

LaGrange Township Regular Meeting
May 20, 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 7:01pm. Dr. James Wierman introduced himself as a Candidate for Cass County Commissioner, District 5. The current Cass County Commissioner, Mary Howie, informed the Board of memorial bricks that may be purchased to support the Bonine House. Undersheriff Clint Roach informed the Board of two new recruits to the Cass County Sheriff's Department and about the recent National Police Officer's Memorial for Shane Britton. Mark Howie greeted the Board with information on his candidacy for Cass County Commissioner 5th District. Ted Gogol inquired on short-term rentals in LaGrange Township and shared an upcoming Baptism to be held at Stone Lake on June 2nd. The Newberg Township Supervisor, Dan Covey, and the Newberg Township Trustee, Keith Griffiths, greeted the Board with concerns of too many ambulance calls that are being covered by Newberg Township Ambulance for SMCAS ambulance service. Detailed information from the Cass County 911 Dispatch and an Ambulance District Map were provided to the Board. A recent ambulance call invoice was given to the Board as well. Discussion followed. Mutual Aid Agreements with surrounding areas was discussed. Public Comment closed at 7:37pm.

Treasurer Criswell made a motion to approve previous meeting minutes of April 15, 2024, seconded by Supervisor Wright, motion approved at 7:37pm.

Treasurer's Report was presented to the Board.

Communications were read by Supervisor Wright.

Trustee File made a motion to approve the Current Month Warrant Report totaling \$33,834.99, seconded by Trustee Juroff, motion carried at 7:40pm.

Supervisor Wright moved "Building Inspector" on the "New Business" section of the Agenda to the top. The LaGrange Township Building Inspector, Rich Drews, greeted the Board and discussed his resignation to take place during the Summer of 2024. Rich Drews introduced Luke Wagner and informed the Board that he has been training with him for several months. Luke Wagner plans to take the Building Official Certification Test June 2024.

The next Fire Board meeting is scheduled for Wed. May 22nd. VHF Radio Frequency used by the Fire Department and Ambulance Services in Cass County was discussed. Niles and SMCAS ambulance service use 800 Radios. Discussion followed.

Ambulance Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 21st.

Clerk McCoy made a motion to request paper invoices and a signed contract from Zoning Solutions by the June 2024 LaGrange Township Board meeting, seconded by Supervisor Wright, motion carried at 7:58pm.

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

Supervisor Wright made a motion to approve a Road Commission Estimate of \$148,000.00 for 1.7 miles of Twin Lakes Road between M-62 and Dutch Settlement Street, seconded by Trustee File, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:19pm.

Clerk McCoy made a motion to approve a Road Commission Estimate No. 24-04-03 for pavement marking of Twin Lakes Road, seconded by Supervisor Wright, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:20pm.

Treasurer Criswell made a motion to approve Resolution #4-2024 Supervisor Salary and Compensation, seconded by Trustee File, by Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 1 Abstain at 8:22pm.

Clerk McCoy made a motion to approve Resolution #5-2024 Treasurer Salary and Compensation, seconded by Supervisor Wright, by Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 1 Abstain at 8:23pm.

Trustee File made a motion to approve Resolution #6-2024 Clerk Salary and Compensation, seconded by Trustee Juroff, by Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 1 Abstain at 8:24pm.

Clerk McCoy made a motion to approve Resolution #7-2024 Trustee Salary and Compensation, seconded by Treasurer Criswell, by Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 1 Abstain at 8:25pm.

Treasurer Criswell made a motion to approve Resolution #8-2024 Appointed Officials/Miscellaneous Salary and Compensation, seconded by Clerk McCoy, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:28pm.

Trustee File made a motion to table Resolution #9-2024 Legal Services to the June 2024 meeting, seconded by Clerk McCoy, by Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes, 2 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:33pm.

Clerk McCoy made a motion to approve Resolution #10-2024 Banking Services, seconded by Supervisor Wright, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:35pm.

Supervisor Wright made a motion to approve Resolution #11-2024 Accounting Services, seconded by Treasurer Criswell, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:36pm.

Supervisor Wright made a motion to approve Resolution #12-2024 Monthly Meeting Dates, seconded by Trustee File, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:38pm.

Trustee File made a motion to approve Resolution #13-2024 Township Fees, seconded by Trustee Juroff, by Roll Call Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:40pm.

Trustee File made a motion to reject the construction of a streetlight at M-62 and Dutch Settlement Street by Indiana-Michigan Power Company due to the monthly cost increasing from when it came before the Board in April 2023, seconded by Treasurer Criswell, by Roll Call Vote: 3 Yes, 2 No, 0 Absent, 0 Abstain at 8:43pm.

Treasurer Criswell had an addition to the Agenda to recommend providing dump passes for blight elimination assistance for LaGrange Township Residents with ARPA Funds. Discussion followed.

With there being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Treasurer Criswell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Juroff, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

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