

BLISS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

March 12, 2024

- I. Lechowicz called the meeting to order at 7:15pm.
- II. All board members were present.
- III. The regular board meeting minutes for February were presented. Lechowicz moved, with Eby supporting, to approve the minutes as read. All yes.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Byard presented the treasurer's report. The total of our bank accounts on February 29, 2024, was \$187,928.89.
- V. Prout presented the bills to be paid, totaling \$7,033.10. Lechowicz moved, with Eby supporting, to approve the payment of the bills listed as well as the bills presented for MacArthur Law Firm and treasurer mileage, and to preapprove payment to Board of Review members. All yes.
- VI. Correspondence: 1) We received communication from a resident about the need to improve the township website. 2) Lechowicz received a Certificate of Completion from Emmet County for the township hall roof extension.
- VII. Set/Amend Agenda – None
- VIII. Public Comment – None
- IX. Appearances – None
- X. Library Report – Kent presented a library report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- I. Election - The presidential primary went well. Bliss Township had the third highest percentage of voter turnout in the county. Our surveillance camera records have gaps. Prout will contact Kuligowski again.
- II. Weather Curtains - The damaged curtain has been repaired by the company that installed it.
- III. Budget - Lechowicz moved, with Holt supporting, to modify the 2023-2024 budget as follows: increase Treasurer to \$10,510.00 and increase Elections to \$5,840.00. All yes. The meeting was suspended to go to a public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. Public Hearing - Lechowicz moved, with Holt supporting, to pass a resolution to adopt the FY 2024-2025 Budget as prepared. Anticipated income is \$140,360 and anticipated expenditures are \$179,420. By roll call vote Byard, Eby, Holt, Lechowicz and Prout voted yes. There were no nays or abstentions. Lechowicz called the public hearing to an end; the regular meeting resumed.
- II. MacArthur Law Firm - Lechowicz moved, with Eby supporting, that we retain MacArthur Law Firm for legal representation for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. All yes.
- III. Salary Resolutions - 1) Eby moved, with Lechowicz supporting, to pass a resolution to increase the assessor's annual salary to \$11,856. By roll call vote, all voted yes. 2) Holt moved, with Lechowicz supporting, to increase the treasurer's annual salary to \$8,400. By roll call vote, Holt, Lechowicz, Eby and Prout voted yes. Byard abstained. 3) Lechowicz moved, with Byard supporting, to pass a resolution to increase the clerk's annual salary to \$8,400. By roll call vote, Byard, Holt, Lechowicz and Eby voted yes. Prout abstained. 4) Eby moved, with Prout supporting, to increase the supervisor's annual salary to \$6,510. By roll call vote, Byard, Holt, Eby and Prout voted yes. Lechowicz abstained. All the resolutions passed.
- IV. Land Divisions - It is likely that the number of land divisions will be increasing. Lavender is willing to take over this responsibility at the same rate of pay.
- V. Road Wedging - The Emmet County Road Commission submitted two options for wedging sections of Pleasantview Road. Only one option showed what the cost to the township would be. We will ask for more information.

- VI. Fire Hall Generator - Maintenance service will be done on the generator soon.
- VII. Board of Review - Lechowicz reported that the assessed value of Bliss Township increased by over \$5 million this year and the taxable value increased by more than \$2 million.

FYI - The next ECTA meeting will be held on April 17th at the Littlefield Township Fire Hall at 7pm.

Public Comment - none

Adjournment - Holt moved, with Lechowicz supporting, to adjourn. All yes. Meeting adjourned.