

**HOWELL TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

3525 Byron Road Howell, MI 48855

November 4, 2024

6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Coddington Supervisor
Sue Daus Clerk
Jonathan Hohenstein Treasurer
Matthew Counts Trustee

Harold Melton Trustee
Bob Wilson Trustee

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeff Smith Trustee

Also in Attendance:

9 people were in attendance.

Supervisor Coddington called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The roll was called. Supervisor Coddington requested members rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO THE BOARD:

None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

November 4, 2024

Motion by Melton, **Second** by Hohenstein, **"To approve the agenda as presented."** Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

October 7, 2024

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **"To accept the minutes from October 7th as presented."** Motion carried.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Curt Hamilton, 1367 Crestwood- Spoke on Parks and Recreation Master Plan and establishing a task force of residents to draw up future park plans.

Justin Frederick, 225 Bain Drive- Spoke on grievances with neighbors and Zoning Administrator.

Shane Fagan, 30 Santa Rosa Dr.- Spoke on his business run out of his home and township ethics.

Andrew Hamm, 14 Santa Rosa Dr- Spoke on clarification of a video presented to Zoning Administrator.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Motion by Hohenstein, **Second** by Counts, "To deviate from our resolution to Item 8-G, followed by item 11." Motion carried.

Motion by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, "To enter closed session to discuss Burkhart Ridge v. Howell Township." Motion carried. Closed session began at 6:55 P.M.

Motion by Melton, **Second** by Counts, "To come back into regular session from our closed session." Motion carried. Returned to Regular session at 7:49 P.M.

Motion by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, "To allow the township attorneys to continue negotiations as discussed in closed session." Motion carried.

- A. Trustee Wilson's grievances with Ordinance Enforcement and Zoning Administrator: List of names and addresses has been submitted as requested by the board. Trustee Wilson requested more committees to be formed. **Motion** by Wilson, "To put a committee together to oversee the decisions that are made in the ordinance department because I feel they are not being fair." Motion received no support.
- B. Sound System for Board Room- Matt Eckman from American Video Transfer Inc. discussed additional options for sound system. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Counts, "To move forward with the items as he presented so it would be the blue items on the top section then the upgraded Audio PA system for a total of \$10,222." A friendly amendment by Trustee Counts "To add AV streaming camera for a total of \$12,172.00." Motion carried.
- C. Oakland Tactical v. Howell Township- Treasurer Hohenstein provided updated information in packet.
- D. Howell-Mason v. Howell Township- Treasurer Hohenstein reported Howell- Mason will be appealing decision to Court of Appeals.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2025 Meeting Dates- Treasurer Hohenstein provided proposed dates of 2025 calendar of all boards. **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, "For resolution 11.24.543, 2025 meeting dates as presented." Roll Call: Counts-yes, Daus-yes, Coddington-yes, Melton-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Wilson-yes. Motion carried (6-0).
- B. Sewer Connection Fee- Treasurer Hohenstein discussed increasing sewer and water connection fee costs or leaving them as is. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, "To make resolution number 11.24.544 resolution setting township sewer charges to maintain at \$5,000.00." Roll Call: Melton-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Daus-yes, Wilson-yes, Counts-yes, Coddington-yes. Motion carried (6-0).
- C. Water Connection Fee- **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, "For Resolution 11.24.545 resolution setting township water charges maintaining at \$5000.00." Roll Call: Hohenstein-es, Daus-yes, Counts-yes, Melton-yes, Coddington-yes, Wilson- yes. Motion carried (6-0).

