

ALBORN TOWNSHIP

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October 4, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Dale Larson, Chairperson. Present at the meeting were Tarah Vitek, Kurt Johnson, and Dale Larson, Supervisors; Ronda Bernard, Deputy Clerk; Linsey Larson, Deputy Treasurer; John Klassen, John Wolvin, Robert Johannessen, Stacy Kleinert, Tamara Schaefer, Joseph Haag, Tim Johnson, Thomas Johnson, and Shaun Niehaus.

Kurt made a motion to approve the September 8, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Kurt made a motion to approve the September 22, 2021 Joint Township Meeting Minutes. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christine read the Treasurer's Report. Kurt made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BILLS

Ronda read the Claims List. Kurt made a motion to pay the bills, including PERA. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E-MAILS/CORRESPONDENCE

Industrial By-Products submitted a letter to the Board of Supervisors for an application to apply wood ash and/or lime at Gene Holman's property.

SSD

John presented a report for SSD. In September, the system pumped 183,100 gallons on a 28-day month, which is 6,539 gallons on average per day. John provided the Board with the Annual Fall Maintenance Inspection Log. There are 5 tanks that should be pumped and 4 tanks that should have gate valve handles that need to be replaced. Discussion on sites that are plugged due to Handy Wipes and if this is a reoccurring issue at these properties. Tarah will work with Amanda on sending out a letter to those that have this reoccurring issue. People Service will need to work on the broken handles, as they have to go down into the tank to fix these. Discussion on ordering handles for all the tanks and having them replaced as needed. Kurt made a motion to purchase 19 handles and replace the broken ones. Dale seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Draw Down test performed on October 4, 2021. The difference with Pump #1 is due to replacement of a gasket. John would recommend that if the County doesn't want to meet on the

calculation, that we change the calculation on our end (John has been attempting to have a meeting since the beginning of the year). Discussion on submitting a letter to the County with all the information and numbers from the Draw Down Tests. Discussion on changing the calculation of previous Draw Down tests for comparison purposes. Kurt made a motion to go back and use John's new numbers from the first of the year. (14.54 for pump #1 and 23.925 for pump #2) Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bob Johannessen was in attendance to question the user fee. He was not aware that this was a permanent fee for SSD residents.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Board reviewed an invoice for Albion Fire Department National Night Out. New Independence will be invoiced 40% of the cost and Christine will transfer monies from the General Fund to the National Night Out Fund for Albion's 60% of the cost. Kurt made a motion to approve Christine's process for paying the invoice for National Night Out. Tarah seconded it and it passed unanimously. Discussion on providing more food at the next National Night Out.

Dale voiced that at the previous meeting it was a disappointment that a "mob" took over the meeting with false information shared regarding current situations within the Township. The Joint Powers then took this information to make decisions at a meeting the following evening. Dale indicated that the Joint Powers meeting was illegally held, as it was not posted, therefore anything that was decided at that meeting did not happen. The Joint Powers meeting was scheduled, but not posted, as the Clerk did not find the time to put it on the posting board. He further indicated that the Joint Powers should put into writing what is being proposed to those involved (Robb O'Bey and Stacy Kleinert). Therefore, the resolutions proposed are invalid.

Christine read a statement on the process of Robb O'Bey being asked to step down as Fire Chief and Stacy Kleinert to resign, stating that the same process was not used for each individual. She asked that the Joint Powers Board allow Stacy to defend herself against these accusations, as Robb was able to at a previous meeting. Additionally, based on the by-laws, a resignation is asked when a volunteer firefighter is a danger to the fire department or the community, which Christine indicated is not the case with Stacy.

Dale indicated "Whistleblower" statutes protect those that bring information forward and feels that the initial letter presented to the Board should have been brought to an attorney. Kurt will be bringing information to an attorney for advice.

Dale will be asking the Chief for two years of information regarding the Relief Association.

Dale also presented information to the Board that the Fire Chief is not asking for reimbursement from the DNR, which is costing the Township money. Discussion on when the Fire Department has or should be asking for reimbursement for aiding a fire.

Joseph Hagg asked for clarification on the illegal Joint Powers meeting and what to do going forward. Discussion on the Fire Department taking the decisions from the meeting on the 23rd and those being invalid and what to do with the personnel committee and issues within the Fire Department.

It is the understanding from the discussion of the meeting tonight that Robb O'Bey is still Chief and Stacy Kleinert is still on the department performing her duties, since the Joint Powers meeting is deemed illegal and void. There is an upcoming Joint Powers meeting this coming Friday which will address these issues.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Dale asked about Ground Effects doing work for the Township with "Conflict of Interest" document to support the work completed and an indication that another company could not have done the work for a lesser rate.

Discussion on the playground and monies for the project, as there was an opportunity for matching monies through the playground company. Tarah submitted an application for \$37,000, but if approved, the Township would need to have matching funds by November 2. The Playground Committee is still working toward sending out donation letters and submitting applications for funds.

Shaun has yet to sign the parking lot agreement with the Township. Shaun indicated that he will be fixing the pothole in the driveway of the parking lot.

Dale made a motion to build a roof over the air conditioning unit area. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion on putting a water purifier directly on the faucet, rather than using the pitcher, for water in the coffee machine. Kurt indicated there is a reverse osmosis faucet that can be purchased and added to the sink to allow for one faucet for washing and one for water. John and Kurt will work together on finding another faucet for water.

ROAD AND BRIDGES

Dale provided an update on road work.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on the upcoming History Day; flyer to residents, refreshments, and details for the day.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tarah made a motion to adjourn. Kurt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Bernard, Deputy Clerk