

Norwich Township Unapproved Summary 2022

1/12/22

- No further action has been taken on the 150 year anniversary of the Township
- Zoning Administrator presented report
- State requires Board of Review to have training every two years
- Board is seeking a new Assessor due to resignation
- Discussed contracts for snow removal
- Due to expiration of ambulance millage, it will be added to the August 2022 ballot
- Clerk's and Treasurer's laptops are very outdated; replacements approved
- Wage increases were discussed
- Budget line items were discussed
- Road repair tabled for further review
- Discussed expenditure of ARPA monies

2/9/22

- Zoning report was presented
- Discussed annual brine estimate and continued use of D&B Brine services
- Assessor position is available

3/9/22

- Zoning report was presented: request for foster care facility permit and property line adjustment
- Data has been transferred to the new computers for the Clerk and Treasurer. Final cost less than allotted
- Discussed annual audit. Two issues were identified. One form was not submitted timely; the other was a deficit in the Fire Fund.
- Budget amendments were presented and approved
- Two candidates for the Assessor's position were discussed
- Any complaints regarding the poor condition of M-20 are to be referred to the Newaygo County Road Commission as it is a county road and not a township road

4/13/22

- Zoning Administrator presented and discussed report
- Discussed condition of roads in township and repaving cemetery. Quotes to be obtained
- Line items in budget were adjusted to close out the fiscal year
- Amended Resolution regarding Deficit Plan; presented and approved
- Resolution presented and signed for a franchise agreement allowing Great Lake Energy internet service using current easement and infrastructure; other companies may provide competitive services
- CD's set to automatically renew
- Brian Story will be offered the Assessor position, due to resignation

5/11/22

- Discussed repair of Hickory Drive and how to finance repaving; tabled until next meeting when Supervisor will be present
- Zoning Administrator presented report
- Joseph Fox presented himself as candidate for State Representative
- Repair estimates for cemetery were provided
- Discussed contract for mowing at town hall and cemetery. No increase has been provided for six years; increase granted for 2022
- Fire protection bill received from City of Big Rapids. Budget amended by 2500 to cover cost. Payment would also cause fund deficit until delinquent taxes are received. City of Big Rapids is to be contacted and request made for an extension or partial payment until delinquent taxes are received at the end of May.

6/9/22

- Discussion of road repair to Hickory Drive. Only half of the funding is available; the issue will be addressed when road funding is received next year.
- Bids were reviewed for the repair/renovation of the cemetery road. ARPA monies will be used to make the repairs.
- Discussed Annual Township Clean up Day; similar arrangement with increase in cost.
- Budget adjustment made to cover the 3 year plan for the GoDaddy website.
- The Master Plan is currently under review by the Planning Commission.
- Repairs to septic tank were noted.

7/13/22

- No old business was on the agenda
- Great Lakes Energy applied for, and was approved for, use of the existing right of way during installation of their broadband internet service
- Budget adjustments were presented and approved
- Pre-payment agreement with propane company was discussed; an invoice will be sent to the Township

8/10/22

- Paving of cemetery is ongoing
- Zoning Administrator had several calls in July and early August and approved permits
- Planning Commission received information from Ryan Coffey regarding solar and wind farms which will be included in the revised Master Plan
- Clerk received a FOIA regarding election materials and electronic information from the voting machines; Atty Cliff Bloom will advise

9/14/22

- Budget adjustments were made in the Elections line item printing and publishing and in the line item for EMS contracted services
- Clerk presented the L-4029 which listed the allowable millage rates of the Township, levied in December

10/12/22

- Zoning Administrator's report was presented
- Replacement of current Clerk was discussed; a written letter of resignation was presented
- An updated Master Plan was presented; updates were approved
- 2023 Planning Commission will meet quarterly rather than bi-monthly
- Road Commission reimbursement correspondence was presented

11/8/22

- Budget amendments were made to Supervisor's Office Supplies, Election Salaries and Wages, and Election Transportation
- Awaiting a response from Township Atty Cliff Bloom regarding recent FOIA request
- Joni Morgan being considered for Township Clerk; matter tabled until all members are present
- Motion to approve the expenditure, by the Supervisor for a new door, up to \$1500.00

12/14/22

- Amendments to budget presented and approved
- Zoning Administrator's report presented
- Big Rapids Library representatives presented a request for funding. Matter was taken under advisement and possible millage will be discussed.
- Catholic Charities interested in doing a senior outreach at the town hall. Activities could include fitness classes, bingo, etc. A representative will be contacted to attend a future meeting.
- Great Lakes Energy (TrueStream) does not have a municipal rate for townships; current rate is \$69.99 to \$99.99, depending on speed.
- Discussion of zoning and size of buildings. Ryan Coffey indicated that property should only be zoned agricultural when the owner is pursuing an agricultural endeavor. The pros and cons of one large building vs several small buildings was discussed. Matter will be provided to the Planning Commission for future discussion.
- Clerk Angela Barnes' resignation, due to family matters, is effective 12/31/22. She presented Board with wage information and recommended the Township consider taking steps to correct the inequity in wages as compared to other townships of similar size.
- The final Master Plan was presented to Board for approval and signatures.
- Joni Morgan was appointed the new Norwich Township Clerk.

