

Erie Township Board
Regular Meeting and Public Hearing
Erie, Michigan

October 11, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Erie Township Board was held Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at the Erie Township Hall, 2065 Erie Rd. 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- Absent - Excused
Kimberly Cousino, Clerk- Present
Steve Mishka, Trustee – Present
Paul Perry, Trustee – Present

Also present was recording secretary, Jackie Cowdrey

B. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1) Minutes approval from September 13, 2022, Regular Meeting
- 2) Building Report, September 2022
- 3) Treasurer’s Report, September 2022
- 4) Revenue and Expense Report, September 2022
- 5) Police Report, September 2022

K. Cousino motioned to accept the consent agenda waiving the reading and the addition of items 12, 13, and 14 to Business. P. Perry supported the motion. Motion Carried.

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) Email from Luna Pier Mayor Jim Gardener
- 2) Charter Communications
- 3) Michigan Department of Treasury
- 4) Letter from Alexandria Dieck from Bodman PLC
- 5) The Nature Conservancy
- 6) Consumers Energy

K. Cousino motioned to approve and place on file correspondence items 1-6 waiving the reading. P. Perry supported. Motion Carried.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Attorney Christian Horkey introduced himself as a candidate for 1st District Judge of Monroe County

Diane La Plante thanked the Erie Police Department and Erie Fire Department regarding a situation that occurred at her home. Special thanks to Officer Jason Derwoed of the Erie Police Department and Dave Kehres of the Erie Fire Department.

Steve Harrison 3024 Morin Point asked the board about Air BNB regulations and asked the board to consider adding Air BNB regulations regarding safety issues.

E. BUSINESS:

1) Bills Approval:

K. Cousino made the motion to approve checks #35795 - #35846 from the general fund including payroll and ACH & EFT in the amount of \$65,114.70. Checks #1654 - #1663 from the Trust and Agency account in the amount of \$144.16. S. Mishka supported the motion. Roll was called. P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion Carried.

2) Public Hearing Matty Drive Special Assessment District:

P. Perry made the motion to close the Regular Board Meeting at 7:07 PM. K. Cousino supported. Motion Carried.

P. Perry made the motion to open the Public Hearing for Matty Drive Special Assessment District at 7:08 PM. S. Mishka supported. Motion Carried.

The current ten-year assessment is expiring this year. Cost is \$200.00 per parcel per year. Savings account balance as of September 30, 2022 is \$3,222.33.

Sharon Grodi- 2060 Matty Dr. spoke regarding a farmer that is using Matty Drive to access field with heavy farm equipment and asked if the farmer could be required to pay the assessment as well.

Discussion was held regarding easement that is no longer able to be used.

Tim Nadolny - 2010 Matty Dr. stated that the farmer that is using Matty Dr. could access his field from Erie Rd.

Kim Harman - 2030 Matty Dr. spoke regarding Matty Dr. recently being re-paved and not wanting equipment to damage it.

Board Members to follow up regarding easement usage and rights.

The second public hearing for the Matty Drive Assessment will be held on October 27, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at a special meeting.

P. Perry made the motion to close the Public Hearing for Matty Dr. Special Assessment District at 7:15 pm. S. Mishka supported. Motion Carried.

K. Cousino made the motion to open Regular Meeting at 7:16 pm. P. Perry supported. Motion Carried.

3) Resolution for Matty Drive Special Assessment District:

K. Cousino made the motion to adopt the Resolution for Matty Drive Special Assessment District as presented, waiving the reading. P. Perry supported. Roll Called. S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes, P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes. Motion Carried.

4) Schedule Second Public Hearing for Matty Drive Special Assessment District:

K. Cousino made the motion to schedule the second public hearing for Matty Drive Special Assessment District for Thursday October 27, 2022, at 7:00 pm at Erie Township Hall. P. Perry Supported. Roll Called. P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion Carried.

5) MPFD New Hire: Hunter Heaban:

K. Cousino made the motion to approve the Morin Point Fire Department new hire, Hunter Heaban, with standard probationary period. S. Mishka supported. Motion Carried.

6) Resolution Declaring November as Family Court Awareness Month:

K. Cousino motioned to adopt the Resolution Declaring November as Family Court Awareness Month as presented. S. Mishka supported. Motion Carried.

