

Minutes October 3rd, 2022

Supervisor Mattson called to order the regular meeting of the Felch Township Board. All in attendance stood and recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was conducted and board members D. Dixon, M. Stienbrecher, D. Oman and R. Mattson were present. G. Wille was absent, due to harvesting potatoes. Also Present was Mr. Ryan Wille Chairman of Parks and Rec Committee. Also present were several other members of who signed a sign in sheet.

Citizen's time was opened with a five-minute time limit. Residents, property owners and others addressed the board and the CEO of Circle Power. They presented questions concerning the proposed Solar Farm at the old Groveland Mine site. Most questions were directed to Circle Power and answered by Mr. Jordan Roberts. Supervisor Mattson encouraged those who addressed the township board with questions to provide the questions to the board in writing so that the board can investigate it and respond to the concerns.

Reviewed and approved the agenda.

Reviewed the minutes of the September 6th board meeting. D. Dixon made a motion to accept the minutes, supported by M. Steinbrecher. Mattson, Steinbrecher and Dixon voted to approve. D. Oman abstained because he was absent. No one was opposed. The minutes were approved.

The treasures report was reviewed. D. Oman made a motion to accept and place on file. The motion was supported by D. Dixon. All voted in favor, no one was opposed. The motion was approved.

Review and Payment of the bills. The Visa and Home Depot account charges were reviewed along with other bills. M. Steinbrecher made a motion to pay the bills. Supported by D. Dixon. All voted in favor, no one was opposed. The motion to pay the bills was approved.

Fire Department Report. Chief Anderson contacted the clerk and stated he would not be able to attend the meeting. There were no calls for the fire department the past month. The county fire chiefs were scheduled to have a meeting on October 18th at the Felch Community Center.

Custodian Report. Nothing to report. Mr. Fuchs was not present.

Cemetery Report. Mrs. Rebecca Webber-Pollock was not present. She contacted the clerk in advance and is at home with COVID. She marked some graves so that headstones could be placed. She has also been in contact with a company that maps out cemetery. He will come out and look at the cemetery.

Parks and Recreational Report. Cuppad has completed a draft of the Recreational Plan update. Board members were given a draft copy and may comment on it to Ryan Carrig or Ryan Wille prior to the end of the 30-day comment period. Then we will schedule a public hearing on the plan prior to adoption.

Baseball people want the ball fields mowed one more time and to let people know not to drive on the infield as it causes problems for grooming and maintenance.

R. Mattson got an estimate of materials to replace the dugouts on the little field. D. Oman asked about getting topsoil and renting a skid steer to spread on the bad parts of the field and to fix a few places on the outfield of the big ball field. Then seed and fertilize the small field. D. Oman mentioned that the cost center for parks and recs does not have enough left in the budget to complete the two projects.

After discussion. D. Dixon made a motion to amend the cost center adding \$5,000.00 with funds coming from the fund equity (Money Market Account). The motion was supported by M. Steinbrecher. All voted in favor of amending the budget. No one was opposed. The motion to amend the budget was approved. D. Dixon then made a motion to authorize Jeff Anderson to proceed with the replacement of the dugouts and D. Oman authorized to get topsoil, seed, fertilizer and rent a skid steer. M. Steinbrecher supported. All voted in favor, no one was opposed the motion was approved. R. Mattson will let Jeff Anderson know to proceed with the dugout replacement.

Calendar for the community center rental. R. Mattson someone contacted him because they could not get ahold of John Fuchs. D. Oman explained again the calendar has gone away and will not be posted like it was. The calendar was linked directly to John's personal Gmail account. What was proposed previously is a program / software that will display events at the community center. Much like an advertising panel. Mrs. Vicki Lindholm at the school maintains the one at the school and has offered to set it up. It was suggested that we hire her to maintain it. D. Oman will contact Vicki to see if she is interested.

Grant writing proposals for parks and rec's update. D. Oman stated that he has contacted a few and we need to wait until the five-year rec plan is approved. We can then forward that plan to potential grant writers so they can provide a quote or estimate of the services they provide and a cost quote.

Land purchase west of the community center update. D. Oman reports that he has contacted an attorney by email and is waiting for response.

R. Mattson made a recommendation to appoint Darwin Dixon, Ted Budeck, and Bill Cook to the Township Planning Commission. D. Oman moved accept the recommendation and appoint those recommended by Supervisor Mattson. The motion was supported by M. Steinbrecher, all voted in favor no one was opposed. D. Oman will attend the first meeting when scheduled and administer the Oath of Office to the members.

R. Mattson met with Travis Woodward about the sidewalk replacement that was scheduled to be completed in September. Mattson reports that he will be going up to the double doors, but Mattson did not have a completion date. R. Mattson stated that Travis will be doing the concrete work for the TTAA replacing the concrete that was removed during the addition construction.

The new Ambulance garage addition is nearing completion. MJ Electric will be doing the electrical work once the materials come in. Sikora did the heating. The TTAA is holding back payment money until it is completed, and all is working. D. Oman questioned what the plan is for covering the Styrofoam around the poured footings. Mattson stated that they are going to cover it with tin.

DCRC member questioned the engineering of Davidsons Hill project – snow plowing concerns and such. R. Mattson will be contacting Jim Harris to see what was discussed.

Citizen's time was offered again. Some attendees addressed the board and Circle Power with concerns. Circle Power provided three letters of support for the project. Laborers Union Local 1329, Upper Peninsula Construction Council, and Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council. Supervisor Mattson confirmed that the Felch Twp Board would be in favor of a joint meeting with the Norway Township and Sagola Township boards. Offered to host it at the Felch Township Community Center.

Board Member Privilege

D. Oman reported that the trim for the restroom dividers was damaged in shipping. LaForce has been notified and will ship replacements.

D Oman suggested that we be prepared at the November meeting to have bids for the installation of the panels and other work we want completed in the restrooms so that it can bid out and bids accepted at our December meeting and the work be completed during the winter months.

D. Oman we need to schedule a Election Commission meeting. It was agreed that it will be Saturday morning prior to the election law deadline. It will be posted once a date is set.

Darrell Oman
Felch Township Clerk