

Madison Township Board Meeting  
7047 E. Landersdale Rd. Camby In 46113  
January 2, 2024  
7:04 pm

**Agenda**

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ronnie McClure at 7:04 PM.

Present: Trustee Larry Ellis, Chairman Ronnie McClure, Board Secretary Nelson Hoggatt, Board Member Matthew Pranger, Clerk Tina Turner

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge was recited by board and audience.

- III. **Prayer/Moment of Silence:** Observed by board and audience.

- IV. **Election of Officers:**

**Note\*\*** Agenda Item V was addressed here.

Nelson made a motion to nominate Ronnie for the position of Board Chairman for 2024, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matthew.  
Motion passed 3-0.

Nelson made a motion to nominate Matthew for Board Secretary for 2024, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ronnie.  
Motion passed 3-0.

**Note\*\*** Agenda Item VIII was addressed here.

Agenda Item IX was addressed here.

Agenda Item VII was addressed here.

Matthew made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:55 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nelson.  
Motion passed 3-0.

**Note\*\*** Proceed to Agenda Item VI.

- V. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes from December 28, 2023 Meeting:**

Ronnie asked if there was a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the December 28, 2023 meeting.

Nelson made a motion to accept the meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matthew.  
Motion passed 3-0.

**VI. Finance Meeting:**

The Finance Meeting was called to order at 7:56 PM.

Nelson nominated Ronnie for Chairman of the Finance Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matthew. Motion passed 3-0.

Matthew nominated Nelson for Secretary of the Finance Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nelson. Motion passed 3-0.

Trustee Ellis stated there were no investments for the period 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023. There were no dividends or interest income on investments for the period 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023. He said there was interest on our checking account, but that does not apply to dividends and investments.

Chairman McClure stated some people signed up to speak and called on Trudy Ellis.

Trudy asked if reports for sick time and vacation time from 2023 to 2024 were available. Trustee Ellis said he does not have those reports but he has been told they are available. He said if either of the Chiefs were present tonight, they would have had those with them.

Trudy asked if we have reports for assets. Trustee Ellis said that is supposed to be done by the first of the year and he has not seen one, so he has started creating his own asset ledger. Trustee Ellis said an Asset Ledger is supposed to be created every two years.

Dawn Horock asked if we are still hiring. Trustee Ellis answered yes. He said we are currently three positions down and we will go to Firefighter/Paramedics instead of Paramedics. He said as of January 6, we will be four positions down. He said he will ask the board for referrals because we are not getting good enough results from social media and other means of hiring.

Dawn said she thinks we need to do more towards getting grants for the work that needs to be done at station #31. Trustee Ellis said we are working on that.

**Note\*\* Proceed to Agenda Item X.**

**VII. Board Items, if needed:**

**VIII. Set 2024 Board Meeting Dates:**

Nelson suggested changing the meeting day from Thursdays to Tuesday or Wednesday. The board agreed to hold the regular meetings on Wednesdays. The board discussed and established the following meeting dates for 2024.

February 7, April 10, June 12, July 10, September 11, September 25, November 13, December 18.

Nelson asked if we could get these meeting dates published on our website and it was agreed they would be put on both the Fire Department and Trustee's websites.

**IX. Public Comments/Questions:**

Dawn asked the board to write a brief bio and send that and a picture to Tina for the Trustee website.

Ronnie asked how we want to conduct the meetings, e.g. a modified version of Robert's Rules.

Matthew agreed that would be a good format.

Nelson said if the public has an opportunity to speak and be heard he is OK with that.

Ronnie said going forward we should have a section on the agenda for public comments.

Trustee Ellis provided the board a best guess estimate from Sunco Construction for what would be required to make renovations to Station #31. He said this estimate does not include what would be required to hook into the sewer. He said has also asked a contractor to give him an estimate of what it would cost to merely redo the interior. Also, an estimate from an electrician for what it would cost to rewire the building. He said another option is to replace Station #31, which he is not in favor of.

Dawn asked Trustee Ellis if he is aware that Anthony (Chief McClure) is forming a committee to investigate building a new Fire Station. Trustee Ellis said he is aware that is happening, but that is designed to provide us with more options. He said we have the plans for building a new station that the township spent \$50,000 on and at that time the building would cost approximately \$2,000,000 and at this time it would be closer to \$3,000,000 - \$4,000,000. Trustee Ellis said when the recommendation comes down from the Trustee's office, it will be to renovate station #31, but we should perform due diligence and get costs for other options.

Ronnie asked if the estimate provided by Sunco would bring the building up to code and Trustee Ellis said it would. Ronnie asked if the estimate includes redoing the concrete with the proper base and extending it out so that apparatuses have enough turn space without running out into the grass and Trustee Ellis said it does.

Dawn asked if we looked at moving the concrete drive to extend straight out of the bay area to the street. Trustee Ellis said there are other factors to consider, such as, the county would have to be involved, a culvert would need to be installed, there would be a need for much fill to accommodate that approach.

