

TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Eric Schaefer, *Supervisor* / Laura Bouchard, *Treasurer* / Cindy Ordway, *Clerk*
 Curt Campbell, *Trustee* / Ross DeMaagd, *Trustee* / Kim Selleck, *Trustee* / Sandra Rairigh, *Trustee*

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 PO Box 459 - 200 E Main St. - Middleville, MI 49333



REGULAR MEETING

April 8, 2024

1. INVOCATION
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Present Present Present Present	Rairigh: Schaefer: Selleck:	Present Present Present
OTHERS PRESENT:	Chief Bill Richardson, Phil Gensterblum, Commissioner Jon Smelker, Commissioner Catherine Getty, Elizabeth Masserang, Casey Smith, Nate Keyka, Marcus Ringnalda, Lindsay Preslar, Peyton Preslar, Kevin Bull, and Amy Brown.			

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the Printed Agenda as presented.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Rairigh: Schaefer: Selleck:	Yes Yes Yes
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6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: None

7. COUNTY REPORT:

County Commissioner Jon Smelker and Catherine Getty:	Getty – Approved monument surveyors and Materials Management Planning Agency. Next, they will rewrite the plan on waste management. Work progressing on trail in Nashville. Also, will connect to Eaton County. Smelker – Commissioners approved a Resolution Affirming their support for the Constitution and the second amendment. They are also working on a loan to the airport so a terminal can be built. This will work as a matching fund. They have
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	recommended several people to various committees through the county’s Personnel and Human Services Committee. Explained they have abolished the position of county surveyor in favor of hiring an independent contractor as needed. Furthermore, they have approved the expenditure for IT improvements of approximately \$34,000.
Board Response:	Schaefer thanked commissioners for their report.

8. RESERVED TIME:

A. Mid-Villa Development – Nate Heyboer, Marcus Ringnalda, and their associates explained their request for a tax break of \$200,000 total over a 15-year period. They would like to develop the former location of Mid-Villa and build some apartments and have some commercial space as well. Their request is part of a plan implemented by the governor to reach the missing middle’s housing needs so the rents would be income based. The TIFF would need to be approved by all the entities involved: township, DDA, village and county. Bouchard asked how the schools would be impacted by this. The schools’ funds would be reimbursed by the Michigan State Education Fund for any loss of funds due to the TIF. Bouchard thanked them for explaining how that would work.

B. Chief Bill Richardson – The Chief discussed the shortage of medics in the state and the program established to allow Mike Powell and Cas Vugteveen to go to school starting in September 2022. Originally, the program would require them to pay back the funds, however, because of receiving a state grant and funds from TAEF, they did not end of needing to do so. Chief Richardson talked about the amount of time and effort that Powell and Vugteveen put into the classes and how he appreciated it. Powell reiterated the amount of time the program took (66 days off out of 455) and is happy to have completed it.

9. TREASURER’S REPORT: Bouchard said that for the 2023 tax year, they collected 15.5 million dollars. The delinquency rate was only 1.9 percent, which was down from last year. They settled with the county, and everything went well.

10. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT: Chief Richardson provided a recap of the month’s activity. He stated that they are making progress on lowering the township’s ISO rating.

11. PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: There are four new zoning complaints since last month which have been resolved. There was a complaint about several trailers on someone’s property but there is no zoning ordinance regarding that issue so it’s something the ordinance committee will review. There has been one new home build permit issued.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution 08-2024 Gravel Road Dust Control – Schaefer explained the resolution pertains to the dust control that is done each year on some of the gravel roads. Rairigh wondered why it’s needed if the county sends an invoice. Schaefer answered it’s something the county requested we do. Selleck asked if all townships do this. Schaefer said he believes so.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer – Motion to adopt Resolution 8-2024, “Barry County Road Commission Dust Control.”
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Bouchard
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

B. Engine 56 – Chief Richardson said he had received some inquiries about purchasing Engine 56. They’ve asked him what the price is but couldn’t really begin a negotiation over price. He is asking the board if EMS Committee could negotiate the selling price. Rairigh asked if sending out post cards to various fire departments might be a way of encouraging interest. Bouchard asked where the fire engine had been posted for sale. Chief Richardson explained there are websites where they are listed for sale and that departments are familiar with them.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer – Motion to allow the EMS Committee latitude to determine the price of the sale of Engine 56.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

C. Life Pack 15 – Chief Richardson explained that he would like to upgrade the BLS third ambulance to an ALS ambulance. If they buy the life pack 15 cardiac monitor, they would be able to do that. He said they already have a lot of the other equipment needed but there would be a few other items they’d need but nothing that is very expensive. Rairigh asked how much a new cardiac monitor would cost. Chief

Richardson said it would be about \$50,000. Selleck asked how long the life pack 15 would last. Chief Richardson said it should last about five to six years.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh - Motion to purchase a refurbished life pack 15 cardiac monitor for a cost of \$18,593.24.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes	
	Campbell:	Yes		Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes			

D. ISO Training Shift Trial – Chief Richardson explained that he’d like to try doing training during shifts as the more experienced medics can spend more time with the less experienced medics on daily operations. This is a different experience from holding a training session. He requests a trial run during May, June, September, and October.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer - Motion to hold a trial of allowing crews eight-hour training days.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes	
	Campbell:	Yes		Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes			

E. Wage Act 337 – Chief Richardson explained that if this policy is adopted then it will reduce the number of overtime hours paid to part-time and paid-on call employees. Campbell asked how the staff responded to this idea. Chief Richardson said they are in favor of it and even brought it to his attention because it gives more flexibility in their scheduling.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer - Motion to change the policy for part-time and paid-on-call employees’ work periods from a 7-day cycle to a 14-day cycle.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Yes		

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Ordway) Nothing new.
- B. Cemetery (Ordway, DeMaagd, Rairigh) There will be a Spring clean-up soon.
- C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer) The line up for the Riverbank music is set. Heritage Day is scheduled for August 24.
- D. Elections (Ordway, Bouchard, Schaefer) there will be a May election for the school millage. Ballots are being mailed out.
- E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh) This was covered.
- F. Finance (Bouchard, Ordway, Rairigh) Nothing new.
- G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer) Getty said practice started today. The community really stepped up to provide lots of scholarships and she continues to be impressed and thankful for the generosity of the community.
- H. Personnel – Compensation (Ordway, Campbell, Schaefer) Nothing new.
- I. Property and Public Utilities (Selleck, DeMaagd, Campbell) They are working on getting painting quotes.
- J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Selleck) They had a road tour and found it informative.
- K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Selleck, Schaefer) Schaefer will be getting his certification which is a five-hour class. He watched Finkbeiner take samples prior to the scheduled discharge that will take place soon.

15. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Getty recognized the efforts of Powell and Vugteveen to become medics. She recognized the shortage of medics we had in the region and really appreciates the board’s actions to address the shortage.

16. POLL OF MEMBERS:

Kim Selleck (Trustee) – Thank you and congratulations to Powell and Vugteveen. Condolences to the Boysen family.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) – Congratulations to Powell and Vugteveen on completing their class and becoming medics.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) – Congratulations! Pleased to have their service in the community.

Curt Campbell (Trustee) – Thank you for the huge effort and congratulations on their strong scores on their tests.

Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) – Thank you to Powell and Vugteveen on taking the classes and for all their hard work here at the township.

Cindy Ordway (Clerk) – Thank you to both Powell and Vugteveen for all their hard work, but especially to their families for the support and the sacrifices they’ve made during this time as well.

Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) – Thank you for all your efforts!

17. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 8:12 P.M.

MOTION STATED:	Selleck – Motion to adjourn.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved 5/13/2024