

## Speaker Township Board Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2023

Meeting called to order **Maitland** @ 7:00 p.m., Four (4) Board members present, **Sheldon** absent.

Pledge of Allegiance said

Approval of Meeting Agenda:

**Motion to approve June 6, 2023 Meeting Agenda made by Maitland, second by Stanley. Motion carried.**

Approval of May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes: **Motion to approve May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes made by Maitland, second by Murray. Motion carried.**

Approval of May 15, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes: **Motion to approve May 15, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes made by Murray, second by Maitland. Motion carried.**

Approval of May 2023 Treasurer's report: **Sheldon**(Treasurer) absent but report presented by Maitland. **Motion to approve May 2023 Treasurer's Report made by Maitland, second by Murray. Motion carried.**

Approval of May 2023 bills: **Motion to approve May 2023 bills (Township bills \$10,780.83 made by Murray, second by Stanley(Fire Dept. bills \$1,096.74) made Maitland, second by Stanley, (Township payroll 5,164.15) made by Murray, second by Maitland) Motion carried.**

**Fire Report: Trevor Stone** ( Fire Chief)absent. Assistant Chief, **Jeff Withey** gave report.

There were three(3) runs in May consisting of 2- medical runs, and 1-structure fire with multiple fire departments assisting( Brockway, Elk & Brown City fire departments).

Highway safety grant for Jaws was accepted and is now in the grant phase.

Michigan Treasury has a reimbursement grant available for fire equipment but must be applied for by the township. Application submitted to clerk for online submission. The township could receive up to \$22,500.00 for turnout gear.

on benefits of joining. **Cubitt**(Clerk) asked if it was a good idea to join since Sanilac County fire departments are struggling with personnel. **Stone**(Fire Chief) advised he would never leave the township vulnerable and if the whole county does not join he would not be interested in joining either. **Cubitt**(Clerk) asked about insurance covering the fire trucks leaving the county and was advised it is not an issue but the township insurance company will be contacted to verify. **Maitland**(Supervisor) advised this issue would be tabled until next meeting to get some answers to some of the questions on the MABAS system.

**Planning Report: Steinhoff**(Planning Commission ) . **Dambacher**(Vice Chair of Planning Commission) advised on June 1, 2023 a Planning Commission workshop was held to review the responses from Liberty Power on the special land use permit and there was some good public input. Another workshop will be held on June 13, 2023 to discuss solar ordinance and wind. Dean Hughes has asked to be put on the agenda as well. The next quarterly Planning Commission meeting will be July 11, 2023.

**Zoning Report: Sproul**(Zoning Administrator)(SEE ATTACHED) read her attached report. A little bit busier month.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Approval to Pay Townley Engineering bill :

**Maitland**(Supervisor) presented the Townley Engineering bill in the amount of \$5,382.50.. **Motion to Approve payment of the Townley Engineering bill in the amount of \$5,382.50 made by Murray, Maitland. Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

**Maitland**(Supervisor) stated the Township would hear public comment and asked for public to come to the podium with the microphone and take no longer than 5 minutes.

**Mike McCullough**(Public) inquired about when the brine was going to be put on the roads. **Maitland**(Supervisor) explained the Road Commission is experiencing a gravel shortage. They usually put gravel and brine down together, but they have been told to do the brine now and gravel later in the summer. Scheduled to get brine next week per Road Commission.

**Bob Wakefield**(Public) inquired about when Melvin will get high speed internet. He sees all kind of fiber work being done around the county. Discussion held on how the township has not been contacted by any companies in regards to broadband installation, but believes the State has contracts with the companies.

**Mary Angerbrant**(Public) reiterated her concerns from last meeting about property right infringements. She read minutes from an April 2021 Public hearing stating the ordinance is written for the wind

companies and not the homeowners. Discussion took place on setbacks, etc. Wants a condition that will protect her rights and proper setbacks.

Shout outs from the crown about when the sign work would be completed. Maitland(Supervisor) explained that the electrician bid was awarded and the company is extremely busy and put it on their list. **Murray**(Trustee) advised he spoke with Olds Electric about two weeks ago and was told about three weeks to get to the project.

**Gerald Pathic**(Public) advising that the public could not hear at the Planning workshop and they need to be able to hear. Some discussion over something that was heard spoken by **Murray**(Trustee). Questioned the special meeting that was held to approve the referendum ballot language and it wasn't posted or that it should have been posted sooner. **Cubitt**(Clerk) advised it was posted on the door, and on the website within the legal parameters of a special meeting.