- D. Zoning Ordinance Section 14.19 Home Occupation (Requested by Shane Fagan)- Zoning Administrator Hohenstein discussed options with either sending the request to change the Zoning Ordinance to the Planning Commission, stays the same, or investing the time and money into redoing all the Township Zoning Ordinances. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Wilson, **Second** by Counts, **“To send it to the Planning Commission.”** Motion carried, 1 dissent.
- E. Ordinance 284 -Amendment- Zoning Administrator Hohenstein reported Union of Oak Grove has ordinance 284 in place that can help residents with discounts based on income, this ordinance date ended in 2023. Union of Oak Grove is planning on completing the project within the next month. They are asking to amend the ordinance date to December 31st, 2024. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **“To accept ordinance number 287, amending ordinance number 284 as presented.”** Roll call: Melton-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Coddington-yes, Counts-yes, Wilson-yes, Daus-yes. Motion carried.
- F. Fowlerville Community Schools Resolution- Informational Correspondence
- G. Resolution of Appreciation for Benjamin Costello- Benjamin completed his Eagle Scout project of building three quality benches for the Howell Township gazebo for township residents to sit and relax. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, **“To accept the resolution of appreciation, resolution number 11.24.546 as presented.”** Roll call: Coddington-yes, Counts-yes, Wilson-yes, Daus-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Melton-yes. Motion carried (6-0).
- H. Township Ethics Policy-Treasurer Hohenstein discussed the Township’s Ethics policy and strengthening the Township’s ethics with two resolutions. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Melton, **“To approve resolution 11.24.547, Resolutions of Principles of Township Excellence in Governance.”** Roll Call: Coddington-yes, Counts-yes, Wilson-yes, Daus-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Melton-yes. Motion carried (6-0).
- Motion** by Counts, **Second** by Hohenstein, **“To approve resolution 11.24.548.”** Roll call: Melton-yes, Wilson-yes, Counts-yes, Coddington-yes, Daus-yes, Hohenstein-yes. Motion carried (6-0).
- I. Human Resource Committee- Recommendations- Re-assigning accounting payroll from Assessor Kilpela to the clerk’s department with no change in the budget. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Counts, **“To accept the recommendation from the Human Resource committee on redistribution of accounting clerk duties as presented.”** Motion carried.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Shane Fagan- Wishes everyone good luck on Election Day.

Curt Hamilton- Questions regarding future Land Use Map organization but will discuss later.

REPORTS:

- A. SUPERVISOR:
No report

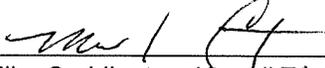
- B. TREASURER: Treasurer Hohenstein reported that the Surf Internet projects that were left open are now completed, ARPA funds have been disbursed. Updated the Board on the Brewer Road drainage project becoming a public drain, spoke on continuing education through MTA that all board members should attend. **Motion** by Hohenstein, **Second** by Daus, " **To allow any board member to attend MTA's new official training events as presented.**" Motion carried.
- C. CLERK: There was a great turn out with Early Voting, close to 2000 Absentee Ballots were returned.
- D. ZONING:
There is currently a complaint with an industrial plant regarding a loud noise, a decibel reader may be needed in the future. **Motion** by Wilson, **Second** by Hohenstein, "**Buy a decibel reader.**" Motion carried.
- J. Assessors Report:
See Assessor Kilpela's reports
- K. FIRE AUTHORITY:
Supervisor Coddington reported on the Fire Authority
- E. MHOG:
Trustee Counts reported on MHOG
- F. PLANNING COMMISSION:
See draft minutes
- G. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA):
No October meeting
- H. WWTP:
See Report
- I. HAPRA:
No report
- J. PROPERTY COMMITTEE:
No report
- K. PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE: See information in board packet regarding driveway options for Tooley Road Park. Township will be getting quotes for an Environmental study on the property.
- L. Shiawassee River Committee:
No report

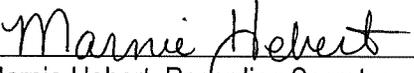
DISBURSEMENTS: REGULAR PAYMENTS AND CHECK REGISTER:

Motion by Hohenstein, **Second** by Melton, "**To accept the disbursements as presented and any normal and customary payments for the month.**" Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Melton, Second by Counts, "To adjourn at this time" Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.


Sue Daus, Howell Township Clerk


Mike Coddington, Howell Township Supervisor


Marnie Hebert, Recording Secretary