An audience member asked why Station #31 was closed and Trustee Ellis said it was due to safety concerns for the people who are housed there. The electrical in the living quarters is a concern as is the concrete. He said one individual was taking trash out and tripped on the concrete and was off duty for quite a while.

An audience member asked if we are going to get the roofing project completed before we address the building issues and Trustee Ellis said yes, all we must do is put that out for bids.

Trustee Ellis said we can move money from the Rainy-Day Fund for a project if we need to.

Nelson said we currently have 4 sleeping rooms and asked how many we need. Trustee Ellis said six for future growth. Nelson said he has been working on some options for our fire house needs and Trustee Ellis said to continue with that. We want to look at all our options. Nelson asked what the timeline is for doing this work and Trustee Ellis said we really do not have a set timeline at this point. Nelson asked if there are things we should look at doing right now to get the station open. Trustee Ellis said he has been advised that it is best to wait on the concrete work until all the construction is done. Nelson said there is much unused space in the bay area and asked if that could be repurposed as a rec room, for example. Trustee Ellis said that has been looked at because there is a lot of unused space there.

There was some brainstorming between board, Trustee, and audience members related to sleeping and bathroom arrangements and Trustee Ellis said part of his job is to avoid a lawsuit. He said we just went through one and does not want to go through another.

Trustee Ellis said we have saved enough money and put enough money back to probably pay half of the cost of these renovations and the rest could probably be paid for through grants.

Trustee Ellis stated some of the things we accomplished in 2023:

1. We saved approximately \$40,000 on insurance and we are getting another quote that could potentially save us even more money, possibly as much as \$15,000 on insurance premiums.
2. We have provided a substantial pay raise for our firefighters.
3. We have provided health insurance and it includes health, vision, and dental.
4. We sold Engine 832.
5. We sold a 2014 Explorer.
6. We sold our dive gear and got out of the dive business
7. We traded our heavy rescue for an engine that has been refurbished.
8. We settled our roofing issue.
9. We had a fourth of July celebration and obtained a 1970 engine that was formerly from Madison Township, that will become a parade vehicle. That vehicle will be maintained through donations; no taxpayer money will be spent on that vehicle.
10. We purchased a PA System for our meeting room.
11. We put our apparatuses on a maintenance schedule.
12. We modified our benefits package to be in line with other departments.
13. We switched our TV provider to save money.
14. We decreased our waste cost by eliminating the recycle dumpster.
15. We streamlined our vender list.
16. We paid off one loan in the Cumulative Fund.
17. We finished the year in budget.

An audience member asked what is being considered for the septic system vs. hooking into the sewer. Trustee Ellis said we are looking at both options. He said the septic mound system was not sized to house people 24 hours a day. So that system is over-taxed if we wash an apparatus inside.

Nelson said after we stopped washing apparatuses in the bay up until we closed the station, the septic system accommodated the number of people working. He said he has talked to the owner of AA Septic, who does our septic clean-out, and he is willing to work with us to try and resolve our problems.

X. **Adjournment:**

Matthew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nelson  
Motion passed 3-0.

Minutes prepared by Board Member Nelson Hoggatt for Board Secretary Matthew Pranger.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

AYE

NAY

Ronan M

MP

Nelson Hoggatt

ATTEST:

Jay

Trustee Ellis, Madison Township Trustee

1/2/2024 Township Board Meeting  
Financial update from Township Clerk

12/31/2023 Check #120621.6, 12/06/2021, \$331.00 Firemans Chore was cancelled  
\$331.00 was credited to #1111 Fire Fund

**Township 0101 Budget Changes**

tina-55madi	12/29/2023	14:21	Changed budget for 2B from \$550.00 to \$1000.00
tina-55madi	12/29/2023	14:21	Changed budget for 2AC from \$900.00 to \$450.00
tina-55madi	12/29/2023	14:20	Changed budget for 2B from \$1000.00 to \$550.00
tina-55madi	12/29/2023	14:20	Changed budget for 1BA from \$3370.00 to \$3820.00

**Fire 1111 Budget Changes**

tina-55madi	10/9/2023	10:26	Changed budget for 1D from \$3375.00 to \$0.00
tina-55madi	10/9/2023	10:26	Changed budget for 1BA from \$92060.00 to \$95435.00
tina-55madi	10/9/2023	10:24	Changed budget for 1D from \$53375.00 to \$3375.00
tina-55madi	10/9/2023	10:24	Changed budget for 1A from \$1203100.00 to \$1253100.00
tina-55madi	9/15/2023	11:41	Changed budget for 3I from \$26000.00 to \$20706.00
tina-55madi	9/15/2023	11:41	Changed budget for 3H from \$25000.00 to \$22597.00
tina-55madi	9/15/2023	11:41	Changed budget for 3A from \$19000.00 to \$26697.00
tina-55madi	9/15/2023	11:37	Changed budget for 1D from \$0.00 to \$53375.00

