



LIVONIA TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWN HALL
FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Supervisors present: Hass, Kuker and Pool.

Staff present: Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Fiedler, Maintenance Superintendent Kelly, Parks and Cemetery Superintendent Aubart

Chairman Hass called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance: the assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2 Approve Regular Meeting Agenda: Pool/Kuker unanimous to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda with the addition of Item 5.4 Broadband Letter of Recommendation Request from Sherburne County.

1.3 Approve Consent Agenda: Hass/Pool unanimous to approve Consent Agenda Item A) January 23, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes; Item B) January 30, 2023 Workshop Meeting Minutes.

1.4 Fire Report: Chief Maloney presented the January Calls for Service as follows: 11 medical assist; 4 motor vehicle personal injury accident; 1 carbon monoxide; 1 fire alarm; 1 vehicle fire; 1 residential garage fire – Livonia; 1 fire mutual aid. Kuker asked Maloney for the accident report for HWY 169/CR 4.

1.5 Sheriff's Report: Sgt. Wilson provided the Sheriff's report: there were 290 calls for service in January in Livonia Township including 6 motor vehicle accidents, 18 medicals, 43 traffic stops, 99 security checks, 15 extra patrol requests, and the rest of the calls were for miscellaneous reasons. There were no concerns for Livonia Township. Kuker asked what the security checks were. Sgt. Wilson explained that there is a deputy who checks businesses for security.

1.6 Engineering Updates: Engineer Davis unable to attend the meeting, Hass commented that we are still planning on opening bids for the 2023 road project on March 16th.

1.7 Planning Commission Report: Representative Hass stated he would give his report during his Supervisor Report.

1.8 Park Committee: Kuker – reported that the Board had decided that they would like to have an Open House to allow the residents to weigh in on what they would like to have in the parks. Lila Spencer suggested a picnic with the Open House, serving hot dogs, etc. Discussion about help from a Booster Club.

1.9 Road Report: Kelly provided the road report for the period January 14, 2023 through February 17, 2023:

Vehicles:

Truck 36 - added coolant.

Truck 43 - replaced belly blades, added coolant.

Truck 44 - replaced front plow pivot bolt (sheared off), replaced wing lever bolt.

Tractor - had new tires installed, rebuilding 3-point ditch mower.

Road Maintenance

Throughout township: Plowed snow. Hauled loads of sand from County. Sanded and salted roads during ice storm. Plowed snow. Benched snowbanks throughout Township and pushed back cul-de-sacs. Scraped roads. Applied one round of cold patch throughout Township.

Woodlands Sub-Division: Opened drains. Benched banks. Pushed back roadways, Scraped roads.

Shop Office

Met with Midco and obtained pricing for internet and phones for Public Works and Fire Chief's offices, and Town Hall office phones. They waive installation fees of \$500 for each building. Copy of quote will be provided.

General maintenance and keeping shop clean.



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Sand Shed

sand in/sand out.

Hass mentioned that a check was issued tonight for salt/sand of approximately \$7,500. He commented that we have used a lot more salt/sand this year than in most years. Kelly said that this year we have used a lot more due to the snow and ice storms that we have had.

1.10 Park and Cemetery Report: Aubart provided the following report: Reporting Period January 22nd, 2023 to February 23rd, 2023

Parks Maintenance:

Attended Watershed meeting January 31, 2023 at Becker History Center. Contacted Midwest Machinery for price quotes on a blower and brush cutter.

North Point – no activity

Sugar Bush Preserve – no activity

Cemetery Maintenance:

Livonia Township Cemetery – cleared cemetery driveway.

Other Duties:

Plowed snow

Hauled salt/sand

Scraped roads

Tractor tires purchase and mounted on Jon Deer 5083 February 1st

New shock absorbers installed on truck #41

New door latch installed on 1995 Chevy 1-ton truck

Cold patch applied throughout the township

Faulty alternator replaced on Ford New Holland 6640 tractor

Opened drains in the Woodland.

Aubart also reported that he researched a blower and brushes for the skid loader.

1.11 Consideration of Interim Appointment to Supervisor A: Butch/Pool unanimous to appoint Harold Kluge to the Interim Supervisor A Position.

2.1 96th Street Plowing: Hass reported that he spoke to the Stanford Township Chair about maintaining their 1-mile portion of 96th Street. The Stanford Chair acknowledged that our roads are in better shape than theirs. They plan to change their routes so that 96th Street is cleared sooner, and then they will go back and plow it again.

