

LaGrange Township Regular Meeting
July 15, 2024

Supervisor Wright called the meeting of the LaGrange Township Board to order at 7:00pm. The meeting was held at the Twp Hall. Pledge of allegiance was given in unison. Roll Call found Supervisor Rob Wright, Treasurer Naomi J. Criswell, Clerk Tasha E. McCoy, Trustee Paul File, and Trustee John Juroff present.

Public Comment opened at 7:00pm. Cass County Commissioner, Mary Howie, informed the Board of the Van Buren/Cass District Board of Health Report and an upcoming Cass County Master Plan Open House at the Road Commission on Wednesday, July 24th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Several neighbors of the Kelsey Lake area reported nuisances, poached wood, camper trailers and traffic trespassing private property. Discussion followed. The LaGrange Township Attorney Kaufman, greeted the Board and advised the Kelsey Lake area homeowners on the next steps. Mr. Ted Gogol of The Lodges at Stone Lake inquired on short-term rentals in LaGrange Township. Undersheriff Roach informed the Board of the upcoming drug millage renewal for the sixth time and its importance to our County. Sheriff Behnke updated the Board on two recent police academy Graduates and four more currently in nearby police academies. A Grant and Cass County funding to support the police academy students has been beneficial to the Cass County Sheriff's Office. Public Comment closed at 7:26pm.

Supervisor Wright made a motion to approve previous meeting minutes of June 17, 2024, seconded by Clerk McCoy, motion approved at 7:27pm.

Treasurer's Report was presented to the Board.

Communications were read by Supervisor Wright, which included a Letter of Resignation from Roger Outlaw II from the LaGrange Township Planning Commission. Treasurer Criswell made a motion to regretfully accept the Letter of Resignation from Roger Outlaw II from the LaGrange Township Planning Commission, seconded by Trustee Juroff, motion carried at 7:28pm.

Trustee File made a motion to approve the Current Month Warrant Report totaling \$82,773.03, seconded by Supervisor Wright, motion carried at 7:29pm.

Supervisor Wright made a motion to approve Resolution No. 9-2024 Legal Services, seconded by Treasurer Criswell, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 7:30pm.

Supervisor Wright made a motion to move the New Business Agenda item "HRP Cassopolis, LLC" to an Old Business Agenda item, seconded by Treasurer Criswell, motion carried at 7:30pm. Attorney Kaufman informed the Board of the recent Court Cases and the request for a motion to settle per the 2023 Circuit Court decision. Treasurer Criswell made a motion to allow the LaGrange Township Attorney to settle the case with HRP Cassopolis, LLC, seconded by Supervisor Wright, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 7:38pm.

Treasurer Criswell made a motion to move the New Business Agenda item "Zoning Administrator Report" to be 1st on New Business Agenda items, seconded by Supervisor Wright, motion carried at 7:40pm. Beth Pompey updated the Board on Zoning cases that included blight cases on Shurte Street and the continuation of the fire damage/blight case along M-60 (next to the fire dept.)

Fire Chief Locke was present and updated the Board on the Fire Department. Supervisor Wright made a motion to table the CCIFD 24/25 Budget to the August 2024 meeting, seconded by Trustee Juroff, motion carried at 7:45pm. The next Fire Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 24th.

Ambulance Services in Cass County were discussed. Ambulance costs have tripled since 2023 and another Newberg Ambulance bill was received and discussed.

Trustee File informed the Board that there was a quorum for the Planning Commission meeting on Thursday, July 11th. Treasurer Criswell made a motion to remove Beth Pompey as the Planning Commission Secretary and Trustee File is Board Liaison and as such he will be the Planning Commission Secretary, seconded by Trustee Juroff, motion carried at 7:59pm.

Electrical/Mechanical/Plumbing/Building Reports were provided to the Board.

Additions were LaGrange Township Website discussion to include the clarification of the flow to the Website Administrator, Kerry Collins. Supervisor Wright made a motion for anything that needs to be published onto the LaGrange Township website must go through Treasurer Criswell and/or Clerk McCoy to the Website Administrator, Kerry Collins, seconded by Trustee File, motion carried at 8:02pm.

With there being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Supervisor Wright made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Treasurer Criswell motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Tasha E. McCoy Tasha E. McCoy, LaGrange Twp. Clerk