**Scott Westbrook**(Public-Fremont Twp.) advised that Highline is the company putting in fiber around the county and they have an office in Sandusky next to Tractor Supply. Inquired about how deep the foundations of the wind turbines will be and cautioned that the township protect well water. Read a section of the Vestas safety manual about cautions on the windmill heights at the V90-400 ft and doesn't believe setbacks going to the dwelling are legal.

**Rella Hoffman**(Public) questioned Supervisor Maitland on what he meant in his quotes in the newspaper. Supervisor Maitland stated he was interviewed on the wind project and everything he said was the truth.

The public comments then become a free for all and became contentious as accusations were being thrown out about the board members and the zoning administrator. Supervisor(Maitland) attempted to bring order and Scott Westbrook(Public) walked up behind the Board table to give a sheet of paper to the supervisor. He was instructed that he was not to come back behind the table but could present the paper in front of the board table or wait until after the meeting.

**Bonnie Sproul**(Zoning Administrator) wanted to say that she didn't appreciate being falsely accused of being on the list of clients of the wind company. She addressed the Public stating that Maitland(Supervisor) was not in his position at the onset of the wind ordinance amendments, etc. She also stated that she is not so concerned about the well water/cement affect t from the wind turbines a she is worried about the chemicals the farmers put on their fields.

Mark Kenward (Public-Fremont Twp.) asked about how many people were on the Speaker Township Board and he was advised there are 5 board members. Sheldon(Treasurer) could not make this meeting. Asked about the referendum and continued on with quoting Attorney General opinion 6,005.

Tracy Katolski(Public-Fremont Twp). Did not sign in on sheet and did not catch her name. Questioned about the ordinance amendment changes and if they were properly posted in the paper, etc. She stated that copies of the changes should be readily available to the public to see. Maitland(Supervisor) advised all proper channels of notification were made and followed per the township attorney's instructions.

**Carolyn Fairman**(Public) inquired if the township board has by-laws. Advised the board is a member of the Michigan Township Association and follows their guidelines. Inquired on the million dollar

endowment that Liberty mentioned in a Fremont meeting and if the township has signed anything to get this money. **Maitland**(Supervisor) advised he had only heard that at the Fremont Township meeting and has not heard anything of it since then. Inquired about the hiring of the sound study engineer with Fremont Township. **Maitland**(Supervisor) stated that **Ken Dambacher**(Planning Commission Vice-Chair) was looking into it and there as possibly going to be a meeting next week. The person works for MSU. Discussion on the safety data sheets and how the master plan says that all safety approvals needs to be met before the Public hearing. **Maitland**(Supervisor) reiterated that if all conditions and data are not provided the Planning Commission will not approve the special land use permit.

**Motion to Adjourn meeting @ 8:05 p.m. made by Murray, second by Stanley. Motion carried.**

**Dawn M. Cubitt**

**Speaker Township Clerk**

## Tuesday, May 2, 2023

### Checking

	Apr		May				May	
	Reconciled Balance	Checks / Debits	Deposits	Service Charges	Interest	Projected Balance	Interest Rate	
<b>Tri-County Bank</b>								
Fire Truck Fund 0435	\$69,730.18		\$1,000.00		\$58.05	\$70,788.23	1.01%	
Operating Fund 0242	\$94,684.19	\$9,012.36			\$74.98	\$85,746.81	1.01%	
Liberty Exp. Reimb. 3293	\$70,059.48	\$2,415.00			\$50.02	\$67,694.50	1.00%	
ARPA Funds 5040	\$130,527.19				\$107.32	\$130,634.51	1.00%	
<b>Choice One Bank</b>								
General Fund 0128	\$282,289.64	\$21,831.45	\$2,561.05		\$222.20	\$263,241.44	1.00%	
Social Security 9110	\$1,041.60	\$1,123.86	\$1,123.86		\$0.00	\$1,041.60	0.01%	
Tax Fund 7556	\$793.87		\$121.09		\$0.50	\$915.46	0.50%	
<b>Petty Cash</b>								
Change for Taxpayers	\$300.00					\$300.00		

### CD's

	May		Date of Interest		Interest	YTD Int	Interest Rate	Maturity Date
	Balance	Pd 4x/yr	Pd 4x/yr	Interest				
<b>Tri-County Bank</b>								
CD3844	\$51,316.99		2/14/2023	\$19.39	\$19.39	0.15%	2/14/2024	
CD3852	\$51,316.99		2/14/2023	\$19.39	\$19.39	0.15%	2/14/2024	
CD4166	\$51,292.28		4/14/2023	\$18.96	\$38.34	0.15%	4/15/2024	

