

Blue Lake Township

Kalkaska County, Michigan

Minutes

Township Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

24 Present

- I. Budget Meeting Call to Order at 7:14 by Shearer.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – Shearer
- III. Roll Call of Officers - Almose, Shaw, Shearer, Shoemaker, and Nichol all present.
- IV. Call for Conflict – Roll call, Almose, Nichol, Shaw, Shoemaker, and Shearer all stated no conflict of interest.
- V. Adoption of Agenda – **Motion** by Nichol to adopt the agenda, supported by Shaw. Motion carried.
- VI. Minutes of Budget Workshop May 6, 2023 – **Motion** to accept the minutes of the 1st Budget Workshop on May 11, 2023 by Shaw, supported by Almose. Motion passed.
- VII. Public Input – approximately 45 minutes of input received by members of the audience. Some questioned why the Sheriff contract was cut while others had very strong opinions opposing the 25% salary cut for Fire Department command staff as well as feeling certain members of the board have a conflict of interest with the Fire Department. Questions and comments included: why a salary cut and not take the paid on-call; if revenues overtake expenditures with 2023-2024 budget then why a salary cut at all? Dereliction of fiscal duties?
- VIII. Budget Resolution Approval for 2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year
 1. Nichol reported that both our attorney and the MTA attorney, Cindy Dodge state the three written requests to reduce salaries do not meet the statute. Each board member must forfeit a statutory duty in order to meet the requirements. As Trustees do not have a statutory duty they can forfeit while still performing their jobs and the Treasurer does not have a statutory duty to forfeit the motions must be rescinded. Copies of the MTA correspondence were handed out to the board members. **Motion** by Almose to rescind the Treasurer's salary reduction request of 25% for 2023/2024 FY, supported by Shearer. Roll call: Almose, Shearer, Shaw, Shoemaker, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried. **Motion** by Shaw to rescind her Trustee's salary reduction request of 25% for 2023/2024 FY, supported by Shearer. Roll call: Shaw, Shearer, Almose, Shoemaker, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried. **Motion** by Shoemaker to rescind the Trustee's salary reduction request of 25% for 2023/2024 FY, supported by Shearer. Roll call: Shoemaker, Shearer, Almose, Shaw, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried. Shaw: if the three of us cannot reduce our salaries, I do not believe the command staff should have to either. **Motion** by Shearer to rescind the 25% salary reduction for the Fire Department command staff for the 2023/2024 FY, supported by Shaw. Roll call: Shearer, Shaw, Almose, Shoemaker, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried. **Motion** by Shaw to end the 24-hour on call stipend for 2023/2024 FY, supported by Shoemaker. Roll Call: Shaw, Shoemaker, Almose, Shearer, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried.
 2. **Motion** by Shearer to approve the General Fund budget for FY 2023/2024. Revenues of \$200,958 and expenditures of \$239,180, supported by Shoemaker. Roll call: Shearer, Shoemaker, Almose, Shaw, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried.
 3. **Motion** by Almose to approve the Highway Fund budget for FY 2023/2024. Revenues of \$139,671 and expenditures of \$442,000, supported by Shaw. Roll call: Almose, Shaw, Shearer, Shoemaker, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried
 4. **Motion** by Shearer to approve the Fire Department budget for FY 2023/2024. Revenues of \$160,279 and expenditures of \$158,888, supported by Nichol. Roll call: Shearer, Nichol, Almose, Shaw, and Shoemaker all yeas. Motion carried.

