

RAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.
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Location: Ray Township Hall
64255 Wolcott, Ray, MI 48096

Present: Joe Jarzyna, Supervisor
Lori Lascoe, Clerk
Betsy Bart, Treasurer
Betty Grader, Trustee
Doug Stier, Trustee

Absent: None

Also Present: 9 residents

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES & ROLL CALL.
Supervisor Jarzyna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Lascoe called roll; Jarzyna, Lascoe, Bart, Grader and Stier.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Clerk Lascoe added to the agenda items: 9.a. Phragmite spraying
10.d. Waiver of Conflict of Interest; Township Attorney

MOTION by Grader supported by Bart to approve the agenda as amended.

MOTION carried.

3. CORRESPONDENCES:

a. Michigan Fire Equipment Grant Approval of \$10,000.00

Lascoe announced the State of Michigan has awarded the Fire Department a \$10,000.00 grant for fire equipment.

b. Egle Notice of Authorization for Kunstman Road over McBride Drain

Lascoe reported EGLE has issued the permit for Kunstman Road over the McBride Drain to the Macomb County Department of Roads.

MOTION by Bart supported by Lascoe to receive and file the correspondences.

MOTION carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS: - For Agenda Items

There were no public comments.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 15, 2023

Lascoe stated in the header on pages 2 and 4 had the wrong date.

MOTION by Grader supported by Bart to approve the meeting minutes for August 15, 2023 as corrected.

MOTION carried.

6. APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

Treasurer Bart stated a revised bills list has been distributed to each Board member. She explained three bills were added, which includes a pavilion deposit of \$100.00 and the MI Fire Equipment grant. She explained the bills list totals \$157,977.94, which includes \$9,749.37 for bond returns, \$62,700.00 for insurance and \$38,353.47 for payroll.

MOTION by Lascoe supported by Jarzyna to approve the bills lists of \$157,977.94 as presented.

MOTION carried.

7. OFFICER'S REPORTS

- a. Supervisor Jarzyna reported the Macomb County Public Works has extra money in the County budget and are working on the Stark Drain, which is located east of North Avenue, between 26 ½ to 28 Mile Roads. He explained the Stark Drain is a continuation of the Five Points Drain, which eventually drains into the Coon Creek, with no cost to the Township.

- b. Clerk Lascoe reported the Planning Commission did not have a meeting in September.

Lascoe thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the Michigan Municipal Clerk Education Day in Mt. Pleasant. She stated one of the topics was early voting which is on the agenda this evening. Further stated each registered voter would receive a postcard of the designated location, with the hours and time for early voting.

Lascoe explained she has been working with Bruce Township and Washington Township Clerks for an Early Voting Center municipal agreement and plan.

- c. Treasurer Bart reported the last day to accept summer taxes was Thursday, September 14th, 2023 without penalty. Further stated 94% of the summer taxes have been collected.

Bart thanked Deputy Treasurer, Robin Fortuna for her dedication through tax season.

- d. Trustee Grader had nothing to report.

Trustee Stier had nothing to report.

MOTION by Lascoe supported by Grader to receive and file the Officers Reports.

MOTION carried.

8. DEPARTMENT REQUEST/REPORTS

Supervisor Jarzyna read each department report.

- a. Assessing Report
- b. Budget Report
- c. Building Department
- d. Fire Department Report– upcoming Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2023.
- e. Library Report- no report provided.
- f. Recreation Report- Bart reviewed the Recreation report and announced the Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Saturday, October 21, 2023 and registration is available online.
- g. Senior Report
- h. SMART/Richmond Lenox EMS Report

MOTION by Bart supported by Grader to receive and file the August 2023 Department Reports.