\*\*\*Corrected to add Townley Engineering check to Liberty Reimbursement account

Speaker Township  
July 2022 - March 2023  
Property Taxes Collected

Speaker Township  
July 1 2022 - Feb 28 2023  
To Be Collected

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total Taxes
Collected - Summer	\$96,465.99	\$73,849.10	\$220,705.90	\$4,512.90	\$6,979.95	\$8,976.61	\$6,131.06	\$13,802.54	\$275.33	\$431,699.38
Collected - Winter						\$218,658.01	\$346,842.28	\$217,696.29	\$5,074.15	\$788,270.73
**Interest				\$35.37	\$82.66	\$131.68	\$239.47	\$105.25	\$7.05	\$601.48
**Int paid to County	\$96,465.99	\$73,849.10	\$220,705.90	\$4,548.27	\$7,062.61	\$227,766.30	\$353,212.81	\$231,604.08	\$5,356.53	\$1,220,571.59

Collected from County \$1,220,571.59  
Delinquent \$677,244.47

	Sanilac County	State (QFP)	Wm. H. Atkin Lib	Sanilac ISD	St. Clair RESA	SC4	Brown City Schools	Crosswell Schools	Peck Schools	Yale Schools	Due to Gen Fund	Admin Sum SET COLLECTION	Operating Admin Wfn Roads	Due to Fire Fund	Total Collected
	\$92,860.56	\$186.39										\$954.04	\$2,465.00	\$96,465.99	\$96,465.99
	\$73,118.62											\$730.48	\$2,182.92	\$73,849.10	\$73,849.10
	\$218,522.98											\$2,182.92	\$44.65	\$220,705.90	\$220,705.90
	\$4,503.62											\$44.65	\$69.01	\$4,548.27	\$4,548.27
	\$6,993.60											\$69.01	\$88.81	\$7,062.61	\$7,062.61
	\$92,006.65											\$88.81	\$9,701.48	\$227,766.30	\$227,766.30
	\$104,664.61											\$60.65	\$14,875.39	\$353,212.81	\$353,212.81
	\$82,573.39											\$136.53	\$9,397.05	\$231,604.08	\$231,604.08
	\$2,000.44											\$2.72	\$267.28	\$5,356.53	\$5,356.53
												\$181.05	\$2,382.21	\$8,838.05	\$8,838.05
												\$4,450.86	\$36,623.41	\$1,229,409.64	\$1,229,409.64
												\$2,465.00	\$8,337.63	\$842,600.97	\$842,600.97
												\$4,450.88	\$36,623.99	\$1,292,615.31	\$1,292,615.31
												\$2,465.00	\$8,337.63	\$1,292,615.31	\$1,292,615.31

Summer	Winter	Total Taxes
Total Paid \$96,465.99	Total Paid \$218,658.01	Total Taxes \$431,699.38
# Deferred 26	# Deferred 26	# Deferred 0
\$ Deferred \$16,007.71	\$ Deferred \$11,415.28	\$ Deferred \$0.00
% unpaid - 78.56%	% unpaid 74.05%	% unpaid 0.00%
Deferred 58.60%	Deferred 7.05%	Deferred 4.07%
9.55%	6.02%	4.13%
8.55%	4.66%	4.07%
7.00%	4.13%	4.07%
6.02%	4.13%	4.07%
4.66%	4.13%	4.07%
4.13%	4.13%	4.07%
4.07%	4.07%	4.07%

Reconciled with County on 3/16/23  
Received Delinquent  
Received from County on 5/4/23

Report is updated when payments are made after the 15th and last day of each month.  
Amounts may change as property status changes (exemption status, PRE status etc.)  
98 Uncollected parcels

# Speaker Township - Fire Fund Transaction Detail by Account May 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Clr	Split	Amount
<b>0242 Fire Operating</b>							
Check	05/04/2023	2970	Mclvor Lawn Care	Spring Clean up...		818A - Lawn Care...	-60.00
Check	05/04/2023	2971	Yale Hardware	Acct#124 Supplies		740 - Operating S...	-7.49
Check	05/04/2023	2972	Mitel	Phone Charges...		853 - Telephone	-22.60
Check	05/15/2023	2973	BP	Acct# 08100000...		741 - Oil & Gas	-326.90
Check	05/16/2023	2974	Frontier	Telephone charg...		853 - Telephone	-19.99
Check	05/23/2023	2975	Frontier	April Billing Acct...		853 - Telephone	-69.99
Check	05/23/2023	2976	DTE Energy	April Billing Acct...		920 - Electricity	-104.87
Check	05/25/2023	2977	Frontier	Telephone billing...		853 - Telephone	-54.99
Check	05/30/2023	2978	Semco Energy	May Gas Billing ...		921 - Gas/Heat	-83.40
Check	05/30/2023	2979	GFL Environment	Trash Removal ...		740 - Operating S...	-24.75
Check	05/30/2023	2980	Brown City Auto Parts	Parts needed for ...		775 - Repairs & M...	-321.76
Total 0242 Fire Operating							-1,096.74
<b>TOTAL</b>							<b>-1,096.74</b>

