

**Erie Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Erie, Michigan**

November 15, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Erie Township Board was held Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at the Erie Township Fire Hall, 2048 Manhattan St. Erie, Michigan. Township Supervisor Gary Wilmoth called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The roll was called, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited. Prayer provided by Danny Taylor.

Gary Wilmoth, Supervisor – Present  
Cindy Wisbon, Treasurer- Present  
Kimberly Cousino, Clerk- Present  
Steve Mishka, Trustee – Present  
Paul Perry, Trustee – Present

Also present was Township Attorney Phil Goldsmith and recording secretary, Jackie Cowdrey

**B. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 1) Minutes approval from October 11, 2022, Regular Meeting & Public Hearing; October 27, 2022, Special Meeting & Public Hearing
- 2) Building Report; October 2022
- 3) Treasurer’s Report, October 2022
- 4) Revenue and Expense Report, October 2022
- 5) Police Report; October 2022

C. Wisbon motioned to approve items 1 – 5 waiving the reading. P. Perry supported the motion. Motion carried.

**C. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1) Minutes from October 18, 2022, Planning Commission Meeting
- 2) Alexandria Dieck – Bodman PLC.
- 3) County Road Association of Michigan
- 4) Email from Citizen RE: Erie Rd. & Telegraph Intersection
- 5) DTE electric Company

6) Emily Mason & Melanie Leckler – Zorn Properties LLC

K. Cousino motioned to approve items 1-6 waiving the reading. P. Perry supported.  
Motion Carried.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Diane LaPlante 1324 Sterns Rd asked a question about minutes being drafted opposed to approved minutes.

**E. BUSINESS:**

**1) Bills Approval:**

C. Wisbon made the motion to approve checks #35847 - #35939 from the general fund including payroll and ACH & EFT in the amount of \$119,116.12. Nothing from the Trust and Agency account. K. Cousino supported the motion. Roll was called. P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes, C. Wisbon – yes. Motion carried.

**2) HVAC Preventative Maintenance Contract with American Heating & Cooling:**

K. Cousino motioned to enter into agreement with American Heating & Cooling for HVAC Preventative Maintenance at \$69.00 per unit. P. Perry Supported. Roll Called. C. Wisbon – yes, P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion carried.

**3) Morin Point Fire Department New Hire: Nicholas Montes:**

C. Wisbon motioned to approve the new hire Nicholas Montes to Morin Point Fire Department with standard probationary period. K. Cousino Supported. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:**

Erica Shell spoke on behalf of Alexandria Dieck and their clients that are property owners in the township, regarding large scale solar development on agricultural zoned property. Ms. Shell stated that the masterplan emphasizes Erie as being primarily rural. She also stated that people with a conflict of interest should abstain from voting on this subject.

Phil Goldsmith, Erie Township Attorney, stated that any conflict of interest should be disclosed. Any option entered in, by landowner would be a conflict.

Supervisor Gary Wilmoth stated that he would not be selling and ground in Erie to be developed into solar.

Melanie Leckler 4670 Cousino Rd. spoke in favor of the current solar ordinance, keeping large solar development as special use on agricultural zoned property.

David Cowdrey 11001 Victory Rd spoke regarding May 10<sup>th</sup> minutes where Mr. Wilmoth stated he would abstain from voting. Mr. Cowdrey spoke regarding Senate Bill 1106 and 1107.

Dan Wisbon 2970 Morin Point spoke regarding property rights.

George Correia 2450 Sterns Rd spoke regarding the planning commission

Manny Evola 2000 Matty Dr spoke in regards to and in favor of the planning commission's recommendation to the board to remove special use for large solar development on agricultural zoned property.

Paul Wohlfath 13244 S. County Line spoke regarding the revenue the community receives from solar farms.

Sandy Dobbs 9845 Lorden Dr spoke about taxes on industrial solar vs tax on ag solar.

Randy Whipple 3844 Cousino stated that board members were voted in for the people.

Kristine Stofka 1008 Rauch Rd spoke against large solar development as special use on agricultural zoned property.

Adam Leckler 12999 S. Telegraph Rd spoke in favor of allowing large solar development as special use on agricultural zoned property

Theresa Pobee-Mensah 2147 E. Erie Rd spoke against large solar development as special use on agricultural zoned property.

#### **4) Zoning Ordinance Amendment to Ordinance No. 117 – Solar Power Plants**

K. Cousino motioned to accept the zoning ordinance amendment to Erie Township Zoning Ordinance No. 117 – Solar Power Plants, as presented and as recommended by the Planning Commission. S. Mishka Supported. Roll Called. S. Mishka – yes, G. Wilmoth – No, P. Perry – No, C. Wisbon – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion carried, majority in favor.

#### **F. Public and Board Member Comment:**

None currently.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

K. Cousino made the motion to adjourn at 8:03 pm. P. Perry Supported. All in favor.  
Meeting adjourned.

Jackie Cowdrey  
Recording Secretary

Kimberly Cousino  
Clerk