

<https://twp.columbia.mi.us/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Agenda-5-20-2024.pdf>
**Minutes of Mikado
Township Board Meeting
January 16, 2024**

Supervisor Mary Harmon called the Mikado Township Board Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. at the Mikado Civic Center. She welcomed the nine (9) guests that were present and joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our national flag.

Roll call showed Supervisor Harmon, Clerk Sands, Treasurer Travis, Trustee Mullins and Trustee Nedo present. No one was absent.

It is necessary to add to the agenda item 11B, Financial Account Change. Motion by Mullins/Nedo to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Public Comment opened at 7:03 p.m. and closed at 7:32 p.m. Comments were heard from residents Val Etter, Tom Michaud, Wayne Nedo, Kurt Etter, William Spunar and Carrie Mullins.

Motion by Mullins/Travis to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2023, as presented. Motion carried.

The Financial Report for December 2023 was given by Treasurer Travis as follows:

GENERAL FUND \$123,929.04

ROAD MIF balance \$39,202.67

CC MIF balance \$32,171.52

FIRE MIF balance \$98,932.35

Motion by Nedo/Mullins to accept the Financial Report of December as presented. Motion Carried. Clerk Sands requested a written report from the Treasurer each month because sometimes her voice does not carry over to the recording. Clerk Sands mentioned that we received a dividend of \$567.71 from the Accident Fund.

An Amendment to the Budget was necessary. In the General Fund Budget more money is needed to be added to the Treasurer (100.00), Civic Center (\$1,500.00) and Fire Department (\$16,000) Cost Centers. Motion by Mullins/Travis to adopt Budget Amendment #2023-2024.05 regarding the transfer of \$17,600.00 from the Election Cost Center to the Cost Centers listed above. Roll call vote, Nedo-yes, Mullins-yes, Travis-yes, Harmon-yes, Sands-yes. Amendment adopted.

Motion by Mullins/Nedo to approve the Bills presented in the amount of \$10,243.67. A short discussion was held on the Web Account. Shumaker Technology Group submitted a bill for \$375.00 regarding the backup, support, and Maintenance package from 2/1/24 to 2/2/25. If we wish to change our website account, we will need to address the matter well in advance of February 2025. Other bills discussed were Attorney Freel & Waste Management. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS:

District 3 County Commissioner: Commissioner Carolyn Brummund of District #3 was present. She referenced the copied items in the packet she gave each of the board members.

Assessor: Nancy Schwickert was not present.

Planning Commission: Trustee Mullins reported Rick Deuell has submitted our REC Plan to the DNR & Carrie is in the process of submitting the final answers on the application. Trustee Mullins is the contact person for this plan and is the authorized official for the submission of these forms to the

MDNR Web Site. A Community Park and Recreation Plan Certification Checklist needs to be signed by Supervisor Harmon and submitted to the MDNR. Motion by Mullins/Nedo to authorize Supervisor Harmon to sign the Certification Checklist as presented. Motion carried. Trustee Mullins mentioned that Clerk Sands wrote up a schedule with the dates of the Planning Commission Meetings & work bees and three (3) dates are correct, but the day of the week is wrong. Clerk Sands will correct this error. Their January 4th meeting was the start of their review of the Zoning Ordinance, and it went well. Carrie asked what the best way would be to get questions answered by our attorney, and we decided to send a few questions by email for Mr. Freel to review. The next work bee is scheduled for February 1 at 6:00 and we will start with Section 3.13.

Roads & Bridges: No new reports.

Fire Chief: Fire Chief Wayne Odell was present and mentioned that the Fire Department responded to fifteen (15) incidents in December. He further mentioned that he received word that we were granted the 2024 Volunteer Capacity Grant. This is a 50/50 matching grant and he applied for Wildland FF Boots & Gloves for \$4500.00. Two of our FF's started the Medical First Responder Class in Iosco County on January 4th. Fire Fighter I and II Training was held on January 4th with Mikado being the host. There were approximately 25 students at this training, and they utilized our Training House on F-30. Good feedback was heard from the students and members of the community.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: An ad did not get in the papers right away for the OEO/ZA because of the holidays. The ad was placed to appear in the Alcona County Review and the Oscoda Press for three weeks starting January 10th and the letters of interest are due by February 13th for review at our February 20th meeting.

