

## **BROOKS TOWNSHIP MINUTES**

490 QUARTERLINE ROAD

NEWAYGO, Michigan 49337

(231) 652-6763

APRIL 16, 2024

**APPROVED**

**Members Present:** Supervisor - Cory Nelson, Clerk - Jennifer Badgero, Treasurer – Vivian Miller, Trustee - Ryan Schultz, Trustee – Danielle Hummel

**Members Absent:** None

A regular meeting of the Brooks Township Board was held on the above date at the Brooks Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Cory Nelson. Pledge of Allegiance

### **AGENDA:**

Supervisor Cory Nelson asked for additions or corrections to the agenda. **Moved** by Cory Nelson, **seconded** by Vivian Miller to approve the agenda, with the following changes: Add New Business Item #5. ORV  
**Unanimously Approved**

### **MINUTES**

**Moved** by Jennifer Badgero, **seconded** by Vivian Miller to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of March 19, 2024, with the following change. Add “**Unanimously Approved**” to New Business Item #4.  
**Unanimously Approved**

### **AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS:**

**Moved** by Cory Nelson, **seconded** by Jennifer Badgero, to pay the bills as presented. **Unanimously Approved**

### **TREASURER’S REPORT: (attached)**

**Received and Accepted Treasurer’s Report for August - GF 101 – Beginning Balance – \$1,779,745.34  
Receipts – \$68,601.37 Disbursement - \$51,005.39 Ending Balance – \$1,797,341.32**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

### **REPORTS:**

**Planning Commission** – Ryan Schultz reported that officers were elected with no changes. Williams and Works will write some simple language to address short-term rentals, special land use will be removed from accessory dwelling unit ordinance language. Recent state energy renewal legislation was discussed.

**Fire Board Report:** No meeting held

**Coolbough Management Commission** – No meeting held.

**Chain of Lakes Sewer Authority** – Cory Nelson reported that the COLA budget was passed and there was discussion on potential increase for customer billing next year due to rising costs.

**Newaygo Area Recreation Authority** – No meeting held

**County Commissioner** – Commissioner Brenda Bird provided the following highlights:

- COA is offering Senior Project Fresh coupons again this year
- Preliminary bids for the courthouse renovation from ARPA funds have been reviewed

- There has been reports of the avian flu in Newaygo County
- Axe my Tax information (a proposal to remove county and township governments) was provided to Cory Nelson
- The Hazardous Waste Cleanup is scheduled at the Road Commission on 5/18/24
- There continue to be many programs offered by the MSU Extension. The public is encouraged to make use of these valuable programs.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1) Wigent Dock – This item is being removed.
- 2) Road Patrol – **Moved** by Cory Nelson and **seconded** by Jennifer Badgero to discuss. A subsequent motion made by Cory Nelson to have Road Patrol for holidays only was not supported. A **final motion** to fund the same coverage as last year (FY 23/24) was submitted by Jennifer Badgero and **seconded** by Vivian Miller. **The final motion was not supported** by Nelson, Schultz, or Hummel.
- 3) River Patrol – It was decided not to pursue River Patrol in FY 24/25

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Mr. Ben Gilpin – NPS – Mr. Sherwood (standing in for Mr. Gilpin) provided handouts and information for the school bond proposal. The bond proposal, if passed in the May 7<sup>th</sup> Election, will continue the existing bond and fund facility improvements throughout the district with no tax increase. Mr. Sherwood encourages voters to cast their votes.
- 2) Phil Green – True North – Mr. Green, Senior Program Officer for True North, provided handouts and information for services provided by True North which provides hundreds of programs and services centered around community outreach and engagement. Over 80 different community programs are available and services 83 counties. Some of the major services funded include a food pantry, food truck, hunger prevention and empowerment programs and Camp Newaygo.
- 3) Fireboard Budget – **Moved** by Jennifer Badgero, **seconded** by Cory Nelson to approve the 24/25 Fire Board Budget as presented at \$564,060.00. **Unanimously Approved**
- 4) Ordinance Amendments – **Moved** by Cory Nelson, **seconded** by Jennifer Badgero to approve the changes for Art XVII, Site Plan Review, and Art III, General Provisions, involving outdoor lighting. **Unanimously Approved**
- 5) ORV – **Moved** by Cory Nelson, **seconded** by Vivian Miller to discuss. The forest service plans to shut down federal property in the prairie area if control is not initiated. The forest service apparently wants help to pay for enforcement. The majority of board members believe that it is up to the Federal Government rather than townships to provide this service.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** County Commissioner Brenda Bird commented on the ORV issue.

**TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** **Moved** by Jennifer Badgero, **seconded** by Danielle Hummel to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM.

Jennifer Badgero, \_\_\_\_\_  
Township Clerk

Dianna Schaafsma \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