7) Ottawa Shores Pre-Approval for Permits:

Greg Bixler from Ottawa Shores Association was present to explain his request that any building and zoning permit applications filed with the township must be accompanied by a stamp of approval from the Ottawa Shores Trustees. Mr. Bixler stated that the association has had trouble with residents in the community obtaining building permits that do not comply with their association by-laws, therefore the association has accumulated legal and court fees; he feels this pre-approval process will eliminate issues that they have had. Discussion was held.

K. Cousino motioned to approve the request from the Ottawa Shores Homeowners Association to pre-approve construction projects in the Ottawa Shores Homeowners Association area for zoning or building permits which would affect the exterior, footprint of the structure(s), or property site. P. Perry supported. Roll Called. P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion Carried.

8) Erie Township Police Department New Hire: Marc Gaynier:

Chief Tim Ames spoke regarding Marc Gaynier’s background as a Police Officer. Marc would be part time working 1-2 days a week and paid according to the part time pay structure. Mr. Gaynier would be available to work evenings and weekends.

P. Perry motioned to approve the Hiring of Marc Gaynier as a Part Time Officer for the Erie Police Department. S. Mishka supported. Roll Called. S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes, P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes. Motion Carried.

9) VFW Santa Parade Local Road Closure Request:

VFW Santa Parade will be held on December 10, 2022, from 11:00 am – 11:45 am. The Fire Departments and Erie Police Department will be in the parade and assisting with the road closures. The parade starts at St. Joseph’s Church, continues to Dixie Hwy, then to Erie Rd, and ends at Erie VFW.

K. Cousino made the motion to approve the VFW Santa Parade local road closure request on December 10, 2022 from 11:00 am – 11:45 am as presented. P. Perry supported. Roll Called. G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes, P. Perry – yes. Motion Carried.

10) VFW Santa Parade State Highway Road Closure Request:

K. Cousino motioned to approve the VFW Santa Parade state highway road closure request for Dixie Hwy on December 10, 2022 from 11:00 am – 11:45 am as presented. P. Perry supported. Roll Called. P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion Carried.

11) VFW Santa Parade Resolution:

K. Cousino motioned to accept the VFW Santa Parade Resolution as presented, waiving the reading. P. Perry Supported. Roll Called. G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes, P. Perry – yes. Motion Carried.

12) Erie Fire Department Request to Purchase an Engine:

Chief Emanuel Billegas spoke regarding the purchase of a new fire engine to replace a 31-year-old truck that is currently in service. Three bids were obtained, their truck

committee is requesting the engine be purchased from Sutphen, at a price of \$693,435.39 with an additional \$20,000.00 requested for changes or modifications that may occur during the build period. Board questioned financing options. Chief Billegas stated that if paid in full a 1.75% discount would be given which would be \$12,580.10; payment would be due on delivery which is approximately 28-30 months out. Sutphen bid is good until December 15, 2022. Discussion was held. Chief Billegas to contact Sutphen regarding financing and payment options as well as contract and purchase agreement.

K. Cousino motioned to approve the Erie Fire Department to approve the purchase of the engine from Sutphen, not to exceed \$714,000.00 and to review payment options on October 27, 2022 special meeting. P. Perry supported the motion. Roll Called. P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – abstained, K. Cousino – yes. Motion Carried.

13) Solar Moratorium:

Current Solar Moratorium expires on November 10, 2022.

K. Cousino motioned to extend the solar moratorium on large solar arrays until December 1, 2022. P. Perry supported. Roll Called. G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, P. Perry – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion Carried.

14) Township Copy Machine Lease:

K. Cousino motioned to enter into lease agreement with Perry Pro for Township printer and copy machine at \$285.65 per month for five years. P. Perry supported. Roll Called. P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:

K. Cousino spoke regarding election on November 8, 2022. Morin Point Fire Department is Precinct 1 and Erie Township Hall is Precinct 2. The next board meeting will be held on November 15, 2022.

S. Mishka encouraged everyone to read the proposals that will be on the ballot in November. Reminded the public that the Planning Meeting on October 18, 2022 will be held at the Erie Fire Department.

ADJOURNMENT:

P. Perry made the motion to adjourn at 7:56 pm. K. Cousino supported. Meeting adjourned.

Jackie Cowdrey
Recording Secretary

Kimberly Cousino
Clerk