

TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Eric Schaefer, *Supervisor* / Laura Bouchard, *Treasurer* / Elaine Denton, *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 April 10, 2023

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

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Bouchard: Present Campbell: Present DeMaagd: Present Denton: Present	Rairigh: Present Schaefer: Present Selleck: Present
OTHERS PRESENT:	Chief Bill Richardson, Commissioner Catherine Getty, Emily Dock, Amy Brown, Chad Klutman, Alex Middleton, Jason & Lindsay Preslar, Mike Powell, Steve Sage, Collin Chrenka, McKenna Preslar, Brandon Luxford, Mike Bremer, Robin & David Laansma, Pattrick, Amber, and Kellen Jansens.	

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Selleck – Motion to approve the printed agenda as presented.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Selleck – Motion to approve the consent agenda as amended with item 5 a. moved to 10 a. Unfinished Business.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Yes Campbell: Yes DeMaagd: Yes Denton: Yes	Rairigh: Yes Schaefer: Yes Selleck: Yes
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6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: Mike Bremer – He stated that he isn't a current resident but had been for many years and has some generic comments for the board tonight. He said there is no place for partisan politics in local government. He said the board should be focused on taking care of the roads, the cemetery, parks and recreation and the library. He feels the political differences should be set aside so the community can work together smoothly.

7. COUNTY REPORT:

County Commissioner Catherine Getty:	Getty said county commissioners have continued to work on interviews and appointments to various county boards such as Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Mental Health Board. Discussions continue regarding the COA and its future location as well as the future of properties owned by the county and how they could be used.
Board Response:	Schaefer thanked Getty for her report.

8. RESERVED TIME: None

9. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT: Chief Richardson announced that Patrick Jansens had earned the status of lieutenant and asked Jansens’s family to assist in pinning on his bugles. Richardson thanked Jansens for his hard work and diligence and congratulated him. On another note, Chief Richardson said that their call volume had been slower but was starting to increase now. The second ambulance remained stable with the number of calls received.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2023 – Denton stated there were three items to be corrected. First, she asked that her name be added to the public present at the meeting, second that in the first public comment, it should read ‘she recommends’ and third that the motion be restated from ‘until the search for a replacement for Cindy Willshire is complete’ to ‘until May 3.’

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2023, as amended. First, Elaine Denton should be added to the list of those in attendance. Second, correction of typos she recommends. Third, add until May 3 to the motion of Elaine Denton’s service as Interim Clerk.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Denton:	Yes		

11. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Agenda Request** – Denise Piering stipend

MOTION STATED:	Denton – Motion to provide Denise Piering a one-time \$500 stipend for work provided to the Planning and Zoning Department.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Yes Campbell: Yes DeMaagd: Yes Denton: Yes	Rairigh: Yes Schaefer: Yes Selleck: Yes
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B. TAPRC Appointment- Schaefer explained the posting and that Hilton had been the only person to respond by the deadline. Getty stated that some people had expressed interest but didn't receive the paper and had missed the posting.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer – Motion to appoint Keara Hilton as the Thornapple Township representative to fill the position formerly held by Catherine Getty (with term expiration 12/31/23).
MOTION SUPPORTED:	DeMaagd
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 yes and 2 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Yes Campbell: Yes DeMaagd: Yes Denton: No	Rairigh: Yes Schaefer: Yes Selleck: No
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C. Agenda Request BS&A Software – Schaefer explained this would be used for the Noffke Road Special Assessment. Rairigh asked where this expense would be budgeted. Bouchard answered that it would be paid from general fund. DeMaagd asked if this was an add on. Schaefer said it's a separate module. Campbell asked how special assessments are currently tracked. Bouchard stated that sewer is a quarterly billing rather than a special assessment. The drain assessment is handled at the county. This new software would track payments for the 160 properties involved over the 15 years of the assessment and would include tracking any early payoffs.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh – Motion to purchase the Special Assessment program from BS&A at a cost of \$3,830.00 for the first year and \$565.00 annually thereafter.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Yes Campbell: Yes DeMaagd: Yes Denton: Yes	Rairigh: Yes Schaefer: Yes Selleck: Yes
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D. Agenda Request Cyber Security – Schaefer explained that the cyber security insurance coverage was shopped last year and that it remains the lowest priced premium for the same coverage offered. Campbell asked if this was just insurance or if IT support was included. Schaefer answered that it was just the insurance policy.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh – Motion to approve the renewal of the cyber security policy with Hiscox for the 2023/24 policy year.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Denton
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Denton:	Yes		