MOTION carried.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. *Phragmite spraying – Added to Agenda*

Supervisor Jarzyna explained the Board approved for the fifty/fifty match with the Macomb County Department of Roads for the right of way phragmite spray for \$4500.00. He stated the County committed to \$20,000.00 and after the maps for spraying were completed there was a shortfall and the County increased their commitment by \$10,000.00, working with the Townships on the fifty-fifty match program. Further stated Ray Townships phragmite spraying amount commitment was \$4500.00 and the actual spraying is \$5,060.00. Further asked the Board to approve the increase of \$560.00.

MOTION by Grader supported by Lascoe to approve \$5,060.00 for 2023 Phragmite Spraying Group, which was previously approved for \$4,500.00.

MOTION carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Confirm Supervisor phone poll for title work for Township property; 57595 Indian Trail property. Jarzyna explained he did a phone poll to be able to begin the title work with Huron Title to for the Township property located on Indian Trail.

MOTION by Grader supported by Bart to confirm the Supervisor phone poll to hire Huron Tile to obtain a clear title for the Township property located at 57595 Indian Trail.
MOTION carried.

- b. Proposal Chuck Cryderman & Associates for Real Estate Auction Online & Onsite for Contents. Jarzyna explained the Board has the proposal from Chuck Cryderman & Associates for an online auction for the vehicles and Real Estate of 57595 Indian Trail property and to conduct an onsite chattel auction.

Discussion was held on the proposal.

Jarzyna stated the real estate will be offered in three options and the highest bid would be accepted for the real estate.

MOTION by Jarzyna supported by Bart to Approve the Proposal of Chuck Cryderman & Associates for Real Estate Auction Online & Onsite for the Contents at 57595 Indian Trail.

FOR THIS MOTION: Yes: Jarzyna, Bart, Grader, Stier, Lascoe.
No: None.

MOTION carried.

- c. Change Board meeting of October 3, 2023 to Thursday, October 5, 2023 Fire Awards Board meeting. Jarzyna stated the Board received the memo requesting the meeting date change.

MOTION by Grader supported by Lascoe to change the Board meeting for October 3, 2023 to Thursday, October 5, 2023 for the Fire Awards Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.
MOTION carried.

- d. *Conflict of Interest; Township Attorney -Municipal Agreement for Early Voting & Joint Early Voting - Resolution 2023-10. – Added to agenda*

Clerk Lascoe stated Bob Seibert, Township Attorney represents Bruce, Washington and Ray Township for him to review the Municipal Agreement for Early Voting the Board must waive the Conflict of Interest for Bob Seibert to review the Municipal Agreement for Early voting.

MOTION by Jarzyna supported by Bart to waive the Conflict of Interest for Bob Seibert, the Township Attorney to review the Municipal Agreement for Early Voting.
MOTION carried.

Lascoe stated Bob Seibert has indicated the Municipal Agreement does not contain any significant obligations on behalf of any community and merely sets forth the logistics of sharing a single early voting site for the upcoming elections in 2024.

Lascoe explained the Secretary of State has allocated 30 million dollars in grant money for early voting sites. Macomb County Clerk, Anthony Forlini has notified all city and township clerks that the County will not offer early voting through a county agreement. The Secretary of State has recommended entering into a municipal agreement to obtain the most grant funding for early voting which involves the necessary equipment, tabulators, early voting poll books and election inspectors. She explained she met with Bruce and Washington Township Clerk to conduct the Macomb County Northwest Voting Center which includes Bruce, Washington and Ray Townships with the early voting site located at the Washington Township Activity Center at 57880 VanDyke Road in Washington Township. She stated if Ray Township chose to conduct early voting as a single voting site the cost is \$24,894 for the necessary equipment and election inspectors for 2024 plus the three election day election inspector's payroll. She explained all three municipalities would have to agree with the Municipal Agreement and stated the early voting is required for all Federal and State elections.

Lascoe explained all registered voters will be sent a postcard of the Early Voting Center location, with the dates and times and each municipality must advertise on their website as well as the State of Michigan with the dates and hours of the early voting center. She stated if the Township conducted early voting as a single municipality the cost with the tabulator, electronic pollbook and the staffing for the nine days would be approximately \$24,894.00 for the 2024 elections plus the election day payroll.