2.2 Request for Variance – ZimVet: Josh Krenz present to request support for the Variance. ZimVet is seeking a Variance from HWY 169 to expand their building and business. Krenz explained that the building has wetland constraints, and they need parking area, so the only way to expand is to the west, closer to the highway. Hass/Pool unanimous to approve recommendation for the Variance request.

The Findings of Fact considerations for the Variance were asked and answered as follows:

- 1. Granting the Variance will not be in conflict with the Comprehensive Plan:* the comprehensive plan allows for growth, and they aren't changing the use they are just changing the building size due to growth
- 2. Exceptional or extraordinary circumstances apply to the property which do not apply generally to other properties in the same district, and result from lot size or shape, topography, or other circumstances over which the owners of property since enactment of the relevant Ordinance have had no control:* yes, this property was built with wetlands surrounding that adding on towards the highway is the only way they can go



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3. *The literal interpretation of the provisions of this Ordinance would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in the same district under the terms of this Ordinance:* other property owners are closer to the road and are on higher ground
4. *The exceptional or extraordinary circumstances do not result from the actions of the current or previous owners under the current Ordinance or State Law:* The building was purchased in 2014 and there is a lot of wetland/lowland circumstances
5. *The variance requested is the minimum variance which would alleviate the practical difficulty:* yes, they are only asking 12' and MNDOT doesn't have any issues
6. *The variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality and there would be no significant effect on the surrounding properties:* yes, the building is in a commercial district and will be essentially the same.
7. *Adequate sewage treatment systems can be provided if the variance is granted:* the septic is compliant, and this addition will not increase septic use.
8. *Granting the variance will not result in the parking or loading of vehicles on public streets in such a manner as to interfere with the free flow of traffic of the streets because the driveway is inadequate length or width:* there will be no impact they are on a private road, the parking lot will also be improved
9. *If a shoreland variance, it will not be a greater height or lesser shoreline setback than what is typical for the area immediately surrounding the development site:* NA
10. *The variance will not increase loss of sunlight, views, or privacy of the neighboring properties:* the property will be of a similar height of neighboring properties and will not impede views, sunlight, or privacy of the neighboring properties.
11. *Economic considerations or circumstances shall not be considered so long as the reasonable use of the property exists under the terms of the Ordinance:* they are looking to expand their services to the community not to sell it.

2.3 Wild West 5K Approval: Lynda Bouley present to request permission to hold the Annual Wild West 5K partially on Livonia Township roads. Bouley stated that she has already obtained the required permit from Sherburne County Parks to use Grams Park for the event. Hass/Pool unanimous to approve the use of Livonia Township roads for the Wild West 5k.

2.4 Princeton Clay Target Club Request for Raffle: Hass/Pool unanimous to approve request.

3.0 Open Forum: No one present for Open Forum

4.1 Clerk/Treasurer Report: Items of interest during the past month include: the office is working on the yearly audit information.

4.2 Approve payment of claims: Kuker/Pool unanimous to approve payment of claims and payroll totaling \$71,514.21 as submitted from Bremer Bank, to cover check number 21175 through 21212, and Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) #141-143 (February) Federal, State, and PERA withholding tax and debit card payments.

4.3 Supervisor Reports: Kuker – reported on updates to the HWY 169/CR 4 interchange, including a frontage road across the east side of the affected private properties. The project is gaining traction in the House and Senate. There are grant opportunities that are being explored. Kuker also reported on the EDA meeting. The projection is that 49% of the population in the area will be 65+ years old. Hass – gave his Planning Commission report: there was a simple plat recommendation for approval. He also stated that he met with Planning and Zoning Waytaschek. Pool – reported that the City will reconstruct 269th Ave this summer, the portion that is their responsibility per the Border Road Agreement. Bids have come in lower than they expected.



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5.1 Approve Proposed 2024 Ley for Presentation at Annual Meeting: Hass/Kuker unanimous to approve as presented.

5.2 Approve Annual Meeting Agenda: Hass/Kuker unanimous to Approve the Annual Meeting Agenda as presented.

5.3 Midco Phones/Internet: Maintenance Superintendent Kelly presented the estimate from Midco. Hass asked that the yearly cost is calculated and presented to see how it would affect the budget. Pool/Kuker unanimous to not obtain an estimate from Windstream.

5.4 Broadband Letter of Support: Pool/Kuker unanimous to direct Hammre to write a letter of support for Charter Communications Border to Border Broadband Application through Sherburne County.

Hass adjourned the meeting at 8:08pm.

Approved this 27th day of March 2023.

Chairman or Vice Chairman

Clerk/Treasurer or Deputy Clerk/Treasurer