



November 14, 2023

Including
~~via Zoom Video Conference~~

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Supervisor Ulsh, Clerk Mongreig, Treasurer Scott, Trustee Stafford, and Trustee Fryling.

Motion by Fryling with second by Scott to approve the **Agenda** as presented. **Unanimously carried.**

Motion by Stafford with second by Stafford to approve the **Minutes** of the meeting held October 10, 2023. **Unanimously carried.**

Motion by Fryling with second by Stafford to approve the **List of Bills** as presented. **Unanimously carried.**

Treasurer Scott reported:

Income for month of October 2023	\$ 19,426.36
Expenditures	\$ 93,060.42
Balance September 30, 2023,	\$ 425,045.31
Balance October 31, 2023,	\$ 351,411.25
Total ARPA Funds	\$ 500,117.21

Motion by Fryling with second by Stafford to approve the **Treasurer's Report** as presented. **Unanimously carried.**

Citizen's Time:

Dan Harrison, Schoolcraft Township resident and property owner of land located at the corner of **23rd Street and TU Avenue** addressed the board and members in attendance regarding the Kalamazoo County Road Commission's 2025 plan to build a roundabout on the corner of his property including their taking a portion of his land by the process of eminent domain and the hardship this causes for the Harrison Family. He reported that there are numerous unanswered questions as to the reasons for the roundabout. Mr. Harrison suggests that Townships guard against future eminent domain by Kalamazoo County Road Commission.

During a meeting with Joanna Johnson and Mark *Warden* Warner of the Kalamazoo County Road Commission, Ms. Johnson advised Supervisor Ulsh "We (Kalamazoo County Road Commission), are going to do whatever we can to build the roundabout." Though there is no evidence of accidents, the Road Commission has received a grant and has decided that this is what they will do. Questions from residents remain as to the reason for the roundabout.

In response to an inquiry from Trustee Stafford about Schoolcraft Township using an Attorney from Foster Swift & Collins to process the **Planning Commission Meeting Minutes** due to absences in the Planning Commission Secretary, Supervisor advised that Township budget provides funds for these costs.

Digital Signage: Treasurer Scott shared examples of Digital Signs. The board made suggestions as to what each thought was appropriate to the Township design.

Treasurer Scott provided a power point on "Text My Gov." The Board decided to wait and see how well the new digital sign gets the message out to constituents.

The Board discussed the **mowing contracts** for 2024, both cemeteries and Swan Park. Bidding requirements will be on the Schoolcraft Township Web Site or can be obtained at the Township Hall. All bids are due December 18, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program: Motion by Scott with second by Fryling to increase the 2024 allocation by \$2,000.00, to \$7,000.00 in order to cover disposal costs for Schoolcraft Township for the rest of the year through December 31, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Fryling – yes, Scott – y, Ulsh – y, Mongreig – y, and Stafford – y.
Motion carried.

Planning Commission: Continues to work on the Master Plan.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Tabled Clapp Variance request.

Swan Park Report: Fencing and dug outs are under construction.

South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority: Continuing the search for a new emergency ambulance service. October 2023 incident reports coming soon.

South County Sewer & Water: Continued work on the US 131 project.

Member Time:

Fryling reported on the Michigan Legislature stripping local controls over wind and solar fields from cities and townships.

Clerk Mongreig reported that a constituent expressed how awful the decorations in the Vicksburg Cemetery are.

Clerk Mongreig reported an 18.56% turnout for the November 7, 2023, Special Election.

Trustee Stafford shared a picture of built-up brush and leaves in the Schoolcraft Cemetery while inaccurately blaming Schoolcraft Township's lawn care company.

Trustee Stafford referred the board the cover story in the November Township Focus magazine published through the Michigan Townships Association titled "Is it time to hire a township manager?"

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35


Virginia M. Mongreig, Clerk
Township of Schoolcraft