

BLISS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

February 13, 2024

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.
- II. Board members Eby, Holt and Prout were present. Fortney was present to fill in for Byard.
- III. The regular board meeting minutes for January were presented. Holt moved, with Eby supporting, to approve the minutes as read. All yes.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Fortney presented the treasurer's report. The total of our bank accounts on January 31, 2024, was \$190,335.90.
- V. Prout presented the bills to be paid, totaling \$3484.66. Eby moved, with Holt supporting, to approve the payment of bills. All yes.
- VI. Correspondence: Michigan Township Participating Plan sent information about nominating representatives for the Board of Directors.
- VII. Set/Amend Agenda – Add St. Ambrose rentals and Surveillance Cameras to Unfinished Business; add Elections to New Business.
- VIII. Public Comment – None
- IX. Appearances – None
- X. Library Report – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- I. St. Ambrose Township Hall Rental - The group has rented the hall for weekends in February. There have been some issues with the group storing items at the hall and not replacing furniture to the proper place. They are still looking for a permanent location.
- II. Surveillance Cameras - The camera for the porch, which covers the drop box, has not been recording properly. Prout has contacted Kuligowski and he is looking into the issue.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. Pellston Fire Department - Lechowicz was contacted about the possibility of contracting with Pellston for Fire Department services. This is in the preliminary stages and no specific information was available.
- II. Poverty Exemption Guidelines - Proposed 2024 Poverty Exemption Policy and Guidelines were presented. Holt moved, with Eby supporting, to pass a resolution to adopt the 2024 Poverty Exemption Policy and Guidelines as proposed. By roll call vote; Ayes: Eby, Holt, Prout. Nays: none. Absent: Byard, Lechowicz. Motion carried.
- III. Budget - Prout moved, with Eby supporting, to amend the current budget as follows: increase Library to \$8151; increase Insurance to \$6745; increase Road Construction to \$89,200. All yes. The board worked on a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. It was proposed that the salaries for treasurer, clerk and supervisor be raised by five percent. Resolutions for these salary changes will be presented at the next meeting.
- IV. Elections - Our election worker wages are lower than many other Emmet County jurisdictions. Prout moved, with Eby supporting, to increase the election inspector wage to \$15 per hour. All yes. Eby moved, with Holt supporting, to allow \$10 per meal per election worker. All yes.

FYI - Due to poor weather, the ECTA meeting was rescheduled for February 21, 7:00pm, at the Little Traverse Township Hall. One land division – Mandi Lloyd

Public Comment – None

ADJOURNMENT: Holt moved, with Eby supporting, to adjourn. All yes. Meeting adjourned at 9:14.