

HAYES TOWNSHIP
MINUTES JANUARY 14, 2025, GENERAL MEETING

Board Members Present: Mary Sanders, Supervisor; Richard Ross, Clerk; Jessie Geiger, Treasurer; Brad Kilbourn, Trustee, and Lisa Daly, Trustee.

Visitors Present: 18

CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Mary Sanders called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes were reviewed from the December 10, 2024, meeting. Motion by Lisa Daly and seconded by Brad Kilbourn to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial report, showing income of \$103,734.96 (including \$47,273.00 State of Michigan revenue share) and expenditures of \$38,467.17 (including \$17,500.00 NEMCOG/Master Plan contract) was reviewed. (Complete financial report is attached.) Motion by Richard Ross and seconded by Lisa Daly to approve the financial report as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION OF BILLS TO BE PAID:

U.S. Treasury EFTPS	Federal withholding	3,017.54
Mid-North Printing, Inc.	Newsletter	287.50
Cutting Edge Computers	Anti-virus	239.94
Greg Tobias	Snowplowing	450.00
Johnson Oil Company	Town Hall Propane	503.80
Charter Communications	Town Hall Phone/Internet	139.98
Boy Scouts of America Troop 122	Mowing contract balance for 2024	1,500.00
Jessie Geiger	Reimbursement	216.00
MTA	BOR training	400.00
Otsego County Historical Society	Annual contribution for 2024	200.00
Richard Ross	Reimbursement	102.00
Payroll		<u>11,193.43</u>
Total		\$18,250.19

Motion by Jessie Geiger and seconded by Brad Kilbourn to pay the bills as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Dana Wingo, Christi Sortor, and Rob Weaver reported on highlights of the Commissioners' meeting.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS:

Master Plan Committee, Grant, Survey: The Committee will commence meetings January 27, 2025, to review the survey.

Road Plans: Mary Sanders reported that she has been in discussions with the Road Commission regarding the cost of Mt. Frederick Road improvements. The Road Commission has plans to

improve only one portion of the road, Deward Road to Nicklaus Road. The Township would like to propose the Road Commission include all of Mt. Frederick Road in the plans.

2025 Calendar Dates: The March meeting has been changed to March 18th and the July meeting has been changed to July 9th.

NEW BUSINESS:

DNR Lands Open for Lease: The Township has been notified through correspondence dated January 7, 2025, and Notice of Intent to Lease Land for Solar Development, that the DNR is proposing leasing State-owned lands for a Utility Scale Solar Project in Hayes Township. Many audience members in attendance voiced concerns and questions regarding the proposed lease of State lands and whether this is part of the proposed RWE solar project.

DNR Public Hearing Request: Following discussion, a motion was made by Richard Ross, seconded by Jessie Geiger, to request the DNR to hold a public hearing regarding proposed leasing of State-owned lands for solar and/or other purposes. Motion passed unanimously.

Property Exemption: Motion by Lisa Daly, seconded by Brad Kilbourn, to adopt the 2025 updated guidelines for property tax exemptions. Motion passed unanimously.

Poverty Levels: Motion by Jessie Geiger, seconded by Lisa Daly, to adopt the 2025 federal guidelines for income levels for poverty exemptions. Motion passed unanimously.

Assessing Report: Mary Sanders presented an analysis of equalized valuation of property in Hayes Township.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS & COMMENTS-BOARD MEMBERS:

None

Meeting adjourned: 7:30 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 6:00 PM.

Richard Ross, Clerk