UPDATES:

Supervisor Harmon mentioned that she had not contacted anyone about the stainless steel needed behind the stove but planned to do that soon. There is a memorial rental scheduled for February 10th.

The committee for the Open House in March will meet next week on Tuesday, January 23rd and a report will be given in February.

The dangerous trees at the cemetery will be removed by Griff & Son when they are able to get in there.

PENDING BUSINESS:

The Administrative Procedures have been tabled to a future date.

AAACU and Northland Credit Unions were visited for possible entities to move our financial depositories with AAACU being recommended. Motion by Travis/Mullins we move our Financial Accounts from Huron Community Bank to Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union (Lincoln Branch). Roll call vote, Nedo-yes, Travis-yes, Mullins-yes, Sands-yes, Harmon-yes. Motion carried. Those who will be associated with the checking account for the signing of checks in the General Fund will be Treasurer Ruth Travis, Clerk Rita Sands, Deputy Treasurer Kay Lovelace and Deputy Clerk Carrie Mullins. The General Fund checks will require two (2) signatures, one from the Treasurer office and one from the Clerk office and one (1) signature will be required for cash withdrawals or transfers. Those associated with the Tax Account will be Treasurer Ruth Travis and Deputy Treasurer Kay Lovelace. One (1) signature will be needed for the Tax Account checks and/or cash transfers or withdrawals.

NEW BUSINESS:

Beverly Dodge, owner of plot #278 has requested the return of the plot to the township because it is

not needed anymore. The township can reimburse an unused plot for the same amount of money that they purchased the plot for. Motion by Mullins/Travis we purchase this plot for \$150.00 because this is what they paid for this plot in 1986. Motion carried.

For review, a paper with the salaries/pay for all Mikado Township employees was given to the board members. Also given to them was a copy of the pay of a few of the other townships. Supervisor Harmon mentioned that it is important to give a raise to all, but it is also important to keep in mind our budget. The board salary resolutions will be addressed at our Budget Work Bee along with possible employee raises.

The board members agreed without a motion to hold our Budget Work Bee on February 10, 2024, at 9:00 am.

After review, motion by Mullins/Nedo we accept the recommended price, by our Fire Chief, to keep the billing for Gustin Township Fire Protection at the capped rate of \$15,000.00 for the 2024 budget year. Motion carried.

Supervisor Harmon found the need to establish the Clerk/Treasurer office in the Civic Center. The need for the use of the conference room was noted and the Clerks records need to be out of the conference room and locked up. With the Mikado Area Development no longer acting as an organization, that frees up one closet in the Civic Center. Supervisor Harmon is requesting permission to use township funds to complete the construction of this "office". Motion by Mullins/Nedo to finalize the renovations needed in this office. Motion carried.

Clerk Sands requested the township to pay for her registration at the MTA Conference to be held on April 23-25 in Traverse City if she should decide to go. Clerk Sands committed to pay for her own hotel room at the conference. Motion by Travis/Mullins to pay this registration fee if needed. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A lady called from Partners for Prevention requesting a charge for rental of the Civic Center on mental health awareness classes. Discussion held is that we should not charge the regular rental rate of \$375.00. Perhaps a pilot program to test for charging purposes. A fee of approximately \$150 was mentioned. Supervisor Harmon will talk to the lady some more to get some more information and/or feedback.

The Alcona County Chapter of the MTA meeting will be held January 23rd at 7:00 pm in the Commissioners Room at the Court House.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Nedo/Mullins to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Motion carried.

Orders 22083-22114 were presented and paid.

Receipts 240, 241,243-247 were received and recorded.

Rita D. Sands, Clerk

Mary J Harmon, Supervisor

Motion to accept by: _____ Seconded by : _____ Date: _____

