

TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Eric Schaefer, *Supervisor* / Laura Bouchard, *Treasurer* / Cindy Ordway, *Clerk*
 Curt Campbell, *Trustee* / Ross DeMaagd, *Trustee* / Kim Selleck, *Trustee* / Sandra Rairigh, *Trustee*

269-795-7202 - Fax 269-795-8812 - thornapple-twp.org
 PO Box 459 - 200 E Main St. - Middleville, MI 49333



REGULAR MEETING October 9, 2023

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

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Absent Present Present Absent	Rairigh: Schaefer: Selleck:	Present Present Present
OTHERS PRESENT:	Chief Bill Richardson, Commissioner Jon Smelker, Commissioner Getty, Amy & Charles Brown, Robert Hinklin, Lindsay & Peyton Preslar, Jason Preslar, Steven Arnold, Eric Jachim, Hanna Hollis, Cas Vugteveen, Greg Chandler.			

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the Printed Agenda as presented.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 5 ayes and 0 nos.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 nos.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Absent Yes Yes Absent	Rairigh: Schaefer: Selleck:	Yes Yes Yes
------------------------	---	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------

6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: None

7. COUNTY REPORT:

County Commissioner Catherine Getty:	Getty reported the commissioners have been working on the 2024 budget and expect it to be approved later in October. They have reviewed budget amendments to allow for furniture, auditor work, and an intergovernmental agreement regarding behavioral health services with multiple counties. The Commission on Aging has been working on plans for the Thornapple Manor Campus. The plans are for a 16,000 sq. ft. facility adjacent to Harvest Pointe
---	---

	which would allow for a shared kitchen and shared HVAC system. The location also provides for a courtyard and is near walking trails and a park.
Board Response:	Schaefer thanked Getty for the report.

8. RESERVED TIME:

A. Reverend Hinklin talked about the repairs he has made in Mt. Hope over the last ten years and in Parmelee Cemetery over the last four years. In that time, he repaired 207 monuments in Mt. Hope and 48 monuments in Parmelee. Campbell asked Rev. Hinklin how much they weigh. He replied quite a bit and that at 82 years old it's harder to get them set back up. Both Campbell and Selleck thanked Rev. Hinklin for his work.

B. Chief Richardson presented members of the fire department with the badges for completing their Black Helmet Training. Chief Richardson said the department has completed 1,051 hours of training since January. Lloyd Skiba was coaching, Bryn Lymburner was sick, and Pattrick Jansens was at a conference tonight and couldn't attend tonight's meeting. Chief Richardson presented the following people with badges and congratulated them on completing (or refreshing) their Black Helmet Training. Michael Powell, Casandra Vugteveen, Eric Jachim, Hanna Hollis, Justin Niles, Brandon Luxford, McKenna Preslar and Steven Sage each received a round of applause and their badge.

9. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT:

A. Chief Richardson said he's begun using the CAN Report. CAN stands for conditions, actions, and needs. The Chief reported they have had seven car accidents in the last two weeks. They've had a minimum of six people at each of those scenes. There were two structure fires as well. One fire was in Caledonia, and they had eight people on scene. The other was in Wayland, and they had nine people on scene. They have had lots of training. Joe Johnson assisted the Chief in getting Emergency Services authorized to administer Continuing Education credits. Collin Chrenka will be teaching the CPR class on a quarterly basis. There are five students in Fire Academy, four students in Paramedic School, and one student in EMT School. They will need more uniforms and gear because of changing staff, but also a four-gas monitoring system.

10. PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: Nothing further.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Backup Lagoon Operator – Schaefer said that he'd like to do some online training at a cost of \$440.00 so that he would be trained as a backup sewer lagoon operator. Bryan Finkbeiner takes vacation

from time to time, and it might be beneficial to have a backup operator. DeMaagd asked if there would be any further compensation for Schaefer. He said not at this time.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to approve training Eric Schaefer as backup Sewer Lagoon Operator.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no’s.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Absent	Rairigh: Yes
	Campbell: Yes	Schaefer: Yes
	DeMaagd: Yes	Selleck: Yes
	Ordway: Absent	

B. Tuition Agreement – Chief Richardson explained that the township had been awarded a grant that would cover the cost of tuition and \$15 pay rate while in class. According to the state, this would not need to be paid back monetarily but only in time worked for the department. The Chief said that if the student worked as a paramedic on average two shifts a month, then after three years their tuition would be reimbursed to the township in hours served.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh – Motion to approve the revised EMT/Paramedic Contract.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no’s.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Absent	Rairigh: Yes
	Campbell: Yes	Schaefer: Yes
	DeMaagd: Yes	Selleck: Yes
	Ordway: Absent	

C. Snowplowing – Schaefer explained he had gotten some quotes, and that Goggins Construction offered the best deal. He did reach out to NTA who had been awarded the snow plowing contract for many years. He asked them if they wanted to revise their quote. They explained that they don’t offer shoveling and salting of sidewalks and understood that the board might accept the other bid.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell – Motion to award the snow plowing contract for the Township Hall, Emergency Services, and Sewer Lagoon locations to Goggins Construction.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no’s.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Absent Yes Yes Absent	Rairigh: Schaefer: Selleck:	Yes Yes Yes
------------------------	---	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------

