

Girard Township
Regular Monthly Meeting MINUTES
Thursday, December 14, 2023 – 6 p.m.
Website: (www.girardtownship.us)

Open meeting with the pledge to the flag

Present: Chairman Al Pedersen, supervisors-Brad Grewe and Larry Estes, treasurer Kathy Trites, clerk Debbie Irmen, and Road Worker Will Luhning

Absent: no one

Visitors: No visitors present

- Public Comment Period: Visitor questions, comments, or concerns (Bounty requests) – 5 minute speaking limit

Grewe moved to approve the agenda for the Dec. 14, 2023, regular meeting as presented. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Grewe moved to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held **Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023**, at the Town Hall. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Trites presented the November financial report showing a beginning balance of \$843,595.22, with receipts totaling \$18,307.87, and disbursements totaling \$19,922.57, for an ending balance of \$841,980.52. Estes moved to accept the financial report as presented, with Grewe providing a second. Motion carried unanimously.

Grewe moved to approve the bills as presented/audited, totaling \$6,605.58, any additional bills that may be presented at this meeting; and payroll (Estes, Grewe, Irmen, Jacobson, Luhning (2) Pedersen, and K. Trites). Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mail – The clerk noted that Pro-Ag is implementing a 3% transaction fee on all credit card transactions, but it does not apply to Girard as the Township doesn't pay this bill with a credit card.

5. Reports/Information

Luhning reported that he had put up the snow fence, including posts as the ground was thawed enough given the recent warm weather. A brief discussion was held regarding changing fuel providers to Bluffton Oil, but no action was taken. Dirt was spread on sewer in preparation for grass seeding next spring.

The clerk and chairman attended the MAT Annual Meeting in early December. Changes to MAT's bylaws were quite controversial, but no action could be taken because of a lack of a quorum. The educational sessions attended by the clerk were helpful. The clerk is looking at long-range goals of producing an electronic newsletter twice a year – Spring and Fall – for informational purposes for township residents which came from a communications session. The other ideas from that session are in effect already.

New Business/Additions to Agenda

The clerk reported that the MATIT Workers Comp Insurance invoice was delivered to townships at the MAT Annual Convention. She also noted that information regarding bonding for the Clerk and Treasurer was available for review.

The clerk noted that election filings are open from Jan. 2 through Jan. 16, 2024, for anyone interested in filing for positions on the township board.

Old Business

Pedersen moved to approve ESST employee notice language regarding availability dates by fiscal year and accepted the 48 hours cap in one year. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The clerk will send the employee handbook and other HR documents for legal review. The board previously approved this. The cost is estimated at approximately \$500.

Dates to remember

Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024 – Township election filing period opens

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024 -- Regular monthly meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024 -- Township election filing period closes

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024 -- Regular monthly meeting, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024 – Board of Audit meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall

Monday, March 4, 2024 – EOT Spring Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Thumper Pond

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 – Presidential Primary Election, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. polls open at Girard Town Hall

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 – Girard Township Annual Meeting, beginning at 2:30 and not to go past 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 – Girard Township Election, 5 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 -- Regular monthly meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 – Organizational meeting, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Estes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman

Clerk

Approval date: