

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

May 19, 2023  
*with corrections*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The special meeting of the Erie Township Board was held Friday, May 19, 2023, at the Erie Township Hall, 2065 Erie Rd. Erie, Michigan. Township Supervisor Gary Wilmoth called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm. The roll was called, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

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

**B. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1) Compensation Commission Recommendation:**

P. Perry moved supported by Steve Mishka to accept the compensation committee’s recommendation for the township board official’s compensation as presented. Roll called; P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – no, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes, C. Wisbon – yes. Motion carried, majority in favor.

**2) 2023 – 2024 Budget Workshop:**

Erie Township Police Chief Tim Ames was present; discussion was held about department needs, expanding coverage hours, and wages.

Morin Point Fire Department Chief Patrick Zaleski and Erie Fire Department Chief Manuel Billegas were present; MPFD expects their fire truck to be completed in December 2023, EFD fire truck is expected in 2027, both departments will need to budget for an upgraded or new reporting system, discussion held over fireman fees, the fire equipment millage expires after the ~~2024~~ 2023 tax collection.

Discussion was held over employee wages and following the compensation committee’s recommendation of a 4% raise for employees, increasing the township secretary to \$17/hour, increasing police officers’ hourly rate by \$1.50, increasing the committee per

diem meeting by \$10 per meeting, and increasing the hourly rate to \$18/hour for board of review. G. Wilmoth stated he will request a salary of \$25,000 instead of the \$47,934.64 recommended by the compensation commission.

**3) Police Vehicles:**

P. Perry moved supported by S. Mishka to approve the purchase of a 2023 Ford Utility Interceptor police vehicle, ARPA funds will be used to purchase and outfit the vehicle, which is not to exceed \$62,000. Motion carried on a roll call vote, all in favor.

K. Cousino moved, supported by P. Perry to approve the repairs to the 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe, police vehicle, as presented by Downriver Auto Service, not to exceed \$3,500. Roll called; P. Perry – yes, G. Wilmoth – yes, S. Mishka – no, K. Cousino – yes, C. Wisbon – yes. Motion carried, majority in favor.

**4) Review Attorney Proposals Received:**

Gary stated he would work with Kim to meet with the attorneys that submitted proposals; some points to take into consideration are the firm’s location and the possibility of needing to appear in local county court, hourly rate, response time, and municipal law practice.

**5) Township Secretary:**

K. Cousino moved, supported by P. Perry to hire Renee Humes to fill the part time secretary position, at a rate of \$17.00/hour. Motion carried on a roll call vote, all in favor.

**6) ARPA Funds:**

The board will continue to research the use and allocation of funds.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

P. Perry moved, supported by S. Mishka to adjourn at 4:29 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Kimberly Cousino  
Clerk