D. Ordinance 21.37 Revision – Schaefer explained this motion would revise the limitation on the size of ground mounted solar arrays allowed in the ordinance before needing approval from the Planning Commission through a special use permit. Selleck asked if this would mean additional taxes on the residents. Rairigh said no there were no taxes involved. She felt it was a good compromise on the size as many people needed that size for generating energy for their homes, but it wasn't so large as to create issues with neighbors.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh – Motion to revise Ordinance 21.37 to allow for administrative approval for ground mounted solar systems up from 600 sq. ft. to 720 sq. ft.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no's.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Absent Yes Yes Absent	Rairigh: Schaefer: Selleck:	Yes Yes Yes
------------------------	---	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------

E. New Hires – Chief Richardson explained that with four EMTs in paramedic school they would need additional staff to fill shifts. Rairigh asked if Chief Richardson had any candidates in mind already. He said that he did.

MOTION STATED:	DeMaagd – Motion to hire two part-time paramedics.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no's.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard: Campbell: DeMaagd: Ordway:	Absent Yes Yes Absent	Rairigh: Schaefer: Selleck:	Yes Yes Yes
------------------------	---	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------

F. Bay Door Lock – Chief Richardson explained that the lock is almost 20 years old and that they'd had issues for a while. They have worked on it but feel it's time to replace it. It's the main door employees use.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh – Motion to purchase a replacement keypad door lock for the Emergency Services Building entry at a cost NTE \$1,500.00.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no’s.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Absent	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Absent		

G. Badges – Chief Richardson said that at the last uniform inspection they found they needed 22 more badges. Rairigh asked what happens to the badges when someone leaves. The Chief explained that if someone retires after many years with the department, then they keep their badge. However, if someone is with the department for a year or two and then leaves, they turn it in, and it gets assigned to someone new.

MOTION STATED:	Rairigh - Motion to purchase 22 department badges.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no’s.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Absent	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Absent		

H. Shredding – Schaefer explained that Ordway had requested a shredding service for the township. Campbell asked who generates the most need. Chief Richardson said they have a lot of paperwork that needs to be shredded that goes back several years.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell - Motion to hire Data Guardian for shredding services at the Township Hall and Emergency Services Building.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Selleck
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no’s.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Absent	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Absent		

I. Trees – Schaefer explained that Ordway had gotten a few quotes and felt this one was the best. Campbell felt it was a reasonable price based on the cost he had gotten a few years ago when he had some trees cut down at his own place.

MOTION STATED:	Schaefer - Motion to hire Wickham Cemetery Services to remove dead trees from Mt. Hope Cemetery at a cost of \$8,400.00.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 5 ayes and 0 no's.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bouchard:	Absent	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Schaefer:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes	Selleck:	Yes
	Ordway:	Absent		

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

B. Cemetery (Ordway, DeMaagd, Rairigh) Rairigh said the committee will meet with Liz Hansson at the cemetery next week to discuss landscaping around the columbarium. They may end up using some of the Shaw funds.

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer) Heritage Days went very well.

D. Elections (Ordway, Bouchard, Schaefer) None.

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh) DeMaagd encouraged the board to consider setting a staffing level that the Fire Chief could maintain as needed rather than having him ask each time he needs to hire staff.

F. Finance (Bouchard, Ordway, Rairigh) Rairigh said things are going well.

G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Getty) Schaefer said the next meeting is scheduled for November. Getty said Nathan and Lindsay Fisher have decided to fill the Program Director position as a team and the board is very happy to have them do this. Three sheds have been painted with a fourth, and newly installed, shed to be painted soon.

H. Personnel – Compensation (Ordway, Campbell, Schaefer) None.

I. Property and Public Utilities (Selleck, DeMaagd, Campbell) Schaefer said the roof work on the Emergency Services Building has begun. Chief Richardson had spoken with the crew members and the

vehicles were parked outside while they worked. There are 205 squares on this roof, so it's a big project. They will also be replacing the gutters and downspouts as they need to be removed to put down the ice and water. It is expected that insurance will cover the cost of gutters, with the township responsible for the downspouts.

J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Selleck) Campbell reported the Noffke Drive project is complete although no stripes have been painted. Campbell said a four-way stop is being installed at the corner of Patterson Road and 108th Street. There have been bad accidents there in the past and this should help.

K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Selleck, Schaefer) None.

14. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None.

15. POLL OF MEMBERS:

Kim Selleck (Trustee) – Congratulations to Emergency Services staff on training.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) – Agreed with Selleck and said congratulations to the Emergency Services staff and a thank you to Reverend Hinklin for everything he's done.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) – Thank you to the fire department for allowing us to be here with the staff. Thank you to Eric Schaefer for taking on the extra challenges that have come his way.

Curt Campbell (Trustee) – Continues to be impressed and amazed at the progress that Emergency Services has made in the last couple of years. Thank you.

Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) – Absent due to attending work conference.

Cindy Ordway (Clerk) – Absent due to attending work conference.

Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) – Echo the thanks for everything Emergency Services does. Also, the last board meeting in this room was three years ago during covid and it was the last time he heard Dan Parker's voice.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 7:58 P.M.

MOTION STATED:	Selleck – Motion to adjourn the meeting.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Campbell
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by voice vote. 5 ayes and 0 nos.

Amy Brown

Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved 11/13/2023