MOTION by Jarzyna supported by Bart to Approve the Agreement for Election Services - Municipal Agreement between the Charter Township of Washington, Bruce Township and Ray Township of Macomb County, Michigan.

**FOR THIS MOTION: Yes: Jarzyna, Bart, Lascoe, Grader.
No: Stier.**

MOTION carried.

MOTION by Jarzyna supported by Lascoe to Approve the Ray Township Joint Early Voting Site Resolution 2023-10, as follows:

**RAY TOWNSHIP JOINT EARLY VOTING SITE
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-10**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board, Township of Ray, County of Macomb Michigan held in the Ray Township Hall on the 19th day of September 2023 at 7:00 p.m. eastern standard time.

Present: Members: Joe Jarzyna, Lori Lascoe, Betsy Bart, Betty Grader and Doug Stier

Absent: Members:

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Jarzyna supported by Lascoe.

Whereas, voters in the State of Michigan, November 8, 2022, approved the passage of Proposal 22-2, which in part, entitles voters the right, once registered, to vote in each statewide and Federal election in person at an Early Voting Site prior to Election Day; and

Whereas, Ray Township, Bruce Township and the Charter Township of Washington and shall each designate the Early Voting Site to be located at the Charter Township of Washington Activity Center located at 57880 Van Dyke Road., Washington Township, Michigan, 48094; and

Whereas the Joint Early Voting Site for all Ray Township registered voters will be held at the Macomb County Northwest Early Voting Site, located at the Charter Township of Washington Activity Center located at 57880 Van Dyke Rd., Washington Township, Michigan, 48094; and

Whereas, the designated Early Voting Site is accessible and complies with the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act and the Help America Vote Act of 2002; and

Whereas the Joint Early Voting Site for State and Federal Elections will be open for nine (9) consecutive days beginning the second Saturday before election day through the Sunday before election day during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and

Whereas all early voting dates and times will be posted sufficiently forty-five (45) days prior to every election to notify voters; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Township of Ray Board of Trustees, Macomb County, Michigan approves the establishment of the Macomb County Northwest Early Voting Site for Ray Township registered voters to be located at the Charter Township of Washington Activity Center, located at 57880 Van Dyke Road, Washington Township MI 48094, and to be open for nine (9) consecutive days, beginning the second Saturday before Election Day through the Sunday before Election Day, during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

FOR THIS RESOLUTION: Yes: Jarzyna, Lascoe, Grader, Bart.

No: Stier.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

e. Resignation of employee #20130 and 10156.

Jarzyna stated the employees have resigned from their positions.

MOTION by Lascoe supported by Bart to accept the resignation of employee #20130 and 10156.

MOTION carried.

f. Room Request for Ray Township Public Library for PLA Digital Literacy grant of \$6,000.00.
Jarzyna asked Mary Barnes if she would like to explain the request.

Mary Barnes, Representative, explained the Library is requesting to use the Senior Center the week of December 11th -14th, 2023 for a PLA Digital Literacy funded grant by ATT to help the community in all areas of technology. Further stated the hours would be during the Township business hours.

MOTION by Lascoe supported by Bart to approve for the Library to use the Senior Center the week of December 11th-14th, 2023 as requested.

MOTION carried.

g. Advertise for employment vacancies.
Jarzyna requested to advertise for the employment vacancies.

MOTION by Grader supported by Lascoe to advertise the employment vacancies in The Romeo Record newspaper.

MOTION carried.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

JoAnn Kymyshyn asked if there would be an interim-senior director.

Barbara Sparks asked for the gift card to be reinstated for the senior mystery lunches. Further stated she is shocked at the cost involved for early voting and the costs should have been included with the ballot language.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Stier supported by Grader to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

MOTION carried.

Joe Jarzyna, Supervisor

Lori R. Lascoe, MiPMC, CMC
Clerk
Recording Secretary

Date