

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 January 8, 2024

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

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Bouchard: Present Campbell: Present DeMaagd: Present Ordway: Present	Rairigh: Present Schaefer: Present Selleck: Present
OTHERS PRESENT:	Chief Bill Richardson, Phil Gensterblum, Amy Brown, Commissioner Catherine Getty, Jason Preslar, Derek Dean, Curt DeKam.	

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the Printed Agenda as amended.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Ordway
MOTION STATUS:	Withdrawn

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 amended with a correction to the EMS Millage allocations as recorded in the Special Meeting Minutes of 12/28/2023. 70% to Fire, 10% to Ambulance and 20% to Capital Improvement.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Schaefer
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

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

7. **COUNTY REPORT:**

County Commissioner Catherine Getty:	They held an organizational meeting last Tuesday. Currently, commissioners have decided to remain with their former assignments with Jackson acting as Chair and Hatfield acting as Vice Chair. There may be a few changes to the committee assignments in the coming weeks. Getty provided a COA Quarterly Newsletter to Schaefer to share with board members. Getty encouraged the board members to review services that COA provide to residents.
Board Response:	Schaefer thanked Getty for her report.

8. RESERVED TIME: None.

9. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT: Chief Richardson gave a brief overview of annual runs and mentioned the CPR class being held on January 17 from 6 pm to 10 pm at a cost of \$50 if anyone was interested in signing up.

10. PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: Gensterblum stated there were 84 building permits issued in 2023 which showed a 25% increase over the previous year. There have been 3 permits issued so far this year already. There have not been many code enforcement issues lately.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

A. TAPRC Appointment – Schaefer stated that the Personnel and Compensation Committee had reviewed the candidates for appointment to TAPRC and they are recommending Derek Dean.

MOTION STATED:	Selleck – Motion to appoint Derek Dean to fill the township’s open position and reappoint Eric Schaefer to the entity representative position on TAPRC.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

B. Ambulance Cancellation – Chief Richardson explained that he would like to cancel the ambulance order and at a future time will bring a recommendation regarding the possibility of refurbishing two ambulances that would better fit the department’s needs. Rairigh clarified that the down payment made would be transferable to the cost of the refurbished ones. Campbell asked if the department would be able to operate with the timeline. Chief responded yes.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh – Motion to cancel the Braun ambulance order.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	DeMaagd
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 7 ayes and 0 nos.

C. FT Fire Fighter – Chief Richardson stated that he would like to hire a full-time firefighter/paramedic as the last seven months they have been operating short-staffed.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the hiring of one full-time firefighter/paramedic.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
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. PT EMT/Fire Fighter – Chief Richardson stated that with the three EMT’s going to school it has created some challenges with staffing and he feels by hiring one more part-time EMT that would alleviate some of the scheduling issues and would assist the EMT’s that are in school from working overtime and so they could focus on their studies more.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer – Motion to approve hiring one part-time firefighter/EMT.
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		

E. Ability to Hire – Schaefer explained that Chief Richardson had asked for approval to hire through committee rather than the full board vote to shorten the timeline on the hiring process.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer – Motion to approve allowing the EMS Committee or the Personnel Committee to approve the hire of replacement members as needed upon recommendation of the Fire Chief.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Withdrawn

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer – Motion to approve allowing the EMS Committee <i>and/or</i> the Personnel Committee to approve the hiring of replacement members as needed upon recommendation of the Fire Chief.
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		

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Ordway) Nothing new.
- B. Cemetery (Ordway, DeMaagd, Rairigh) Ordway reported that trees were taken down.
- C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer) Schaefer reported that Christmas decorations had been taken down. They are beginning to think about a Spring Event which is the next item to plan.
- D. Elections (Ordway, Bouchard, Schaefer) Ordway explained about the Absent Voter List and the Permanent Ballot List.
- E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh) DeMaagd asked if there had been any accidents at 108th and Patterson since the four-way stop was put in. Chief Richardson said that he was not aware of although it is possible one of the other departments had responded to one.
- F. Finance (Bouchard, Ordway, Rairigh) Nothing new.
- G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer) Schaefer welcomed Derek Dean. Schaefer announced that Getty would be stepping down from TAPRC. Getty stated that she has served for 23 years and is thankful for the growth over the years and would help TAPRC make a smooth transition. Getty explained that registration opens January 19, and the cost is \$80 for youth to 14 years old. Sign-ups for T-ball is \$70, with a late sign-up fee of \$15. However, there are scholarships made possible by the United Way. They are available for any families who feel they can't afford the sign-up costs.
- H. Personnel – Compensation (Ordway, Campbell, Schaefer) Rairigh reminded officials that the non-statutory duties lists were due by Thursday.
- I. Property and Public Utilities (Selleck, DeMaagd, Campbell) Nothing new.

J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Selleck) Campbell reminded everyone about the Barry County Road Commission meeting on Wednesday.

K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Selleck, Schaefer) Campbell reported that they had met and reviewed the budget. Also, they are working on a program to replace the electrical systems of five residents per year. Many systems are getting old and will need to be replaced. This cost has been included in the draft of the budget.

14. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

A. Getty said that she is thinking about proposing to TAPRC that they work on getting the coaches CPR training. She appreciates the services being presented to residents.

B. Curt DeKam stated that it is hard to track down information from the township and wondered where the information regarding the CPR class was posted. Chief Richardson said that it was on the Emergency Services Facebook page. Schaefer explained the Township website is being rebuilt and hopes that by the end of the year it will be much more user friendly.

POLL OF MEMBERS:

Kim Selleck (Trustee) – Requested the Poll of Members go through a rotation so that he isn't always the first called on. He wishes everyone a Great 2024.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) – Nothing.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) – All done.

Curt Campbell (Trustee) – Happy New Year Everyone!

Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) – All good.

Cindy Ordway (Clerk) – Regarding Elections, appreciated the article in the Sun & News and probably got 3 or 4 calls about helping.

Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) – Go Blue!

16. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 7:40 P.M.

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



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved 2/12/2024