5. **Motion** by Almose to approve the Trash Fund budget for FY 2023/2024. Revenues of \$89,544 and expenditures of \$106,575, supported by Shoemaker. Roll call: Almose, Shoemaker, Shaw, Nichol, and Shearer all yeas. Motion Carried.
6. **Motion** by Shaw to approve the Township Improvement Fund budget for FY 2023/2024. Revenues of \$25,288 and expenditures of \$85,000, supported by Nichol. Roll call: Shaw, Nichol, Almose, Shearer, and Shoemaker all yeas. Motion carried.
- IX. **Motion** to adjourn Budget Meeting at 8:54 pm by Almose, supported by Shoemaker. Motion carried.
- X. Regular Meeting called to order at 8:54 pm
- XI. Minutes of last meeting – **Motion** by Almose to accept the May 3, 2023 minutes, support by Shoemaker, motion carried.
- XII. The Treasurer's report was accepted.
- XIII. Clerks Report – Nichol
 1. **Motion** by Shaw to pay the May 2023 expenditures in the amount of \$28,611.05 supported by Shearer. Roll Call: Shaw, Shearer, Almose, Shoemaker, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried.
- XIV. Correspondence and Guests
 1. Sheriff Report – Nichol: An email received from the Sheriff's Office showing 10 incidents in the township including 2 liquor inspections.
 2. Kohn Fisher – County Commissioner – not present
 3. Chuck Pope – KCSAS Resolution **Motion** by Almose to pass Resolution #6072023 in support of the Kalkaska County Sand and Snow's application for the Department of Natural Resources' Michigan Spark Grant Round 2 for funding of up to \$1,000,000 to build a recreation center on the land leased to them by Blue Lake Township. Support by Nichol. Roll call: Almose, Nichol, Shaw, Shearer, and Shoemaker all yeas. Motion carried.
 4. KMHC Connie Farrier – Barr: KMHC passed the FY 2024 capital budget; the Kaliseum business plan will be presented to the full board at its June meeting. Nine \$1,000 scholarships were presented to students who plan to pursue a medical degree in a field applicable to KMHC. KMHC has a long history of providing scholarships. MP of Operations, Kim Babcock will be retiring after 50 years of service. KMHC is celebrating their 70th anniversary. The annual Strawberry fest is June 11th. No mask requirement, even at LTC.
- XV. Public Input – Information requested on the status of kitchen remodel.
- XVI. Township Reports – written reports are available in the Clerk's office.
 1. Assessor's Report – Sheneman –
 - a. For the month of May: 2 deeds, 0 transfers, 1 death certificate, 3 electrical easements, and 0 DTE easements.
 - b. Sheneman completed the mailer to the properties he will be inspecting this year.
 2. Zoning Administrator's Report – Schuhart
 - a. For the month of May: 5 building permits were issued.
 3. Planning Board Report – Shaw
 - a. The public hearing is scheduled for June 17th and will not be on Zoom. Postcards were mailed notifying taxpayers of the public hearing.
 4. Zoning Board of Appeals – Buttermore
 - a. A variance meeting is scheduled for June 11th for an oversized building.
 5. Hospital Report – Nichol – see #4 under Correspondence and Guests
 6. Road Committee Report – Shoemaker
 - a. Still looking for truck drivers. Looking into possible curve signs on Blue Lake Rd and Camron Bridge also a sharp curve on W Blue Lk Rd. Bus Tour in July or August (will be on gravel roads most of the time). Working on Blue Lake overlay contract.
 7. Fire Department Report – Brierley
 - a. 10 runs for the month of May; 6 fire related, and 4 medical runs. 1 mutual aid call

for Coldsprings for a brush fire, 1 mutual aid to Mancelona for a house fire, and one mutual aid to Kalkaska for a garage fire.

- b. Old Business: More research done on Rosenbauer Batter Extinguishing system. A great piece of equipment but more than not, people say to be very cautious as it is really easy to pierce in the wrong area of the car.
- c. New Business: Troy Robertson is our new firefighter! He and his wife own the Starvation Lake General Store. Troy has Firefighter 1, HazMat Operations, and his emergency driving certificate from the State of Michigan. He was a paramedic and is willing to take the MFR class to get a medical license.
- d. Training: Training for the month consisted of truck checks, and emergency response; Argo operations; Drafting and supplying with 4" LDH; Medical scenario 4x4 crash with using GPS coordinates to locate patient(s).
- e. Truck/Equipment maintenance: None for May.

XVII. Board Member Comments and Input –

XVIII. New Business –

- 1. True Green estimate for township has not yet been received.

XIX. Old Business –

- 1. Email from attorney regarding Fire Department was given to board members by Shearer.
- 2. ARPA – nothing new to report
- 3. Wake Limitations on all Lakes. Follow up-gentlemen did not attend the PB meeting.

XX. Adjournment – Next meeting July 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm

- 1. **Motion** to adjourn at 10:14 pm by Nichol, supported by Shoemaker, motion carried.