

BLISS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

January 10, 2023

- I. Lechowicz called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
- II. Board members Lechowicz, Byard, Holt and Prout were present.
- III. Appoint Board of Review members – Lechowicz moved that Kelly Kent, Mike Reed and Erayna Paquet be appointed to the Board of Review, with Rodney Searles as an alternate, for a two year term of 2023-2024. Holt seconded the motion. All yes. Board of Review members were sworn in.
- IV. The regular board meeting minutes for December 2022 were presented. Lechowicz moved, with Byard supporting, to approve the minutes as read. All yes.
- V. Treasurer’s Report – Byard presented the treasurer’s report. The total of our bank accounts on December 31, 2022, was \$169,971.37, including ARPA funds of \$34,737.94. This is a correction to the amount of ARPA funds back to the end of September.
- VI. Prout presented the bills to pay for January 2023, totaling \$6,624.61. Another bill of no more than \$300 was presented for plowing. Lechowicz moved, with Holt supporting, to approve payment of the listed and additional bills. All yes.
- VII. Correspondence: 1) Information about Emmet County Public Body SLFRF Project Funding applications was received; 2) A suggested Poverty Exemption Policy was received.
- VIII. Set/Amend Agenda – add Poverty Exemption to New Business
- IX. Public Comment - none
- X. Appearances – none
- XI. Library Report – Kent reported that library programs are going well.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- I. Porch Coverings - Little Traverse Canvas submitted a written quote and answered questions about the curtains. They have an expected life expectancy of 10-15 years. Lechowicz moved, with Holt supporting, to purchase the curtains. There was discussion. Byard, Holt and Lechowicz voted yes; Prout voted no. Motion carried.
- II. Security Cameras - Sunrise Electronics has not submitted a written quote, so it looks like we will accept Anavon’s quote. We will see if county SLFRF funds can be used for this.
- III. Mice – Several mice were caught, but none recently. Hopefully this is resolved for now.
- IV. Lights at the Hall – Lechowicz purchased the bulbs and dimmers needed. He will install them when time permits.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. February Meeting - Lechowicz will not be here. The budget for 2023-2024 will be prepared. Lechowicz moved, with Holt supporting, to increase election worker wages to \$14 per hour and deputy wages to \$15 per hour. All yes.
- II. 2023 Poverty Exemption Policy and Guidelines - Lavender sent a recommendation that the township adopt an income level equaling the federal poverty level plus 20%. This allows the Board of Review more leeway to take individual factors into account. Holt moved, with Lechowicz supporting, to adopt the recommended 2023 Poverty Exemption Policy & Guidelines. All yes.

FYI: There is an ECTA meeting on January 18th at 7pm. at Pleasantview Township Hall.

Public Comment – None

ADJOURNMENT:

Lechowicz moved, with Holt supporting, to adjourn. All yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:20.