*Alan M. Eckert*

*Tom Murray*

*William Matthews*

**Speaker Township - General Fund  
Transaction Detail by Account  
May 2 - 31, 2023**

No item	Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Clr	Split	Amount
Check		05/02/2023	12545	Speaker Township	SSI May Payroll t...		CSB - Social Secu...	-993.74
Check		05/02/2023	12546	Speaker Township	SSI Payroll Taxe...		CSB - Social Secu...	-0.06
Check		05/04/2023	12547	Mclvor Lawn Care	Spring clean up/r...		818 - Lawn Care	-60.00
Check		05/04/2023	12548	Mclvor Lawn Care	1 st half payment...		818 - Lawn Care	-2,250.00
Check		05/04/2023	12549	Mitel	Telephone Billing...		853 - Telephone	-91.36
Check		05/04/2023	12550	BS&A Software			-SPLIT-	-1,362.00
Check		05/04/2023	12551	Preferred Heating & Coo...	Gas Leak Repair...		956 - Township B...	-248.00
Check		05/09/2023	12552	Taylor Butterfield, P.C.	Attorney Billing A...		801 - Professional...	-3,912.00
Check		05/09/2023	12553	DTE Energy	Electricity Billing ...		920 - Electricity	-145.90
Check		05/09/2023	12554	Melissa Murray	Deposit Refund f...		687 - Hall Refunds	-50.00
Check		05/07/2023	debit	Quickbooks	Intuit QB Payroll ...		740 - Operating S...	-53.00
Check		05/16/2023	12555	Frontier	Telephone April B...		853 - Telephone	-19.99
Check		05/16/2023	12556	Frontier	Telephone Billing...		853 - Telephone	-19.99
Check		05/16/2023	12557	Sanilac Co. Road Comm...	Roadside Ditch c...		930 - Roads	-301.50
Check		05/23/2023	12558	DTE Energy	April Billing Acct...		920 - Electricity	-155.51
Check		05/23/2023	12559	Karla Abrego	Deposit Refund f...		687 - Hall Refunds	-50.00
Check		05/23/2023	12560	Tracy Sheldon	Reimbursement fo...		740 - Operating S...	-16.32
Check		05/30/2023	12561	GFL Environmental	May Trash Remo...		740 - Operating S...	-24.75
Check		05/30/2023	12562	Semco Energy	May Gas Billing ...		921 - Gas/Heat	-55.61
Check		05/30/2023	12563	MTA	MTA Annual Du...		956 - Township B...	-971.10
Total no item								-10,780.83
<b>TOTAL</b>								<b>-10,780.83</b>



# Speaker Township

## Zoning Report

June 6, 2023

5/3/23 Foundation Systems of Michigan re: 255 W. Burnsline – will be waterproofing basement and gutters? Do they need permit? Referred to Sanilac County Building Dept.\

5/3/23 Rachel – looking to buy land on Redicliffe Rd., can they build pole barn first?

5/8/23 Issued LU to Chris Sanborn on Burnsline Rd for pond, carport and deck.

5/8/23 Rob Gaston – is it ok to stay in camper on his property? Plan on building home in near future.

5/22/23 Dawn Koss – blight complaint ..... did an inspection and found nothing that is addressed by Township Ordinances.

5/23/23 Rob Gaston – questions regarding additional power request.

6/6/23 Approved land split request from Bernie Davies

Bonnie Sproul, Zoning Administrator

# Speaker Township Board Meeting

Sign in Sheet

Date: 6/6/23

Printed Name

Signature

Jan Pries

*Jan Pries*

JEFF WITHELY

*Jeff Withey*

BOB FALK

*Bob Falk*

PAUL FALK

*Paul Falk*



Speaker Township Board Meeting

Sign in Sheet

Date: 6/6/23

Printed Name

Signature

Rochelle Stevens

Rochelle S

Thompson K. Strickley

Thompson K Strickley

Carolyn Fairman

Carolyn Fairman

MARK FAIRMAN

Mark Fairman

Blank lined area for additional sign-ins.

