county level. This will have to go through a legal review process to ensure that it meets regulatory guidelines. The state has adopted legislation to have regulatory control over solar and wind energy over a certain size. There is a local action group that is working to get this issue taken to the voters by collecting enough signatures to place the issue on the ballot to return this regulatory authority back to local units of government. Commissioner Mitchell asked that the board review the draft language and let him know if there is something that is concerning to the township so he can advocate for the residents.

The county deputy treasurer position is presently vacant, and the county is looking to hire an external company to come in and fill gaps if needed, but it is looking into making sure that there are no gaps in service.

There is preliminary work on a new public services complex as there are continued issues with the age and condition of the current sheriff facilities/jail. Prior construction is not conducive to changes in requirements that have been implemented since it was constructed. The engineering study is very costly, and the county is seeking additional bids to ensure they are getting a fair price.

The juvenile detention facility has a heating system that is not designed for the weather in the northern climate, and they have not been successful retro fitting it to work. There is a facility assessment being done in this area as well to see what can be done to correct the heating problems and balance that with the deteriorating/aging building versus new construction.

The snow melt system at the courthouse is 24 years old and is failing, which is long beyond the expected life expectancy of approximately 7 years and is going to need to be replaced.

There is competition in recruiting deputies, so the pay scale required adjustment to continue to recruit and retain talent. There was also negotiation and incentives to hire dispatchers.

The county wide internet is still underway, and the county is still anticipating grant funds to support this initiative.

Deputy Reneker, Clinton County Sheriff Department:

The township continues to remain quiet. The county continues to have road patrol overnight, which many other counties do not. The county sheriff's office covers over 500 square miles in their service area and having 3 is better than other jurisdictions but not sustainable and the county will slowly grow the department.

DAESA Chair Kevin Garvey:

There were 5 EMS runs for Riley Township last month, with a total of 57 for the authority. The board has worked on a budget for the upcoming fiscal year which should be finalized at the next regular meeting of the board. In a recent storm the outlying stations lost power and generator power was needed, an additional cord is being purchased to allow for not shuttling back and forth for power. Dress uniforms are being fitted and there is mechanical work being done on some of the fleet. Committee assignments have been made for current year. For the 2023 calendar year, Riley had 56 EMS runs and 10 fire runs, for 66 total.

OLD BUSINESS:

The drain commission will be working on the Muskrat Drain.

The chloride schedule and proposed road projects has been provided. This will be discussed in more detail as the board prepares the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Motion by Feldpausch, support by Lawless to appoint Kevin Garvey to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Supervisor Don Potts. This appointment will be effective March 1, 2024. Motion carried.

Eagle Township has asked for input on their master plan as a bordering township. The board will be recommending agricultural preservation and the support of local agribusiness.

Dates and locations for the 2024 Clinton County Township Officers Association were shared. This is a collaborative meeting of all of the townships in Clinton County.

NEW BUSINESS:

The township received a letter of congratulations for a perfect score on the 2023 PA 660 Assessment Audit review from the State of Michigan.

Current township board salaries were discussed for potential raises for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. The clerk and treasurer role have not had raises since 2013 and the supervisor role since 2018. There was discussion about \$4000 per position to bring the roles in line with what is seen across like size townships Motion by Martens, support by Feldpausch to increase supervisor salary by \$4000. Roll call vote all yes. Motion by Feldpausch, support by Martens to increase clerk salary by \$4000. Roll call vote all yes. Motion by Feldpausch, support by Martens to increase salary by \$4000. Roll call vote all yes.

Motion to increase election inspector to \$20 an hour by Martens, support by Lawless. Motion carried.

Motion by Powell, support by Martens to raise the land planning committee to \$55 per meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Feldpausch to increase Board of Review pay to \$200 per day (\$100 per half day), support by Martens. Motion carried.

The budget meeting will set for Thursday, Feb 22nd at 7 PM.

Treasurer Feldpausch presented an updated version of the townships present investment policy. This includes the current banks that are available to the township and would allow the township to invest their funds in a higher interest rate setting which would allow us to generate significantly more interest income for the township. Motion by Powell, support by Lawless to adopt the updated investment policy as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Powell, support by Lawless to approve Treasurer Feldpausch to invest township funds into Michigan Class.

Motion by Martens, support by Lawless to alter the entrance of the township hall to accommodate a lighted, monitored drop box. Motion carried.

Motion by Powell, support by Martens to Roll call vote all yes.

Motion by Martens, support by to Lawless. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Martens, support by Lawless to send proposed ballot language for a road and bridge mileage renewal to the attorney for review. Motion carried.

Clerk Powell will advertise for lawn care bids that will be due March 1, 2024 for the upcoming lawn care season.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion by Martens, support by Feldpausch to approve bills dated February 1, 2024. Motion carried.

Supervisor Potts thanked for his years of service as this is his last regular meeting.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Martens, support Feldpausch by to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting closed at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully,
Lisa Powell, Clerk