**ORLEANS TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**August 22, 2023**

**Orleans Township Hall**

**Call to Order:** Supervisor Colwell called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and led the Pledge Allegiance and a short prayer.

**Members present:** Al Almy, Bob Terrill, Barb Colwell, Melissa Harper and Clare Colwell

**Set/Amend Agenda:**

Supervisor Colwell suggested moving discussion of the FY24 budget to the New Business portion of the meeting. He also suggested changing title of item B. in New Business to the “Approval of The ‘Purchasing’ Policy.” Motion by Almy, supported by B. Colwell, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment** – There was not public comment.

**Consent Agenda:**

The consent agenda contained the July 23, 2023, minutes as well as the township’s balance sheet, P&L’s and a disbursement ledger for the general and sewer funds for July. Supervisor suggested that the “Amend Budget” portion of the consent agenda be moved to the New Business section of the meeting. Motion by B. Colwell, supported by Terrill to approve the consent agenda as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

A. **Police** – No report.

B. **Fire Department** – Chief Ron Hill reported that the new fire truck had been delivered and that he and his team were working on learning the systems. He stated that there were 13 runs in July 2023. The report is on file in the Orleans Township Clerk’s Office.

C**. Assessor Report** – Dean Kohagen reported that they were nearing completion of the annual “20% inspection” quota. They inspect 20% of the properties each year. This year is the 5th year so 100% of properties will have been reviewed in the last 5 years. This will make new assessments easier as many items will not need to be repeated.

D. **County Commissioner** – No report.

E. **Long Lake Improvement Board** – No report.

F. **Roads** – No report.

G. **Permit Officer** - Almy presented the Board with a Permit Activity Report for July.

A copy of this report is on file in the Orleans Township Clerk’s Office.

H. **Sewer**- B. Colwell reported bills will be going out for the next quarter.

I. **Cemetery** – No report.

J. **Building Authority** –No report.

**New Business**

1. **Orleans Speed Limits** – Supervisor Colwell discussed with the Board information that he had received from the Ionia County Under Sheriff Department informing the counties’ deputies that there was no statutory support for the 25 mile per hour speed limits that are posted in Orleans. Accordingly, deputies have been advised that unless in violation of prima facie speed laws, no person should be stopped for exceeding the posted 25 MPH signs. Deputy Michaels was to be in the meeting but was not present. Colwell informed the Board that we he had more information, he would pass it on.
2. **Purchasing Policy** – The board reviewed and discussed the proposed Purchasing Policy for the Township and a short discussion followed. Motion by Almy, supported by Terrill to approve the policy as proposed. Motion carried.
3. **Landfill Voucher Proposal** – Supervisor Colwell informed the Board that he was told by Pitsch Landfill that they would no longer issue landfill vouchers after the end of this year. The Board discussed some possible alternatives. Terrill and B. Colwell will develop a proposal for the Board to review. It was agreed that the new system should be in place and published by October 2023.
4. **Budget Amendment** – Supervisor Colwell reviewed the proposed 2nd Quarter budget amendment for fiscal year 2024. The Board and Mr. Colwell participated in a question-and-answer period. Motion by Harper, supported by B. Colwell, to approve the budget amendment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

1. **None**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51PM.

Next Orleans Township Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7:00PM

Date:

Melissa Harper

Orleans Township Treasurer