

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

December 10, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Erie Township Board was held Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at the Erie Township Hall, 2065 Erie Rd. Erie, Michigan. Supervisor Michael Grodi called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The roll was called, and the Pledge of Allegiance recited. Prayer was led by Danny Taylor.

Michael Grodi, Supervisor - Present
Cindy Wisbon, Treasurer - Present
Kimberly Cousino, Clerk - Present
Steve Mishka, Trustee - Present
Manny Evola, Trustee - Present

Also present was recording secretary, Jackie Cowdrey.

B. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1) Minutes Approval of November 12, 2024, Regular Meeting; November 12, 2024, Closed Session; November 25, 2024, Special Meeting
- 2) Building Report; November 2024
- 3) Treasurer's Report, November 2024
- 4) Revenue and Expense Report, November 2024
- 5) Police and Fire Reports; November 2024

K. Cousino motioned to approve items 1-5 waiving the reading. C. Wisbon supported. All in favor. Motion Carried.

C. Wisbon motioned to remove item #7 from Business agenda. M. Grodi supported. All in favor. Motion Carried.

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) Michigan Department of Treasury
- 2) South County Water Department
- 3) State Representative Dale Zorn
- 4) Monroe County Road Commission

- 5) Lennard, Graham & Goldsmith
- 6) ARPA Funds Activity

C. Wisbon motioned to approve items 1-6 waiving the reading. K. Cousino supported. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Grodi spoke regarding the Thank You letter from State Representative, Dale Zorn.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brandy Sedlock Matz, 1130 Lotus Dr, Questioned the board about how the process works for the previous agenda item actions.

Kelly Tuller, Superintendent for Mason Consolidated Schools, made the public aware of the upcoming Craft Show on December 14 from 12pm – 4pm as well as the Madrigal Performance Dinner Show that will be on December 14 at 6pm and December 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Sandy Dobbs, 9845 Lorden Dr, asked if sewer expansion was included in the budget. Ms. Dobbs also spoke regarding the potential purchases of 2029 and 2037 Manhattan. Ms. Dobbs questioned the functionality, staffing, and usage of these buildings.

E. BUSINESS:

1) Resolution and recognition of Parker Campbell:

The board congratulated Parker Campbell for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout and thanked him for constructing benches and ADA accessible picnic tables for Erie Township Parks.

C. Wisbon moved supported by K. Cousino to accept the resolution and recognition of Parker Campbell as presented and read. Motion carried.

2) Bills Approval:

C. Wisbon moved supported by K. Cousino approve checks #37719 - #37827 from the general fund including payroll and ACH & EFT in the amount of \$261,487.58. Checks #1760 - #1761 from the Trust and Agency account in the amount of \$780.00. Roll called; C. Wisbon – yes, M. Evola – yes, M. Grodi – yes, S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes. Motion carried.

3) 2025 – 2026 Liability Insurance Renewal:

K. Cousino moved supported by S. Mishka to approve the 2025 – 2026 liability insurance renewal with the amendment to the coverage for the 2024 Sutphin to be covered for \$750,000. Motion Carried.

4-5) Purchase Agreements for 9796 Dixie Hwy & 2029 + 2037 Manhattan:

Discussion was held over the separate purchase agreements presented for 9796 Dixie Hwy and 2029 + 2037 Manhattan.

S. Mishka moved supported by K. Cousino to table at this time and to schedule a public hearing regarding the possible purchases of 9796 Dixie Hwy and 2029 + 2037 Manhattan. Motion carried.

6) 1130 Lotus Dr.:

K. Cousino moved supported by S. Mishka to proceed as recommended by attorney Jeff Osment, to demolish the what is remaining of 1130 Lotus Dr. to be done by Devos excavating in the amount of \$9,800.00. Roll called; S. Mishka – yes, K. Cousino – yes, C. Wisbon – yes, M. Evola – yes, M. Grodi – yes. Motion carried

7) Resolution Establishing the 2025 Regular Board Meeting Dates:

M. Evola moved supported by C. Wisbon to accept the resolution setting the 2025 regular board meeting dates as the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., with the exception of January 21, 2025, being the third Tuesday of January and November 11, 2025, bring the second Wednesday of November. Motion carried.

8) CINTAS:

K. Cousino moved supported by C. Wisbon to reject CINTAS contract. Motion carried.

9) Hardship Resolution:

M. Evola moved supported by C. Wisbon to accept the 2025 hardship resolution as presented. Motion carried.

10) Resignation from Renee Humes:

C. Wisbon moved supported by K. Cousino to accept the resignation from Renee Humes as the township secretary with regrets. Motion carried.

11) Resolution to support local control and claim of appeal against Michigan Public Service Commission Order:

M. Evola moved supported by S. Mishka to accept the resolution to support local control and claim of appeal against Michigan Public Service Commission Order as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:

Sandy Dobbs spoke regarding PPI funds, questioned a board workshop regarding transparency and ethics. She also asked about the sewer extension agreement.

Jen Dusseau 3131 Morin Point asked the public to give the board a chance and that population in Erie is down 2,000 residents.

Brandy Sedlock Matz asked what the properties that the township will possibly be purchasing will be used for.

Diane LaPlante spoke regarding residents in attendance, encouraged regular attendance to township meetings.

Shaun Cousino welcomed Manny Evola and spoke about the growth of Erie and encouraged the board to use available committees for input.

Kim Cousino stated that she is looking forward to holding a public forum. Congratulated Parker Campbell on his Eagle Scout ranking and thanked him for his work.

Steve Mishka stated that it was nice to see more people come to the meetings and would love to see the community grow.

Manny Evola stated that he is passionate about the downtown growth and that the more involved residents are the better it will be.

Cindy Wisbon would also like to see the downtown grow.

Mike Grodi stated that the board has given him the authorization to negotiate the purchase of the various properties. Mike stated that character assassination is beneath the township, and he had guidelines within the board and stayed within them.

Dan Wisbon suggested the township use social media to help make the township aware of different things going on.

12) 2023-2024 Audit:

Sarah Rafko with Calkins Hehl Rafko presented the board with the completed 2023-2024 audit findings, stated the township received another clean audit.

K. Cousino moved supported by C. Wisbon to accept the Calkins Hehl Rafko 2023 – 2024 audit as presented. Motion carried.

M. Grodi stated that K. Cousino and C. Wisbon work well together and put a lot of work in for these audits.

Public Comment:

Diane La Plante asked about the CDBG payback. Pointed out that the Building Department made money.

Kris Crammond asked about sewer down Dixie Hwy. M. Grodi stated that there were no letters of commitment from the county yet, but that there is approximately \$5mil from county ARPA funds to fund the project.

Cheryl Vassic 1260 Watson asked about the vehicle on Lotus Dr. She asked about how much longer the landfill will be operating, M. Grodi stated it has 8-10 years left.

ADJOURNMENT:

K. Cousino moved supported by C. Wisbon to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 pm. Meeting adjourned.

Jackie Cowdrey
Recording Secretary

Kimberly Cousino
Clerk