E. Agenda Request Part Time Paramedic – Chief Richardson requested the hiring of one new part-time paramedic/firefighter as four had quit in this month and they will need one or two depending on scheduling needs. Selleck requested the board approve two rather than one and Chief Richardson agreed.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the hiring of two part-time paramedic/firefighters.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Denton:	Yes		

F. Agenda Request Town Crier – Schaefer stated that with the staffing changes he felt this would be a good way to connect with the community. Rairigh asked if the new Planning and Zoning Administrator would be included. Schaefer said yes, he will be. DeMaagd asked who would be writing the content. Schaefer stated most of the articles had already been written. Rairigh requested the columbarium, scheduled to be installed at Mt. Hope Cemetery, would be covered in the Crier as well.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to include Thornapple Township in the 2023 edition of the Town Crier for a cost NTE \$ 450.00.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Denton:	Yes		

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Denton) None.

B. Cemetery (Denton, DeMaagd, Rairigh) DeMaagd is getting quotes on the foundation for the columbarium and spoke with Patten’s Monument who recommended having Josh Wickham, the cemetery sexton do the work.

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer) The DDA is currently looking for another director.

D. Elections (Denton, Bouchard, Schaefer) Denton stated the accuracy test had been performed on Monday and it had gone well. She is working on getting certified as a QVF system user. The election is a small one for the Caledonia School Bond and the Clerk’s department will have office hours on Saturday, April 29th, from 7 am to 3 pm.

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh) Nothing further.

F. Finance (Bouchard, Denton, Rairigh) Nothing new.

G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer) Getty stated that tonight was the opening night for the 2023 season. There are 323 players signed up and are playing mainly on the three ball fields at Crane Road. Overflow are playing at Spring Park behind Speedway, Leighton Church, at the high school and at the Freeport fields. TAPRC is scheduled to present their annual report at the May regular board meeting.

H. Personnel – Compensation (Denton, Campbell, Schaefer) Schaefer said they are working on scheduling interviews for a new clerk.

I. Property and Public Utilities (Selleck, DeMaagd, Campbell) Selleck said they had met with Sara Nelson, Schaefer, and Chief Richardson to talk about the Oak Opening at Mt. Hope. They plan to meet in May to talk about the scope of the project. Selleck hopes that the fire department could perform a burn in August.

J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Selleck) Schaefer has scheduled a tour of gravel roads tomorrow at 10:30 am with Barry County Road Commission.

K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Selleck, Schaefer) Campbell said he had heard the BOD numbers look great and so the new system is working well. Schaefer said there may be some energy savings as

Finkbeiner had turned off one of the pumps after learning some further information about how to use the system and seeing the reports.

13. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None.

14. POLL OF MEMBERS:

Kim Selleck (Trustee) – Thanked the firefighters and EMTs for their service and appreciates how they are a pillar of the community.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) – Gave a farewell to Deb and to Cindy and agreed with Kim’s comments about TTES.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) – Agreed with the previous trustee’s comments.

Curt Campbell (Trustee) – Also agreed and appreciates the EMS staff. Also, will miss Deb and Cindy. Also wished Kim a Happy Birthday.

Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) – Congratulations to Patrick Jansens and thankyou to Deb Buckowing for all she’s done it’s really appreciated.

Elaine Denton (Clerk) – Thank you to all for welcoming her and congratulations to Patrick and goodbye to Deb.

Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) – Really appreciate EMS and all they do and I’m going to miss Deb.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 7:45 P.M.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to adjourn.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Denton
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 7 yes and 0 no.



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved 5/08/2023