**ORLEANS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**

**July 23, 2024**

**Orleans Township Hall**

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

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

                                  Colwell

**Set/Amend Agenda:**

Supervisor Colwell proposed adding the following to be added to the New Business agenda:

B:  Review purposed assessment fees

C:  Assessment timetable

He also proposed adding the following to the Old Business agenda:

1. Discuss Pitsch landfill upcoming public meeting and increase in tonnage.

Motion by B. Colwell, supported by Harper, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** None

**Consent Agenda:**

The consent agenda contained the June 25, 2024, minutes as well as the Township’s balance sheet, P&L’s and a disbursement ledger for the general and sewer funds for June. Motion by B. Colwell, supported by Harper, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

A. **Police** – No report

B. **Fire Department** – Chief Ron Hill stated that there were 15 runs in June 2024. The report is on file in the Orleans Township Clerk’s Office.

C**.        Assessor Report** – No report

D. **County Commissioner** – No report

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

F. **Roads** – No report

G.        **Permit Officer** – Almy informed the board he had no permits issued for the month of June

H.        **Treasurer/Sewer**- Treasurer Colwell informed the board she is in the process of collecting summer tax payments

I. **Cemetery** – No report

J.           **Building Authority** –No report

**New Business**

A.     **FY25 Second Quarter Budget Amendment –** Supervisor Colwell presented to the board the 2nd quarter FY25 budget amendment and discussed the proposed changes in detail. Motion by Almy, supported by B. Colwell, to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried.

B.         **Review** Proposed **Assessment Fees –** The township’s legal counsel has submitted an updated rate schedule for the proposed Fire Assessment issue. Supervisor Colwell provided copies of the updated schedule to the Board and discussed the changes that were proposed. As originally proposed, property types will be assessed differently based on type such as residential, vacant, commercial, etc.

C.         **Assessment Timetable –** Supervisor Colwell provided the board with a copy of the schedule to be adhered to in order to implement the proposed Fire Assessment program and discussed who would be responsible for each scheduled item.

**Old Business**

1. **Pitsch Landfill –**Almy informed the board that the Ionia County Solid Waste Committee are planning to use the Township Hall on August 29, 2024 at 7:00PM for an open meeting intended for Orleans Township residents to discuss the proposed Pitsch Landfill expansion.

Supervisor Colwell discussed with the Board his concerns about the proposed expansion and the “feeling” that despite local unwillingness for the landfill expansion that the County planned to move ahead despite those feelings.  He proposed that our counsel be consulted to see if any legal means could be instituted to bar the expansion.  The consensus of the Board was to contact counsel.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

The next Orleans Township Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 7:00PM

 Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Melissa Harper

Orleans Township Clerk