

CUMMING TOWNSHIP
Regular Meeting

September 5, 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: Janice Thompson; Jim & Jane Redmond; Rose Quackenbush; Ray & Debby Grant; Jim & Norma Morris; Kathy Curtis; Pat Robinson; Teena & Ron Chapman; Corinne Maher; Duane Pelfrey.

Ron questioned if there were any additions to the agenda; Jan stated that Allison Thompson sent two (2) L-4029s and they need to be added to the Assessor's report. Shari stated she would like to add a Fundraiser to New Business. Fred stated he would like to add a Marijuana Ordinance to New Business. Reid made a motion, seconded by Ron, to accept the additions to the Agenda. Motion carried.

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

Reid made a motion, seconded by Shari, to approve the Special Sewer Meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

Shari made a motion, seconded by Jan, to pay the bills. Reid questioned the Equalization bill; Jan stated it was for the 2023-2024 tax billings. Fred questioned the GFL Bill from August and September; Jan stated it the August bill was for the compactor and the roll-off, and the September bill is for the compactor. Roll Call Vote: Fred, Shari, Ron, Reid, Jan – All Yes. Motion carried.

Ron reported that a lot was accomplished at the Special Meeting on August 20; Ron read the Special Meeting minutes. Jan reported that she contacted the City of Rose City regarding Mitch Rosen owing the township a connection fee; they stated the sewer was capped, so there shouldn't be a connection fee. Discussion was held. Fred reported that MISS DIG wants the township to complete an application and questioned why the township wasn't joined with the City of Rose City. Discussion was held. Duane Pelfrey stated feeders are on the sewer users' properties; those need to be marked. Discussion was held. Fred presented a bid from Lil' Willies for a new sump pump and pumping the water out, at the cost of \$570, plus additional fees above 1,000 gallons pumped. Discussion was held. Reid made a motion, seconded by Fred, to purchase the sump pump from Lil' Willies and have the water pumped out, at the cost of \$570, plus additional fees above 1,000 gallons pumped. Roll Call Vote: Reid, Shari, Fred, Ron, Jan – All Yes. Motion carried. Fred reported that he and Jan had a virtual meeting with Michael Andersen from RCAP, which was disappointing. Fred stated that he had sent all the information to Michael Andersen two (2) weeks ago and nothing was done. Fred suggested that we figure out the costs ourselves.

Ron reported that the dehumidifier hose was pulled out of the drain and Jan put the hose back in the drain, but the tiles are lifted in the kitchen because the floor is very wet. Fred suggested putting the dehumidifier in the kitchen.

Reid gave the RC Fire report, which included: lots of fire runs; going good.

Jan Thompson gave the Transfer Station report, which included: going really good; received about \$2,800 last month, there was a lot of household garbage; the rates were increased, a few people complained, but paid. Fred stated if Jan Thompson wins a Trustee position, she must resign her position at the Transfer Station; Jan Fritz stated that is not correct. Ron stated this issue will be tabled.

Jan presented and explained the L-4029s. Discussion was held. Ron made a motion, seconded by Reid, to accept the L-4029s, as presented. Roll Call Vote: Shari, Fred, Ron, Reid, Jan – All Yes. Motion carried.

Jim Morris questioned how much the taxable value increased; Ron stated the taxable value increased by 5%.

Bill Olsen gave the HL Weed Treatment report, which included: the final weed treatment has been done; one (1) activity will be in October, which will be the samplings. Bill Olsen stated the reports from Savin will be sent when completed.

Jan reported that she was contacted by a resident on Peters Road, because the road wasn't brined. Jan suggested that said resident contacted Churchill Twp and they stated they only brined for their residents. Jan contacted the Brandy at the Ogemaw County Road Commission, which she stated the certification for brining Peters Road is only Cumming Township. Jan questioned this because the reconstruction and paving of Peters Road was a 50/50 split; Brandy stated the certification for brining is different, only Cumming Township. Fred stated he called Mike at the Ogemaw County Road Commission but didn't get a return call. Discussion was held. Pat Robinson stated most of the large farmers live in Churchill Township and use Peters Road. Reid compared Townline Road, which is 50/50 Klacking Township and Cumming Township. Ron questioned if anyone heard from the Road Commission regarding the culvert on Ogemaw Center Road, by M33; no. Discussion was held.

Ron stated the Road millage failed; Fred stated the board should carry the responsibility, should have sent a letter, and a Special Election should be held. The costs of a Special Election will be gathered. Shari stated if a Special Election is held, flyers could go out in the taxes.

Kathy Curtis reported that when she returned home in May, she drove by the RC Middle School, noticing it was still closed. A few people formed a group that talked to the WBRC Schools Superintendent to have the RC Middle School turned over to the City of Rose City for a Community Center. Kathy Curtis spoke with Jeremy Card and did a walk through. The City of Rose City voted to pursue the purchase of RC Middle School for \$1.00. Kathy Curtis stated the Library in downtown Rose City is in bad shape; the Middle School library is structurally in good shape; a few ceiling tiles may need to be replaced along with adding flooring. Much discussion has been held regarding businesses, community events, sports using the gym, the Historical Society, etc to use the Community Center. Kathy Curtis stated they would like to form a board to control the use of the Community Center. She also stated the hope is that the City of Rose City, Klacking Township, Cumming Township, and Rose Township would be interested. Kathy Curtis stated that several people have volunteered to look at grants. She questioned that if all plays out well, would Cumming Township be willing to help form the board. There has been very good responses from people willing to help. Kathy stated information should be coming out in the paper soon. Discussion was held. Shari made a motion, seconded by Fred, to join the Community Center group in forming a Community Center in the RC Middle School. Roll Call Vote: Ron, Fred, Reid, Shari, Jan – All Yes. Motion carried.

Shari reported that Donna Fritz would like to use the hall for a Fundraiser for Tara Neubecker Walsh's daughter (Gloria & Randy Neubecker's granddaughter) September 17- September 23. Jan made a motion, seconded by Ron, to approve that Donna Fritz use the hall for a Fundraiser, free of charge. Motion carried.

Fred presented a Marijuana Ordinance from West Branch Township. He stated that said ordinance would be for someone to open a retail or a grow area; the ordinance spells out all the rules. Fred also stated that the township would receive \$54,000 from the State and \$5,000 from the license from a retail store. Grow houses have specific requirements per the State. Discussion was held regarding marijuana facilities cannot just come into the township, contains a reporting system. Jan will send the ordinance to the board via email.

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Ron reported the Commissioners' meeting was also held tonight to discuss the jail. The jail is closing at the end of the month, but they are proposing a 72 hr holding. They are proposing to move everything from the current Sheriff's office to the jail and demolishing the old office. Roscommon backed out from taking Ogemaw County inmates. The jail has a major debt; Genessee Co used to send inmates, which helped keep about 135 inmates in the jail.

Ron reported that OCOA rents their dining room and kitchen, which can handle over 100 people.

Jim Morris questioned if the RC Middle School has been sitting for 10-15 yrs, the district robbing everything from it, won't it be a money pit; Kathy Curtis stated there a lot of volunteers to help clean it up. Duane Pelfrey stated that we should look at the old Hale High School, every room is rented out. Duane Pelfrey also stated the Mio Community Center is running very well. Discussion was held.

Jim Morris stated that marijuana is illegal. Federally, they can come in and shut it down; Fred stated there are many bills in Congress regarding this.

Fred made a motion, seconded by Ron, to adjourn at 7:43pm.

_____, Clerk