

CUMMING TOWNSHIP
Regular Meeting

February 1, 2024

The monthly meeting was called to order at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: All Board members present.

Others present were: Rose Quackenbush; Matt Polzin; Ray Grant; Brian Gilbert, Sheriff; Lucinda Morrison; Bill Clark; Pat Robinson; Randy McCrite; Bob Hoover; Michelle & Cal Berk; Jim & Norma Morris.

Ron questioned if there were any additions to the agenda; Fred stated he wanted to talk about a key for the storage Room and AV Ballots.

Reid made a motion, seconded by Fred, to accept the previous monthly meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

Shari made a motion, seconded by Jan, to pay the bills. Reid questioned the bill for the CPA; Jan stated it was for the 2023 Year-end and W2's. Roll Call Vote: Shari, Fred, Reid, Ron, Jan – All Yes. Motion carried.

Fred reported that the Rose City is working with Troy Shank, engineering, for the sewer grant. He also reported that there is little water in the sewer system. Jan reported that she had compiled a spreadsheet for the proposed sewer usage fees, as was discussed in the December 2023 Special Meeting. Jan stated this was done before she received an email from Fred. Jan suggested that the board members look at said spreadsheet for the next meeting. Jan reported that Rose City has increased the sewer rates by \$5.00, beginning January 2024; a letter will be sent to Cumming Township. She also reported that the Rose City sewer rates will increase \$5.00 each year for five (5) years but may be looked at after the third year.

Ron reported that Eric Ireland, a licensed electrician, will give an estimate for wiring in the restrooms.

Reid stated the AV Dropbox is installed and questioned if the security camera is installed; Jan stated she is working on it. Reid suggested contacting Tony Evans.

Jan reported that all the election inspectors may not be able to work the February 27, 2024, Presidential Primary Election; therefore, she would like to appoint Jacob Thompson as an election inspector. Jan made a motion, seconded by Ron, to approve Jacob Thompson as an election inspector for the February 27, 2024, Presidential Primary Election. Roll Call Vote: Ron, Shari, Reid, Fred, Jan – All Yes. Motion carried.

Reid gave the RC Fire report, which included: slow.

Ron gave the OCOA report, which included: serving quite a few meals.

Jan Thompson gave the Transfer Station report, which included: everything is going good.

Ron gave the Assessor's report, which included: March BOR dates are set; Jan stated the dates are posted at the hall and on the website.

Ron reported that the Ogemaw County Road Commission is not doing spot brining; they will only be brining one (1) lane or two (2) lanes. They will get back to us on the costs this year.

Jan reported that the Accuracy Test will be held on February 16, 2024, for the 2024 Presidential Primary Election. She stated she is unable to be present for said testing. She also stated that ElectionSource will be doing the testing for this election; they will arrive at 11:30am for the Preliminary Test and will conduct the Accuracy Test at 12:45pm. Jan stated Ron will be at the Preliminary and

Accuracy Test and she would like to appoint Delinn Keetch as a Deputy Election Commission member to be present for said testing on February 16, 2024. Jan explained the Preliminary and Accuracy Tests. Jan made a motion, seconded by Shari, to appoint Delinn Keetch as a Deputy Election Commission member. Roll Call Vote: Reid, Fred, Shari, Ron, Jan – All Yes. Motion carried.

Fred stated he would like a key for the storage room; that everyone should have a key. Jan stated this has already been discussed; Fred stated not in a motion. Fred made a motion, seconded by Reid, to have a key for the storage room, for everyone. Roll Call Vote: Shari – No, Reid – Yes, Ron – Yes, Fred – Yes, Jan – No. Motion carried.

Fred questioned how AV Ballots work. Jan stated a voter contacts her for an AV Application, she sends it to the voter, and they send it back to her. She then sends the AV Ballot to the voter, and they return it to her. Reid questioned in the mail or the Dropbox; Jan stated either one.

Sheriff Brian Gilbert presented a flyer of facts for the Millage Renewal, which will be on the February 27, 2024, ballot; he gave information regarding the Millage Renewal. Discussion was held. The following questions were asked:

1. Is this a true Renewal or an Original Millage? It is a Renewal
2. Were deputies laid-off? Yes, a 3rd Patrol, 3 Correction Officers, 4 Part-time Deputies
3. Aren't enough tickets being written to generate enough money? Tickets are being written, but the Sheriff's Dept is Community-based, not just there to write tickets.
4. Is there night patrol? Yes, there is a rotation of officers, with 2 deputies in a car after 10pm
5. Why did the Dispatch call increase? Many are Mental Health calls; these have really increased.
6. Why are jail numbers low? The jail is not designed to make money; soft on crime all over the state; no one is overcrowded.
7. Is there any savings if the old jail is used? The old jail has been gutted out.
8. Are inmates still coming from Flint? No, inmates are coming from Oscoda; the jail needs to be 80% full, looking at housing inmates from Traverse City
9. Does the jail get reimbursed from Ogemaw County? No, sentence inmates will be reimbursing the jail at the cost of \$20 per day.
10. Does the County Commissioners have a say? Yes, must have approval from the County Commissioners. Kalkaska was going to pay \$31 per inmates, but the County Commissioners wanted \$33 per day, and they lost the contract.
11. Why is Ogemaw County too soft on crime? Must abide by the laws of the judicial system.
12. Is Traverse City willing to pay \$35 per day? That is what is being asked for.
13. What training does the Sheriff Dept have? Training all the time, have officers in the schools, training is the same throughout the State and County

Brian Gilbert stated he would appreciate supporting the Sheriff Dept.

Pat Robinson questioned the following:

1. What the HL bill was; Jan stated it is for the 2024 Permit.
2. Why the Deputy Treasurer was paid; Shari stated it is for training.
3. If Delinn Keetch will be paid from the Clerk's election pay; Jan stated no.
4. If GFL has been resolved, Fred wants statements; Ron stated working on it.

Reid questioned if Jane Illig contacted Ron regarding the Tire Grant; Ron stated yes, she wants to put it in the Soil Conservation Tree Sale paper.

Ron reported that he attended a Klacking Township meeting; there were representatives from the USDA and DNR speaking about CWD and the findings in Klacking Township. He stated once CWD is in the soil, it doesn't go away. The USDA plans on taking three (3) deer per square mile in

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Klacking Township and will also take deer in Cumming Township. Jim Morris questioned when they are taking deer; Reid stated now.

Jan made a motion, seconded by Shari, to adjourn at 7:17pm. Motion carried.

Jan made a motion, seconded by Shari, to re-open the meeting at 7:17pm

Discussion was held regarding the Budget Workshop and the Budget Hearing.

The Budget Workshop will be held on March 14, 2024, at 6:30pm.

The Budget Hearing will be held on March 28, 2024, at 6:30pm.

Jan made a motion, seconded by Shari, to adjourn at 7:18pm

_____, Clerk