

Erie Township Board
Special Meeting, Board Workshop
Erie, Michigan

January 6, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The special meeting, board workshop of the Erie Township Board was held Saturday, January 6, 2024 at the Erie Township Hall, 2065 Erie Rd. Erie, Michigan. Township Supervisor Michael Grodi called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. The roll was called, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

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

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

C. NEW BUSINESS:

1) BOARD WORKSHOP:

Discussion was held on various topics, including:

Digital sign: Proposed site is where the current Erie Fire Department marquee is. Ideal aesthetics would be to have the sign installed in new pillars to match the brick exterior of both the township hall and fire department.

Road improvements, maintenance: Monroe County Road Commission has supplied recommended local, primary, and private road maintenance along with estimated costs. Conversations with private road special assessment districts should be arranged to discuss MCRC recommendations and develop a maintenance plan. Creating a best practice template when handling safety or emergency issues on private roads will allow for the board to act on correcting the issue in a timely manner; include an appropriate statement and spending limit in resolutions when renewing/creating a district. (ie: urgent/safety matters; a sink hole, traffic sign replacement, etc.)

Define rolls, job descriptions, expectations of board members.

Board meetings, agendas: No public comment will be taken or acknowledge outside of the public comment section of the agenda, comments and questions are directed to the supervisor/chairman.

Budget: Zero-based budgeting by department is best practice. Every department head will meet with two board members or during a board work-shop to discuss their respective budget, including every revenue and expenditure (large and small). Preparations should begin for revenue loss when the landfill closes.

Downtown improvements, infrastructure expansion, attract development: The downtown improvement/beautification project is moving along, the committee is working with Mannik and Smith Group and Consumers Energy, a bid package is actively being assembled. Engage with the drain commissioner to discuss the possibility of expanding infrastructure, such as sewers, north on Dixie Hwy. from Sterns Rd. to Mason Schools, this would make development more enticing and benefit the schools outdated on-site system. Direct the planning commission to engage a planner to plan for controlled growth and development, focus separately on downtown development and lakefront development.

Annual/Bi-annual inspection, survey of township property: The township board should inspect every township owned building and property, document and address any maintenance issue or necessary improvements. Best practice would be to schedule an on-site visit with respective department heads and attend park commission walk through in the spring.

Communication with residents: Create a QR code for the township website. Replace the current white board in the township vestibule with a permanent board, affixed to the wall.

D. PUBLIC AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:

M. Grodi stated he would like to continue these workshops on a consistent basis, considering quarterly.

E. ADJOURNMENT:

P. Perry moved, supported by K. Cousino to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Meeting adjourned.

Kimberly Cousino, Clerk