

PORTER TOWNSHIP

September 12, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Marlow with the pledge to the flag

Roll Call: Present were Croninger, Marlow, Russell with Harman and Wylie absent

Minutes: Marlow made the motion with support from Croninger to accept all minutes as presented. all in favor motion carried with Harman and Wylie absent

Treasurers report General fund balance \$421,907.20 Savings \$211,014.98 Bair Lake \$30,191.83 ARPA Funds \$47,574.13 total sewer Operations & Maintenance Funds \$67,182.63, Septage Funds \$2,215.38, RR & I Fund \$26,908.43, Sewer Receiving Funds \$508,507.33 Sewer Revolving Fund \$35.61. Motion made by Marlow with supported by Croninger to accept. All in favor motion carried with Harman and Wylie absent

Correspondence: were read

SEPSA Report: No report

Building Report: For the month of November \$2,268,203.95 in new and remodeling construction.

Bills: Township Bills \$142,314.28 Marlow made the motion with support from Russell to pay the Township bills all in favor motion carried with Harman and Wylie absent; Sewer bills \$72,443.95 Croninger made the motion with support from Marlow to pay the sewer bills all in favor motion carried with Harman and Wylie absent

New Business:

DuFour: Nancy thanked the Township Board for sending her again to the Cemetery Convention, she gave an update as some of the things that were talked about while there, such as having cemetery tour, little problems grave mistakes which is having someone buried in the wrong grave, more people are going to cremations and they are having place for people to sit and memorial gardens and walls. Also, Gary and Gail LeVan the sextons were named Cemeterian of the Year.

Auditor: Alex Schaeffer with Kruggel Lawton gave a review of the recent Porter Township audit. He advised everything looks good there were no problems with the audit and the Township is currently within the budget and can operate for approximately 18 months if anything would happen.

Signing L-4029 tax: The L-4029 tax amount Marlow made the motion with support from Russell to accept the current amount of .6657 that has been in place for a number of years. All in favor with Harman and Wylie absent

Buying a Backhoe: It was discussed that the cemetery sexton currently digs graves by hand, the clerk showed the board a backhoe that she would like to use the ARPA funds currently set aside for the Cemetery for this purpose. Mason is also interested in going in on this since they work for both Townships. Will let the board know how much we will need to spend after Mason decides how much they are willing to spend also.

Miscellaneous: none

Sewer Report: Klappauf advised the plant is running 6 out of 10 and 10 out of 10 for the bond. Callouts for the month are 8/3 – CT Electric was called out for a SBR mixer contractor issue, changed out bad contractor and returned to normal operation, 8/5 – PLC alarm B1 reset to functioning as normal, 8/13 – PLC alarm c6, PLC was replaced back to functioning back to normal, 8/19 – PLC alarm C12 was reset, 8/20 – PLC alarm C1 PLC was reset C1 deragged low level float,, 8/22 Lift station C15 force main

cleaning due to partial plug, 8/25 EMR MISS DIG High St, 8/25 Effluent EQ cleaning 8/30 1 AM B1, B2, B3 and B4 power outage 5 AM C1 Float/transducer issues Manual start of B1 generator. The Sewer Committee also brought the following motions:

Motion 1: The Sewer Board recommends to the Township Board to accept the estimate from Chads Asphalt Sealcoating to sealcoat the Wastewater Treatment Plant for \$11,700.00, Croninger made the motion to table this indefinitely until the Treatment Plant has more money, second by Russell, roll call was taken: Croninger – yes, Marlow – no, Russell – yes, motion carried with Harman and Wylie absent,

Motion 2: The Sewer Board recommends to the Township Board that after the last billing for monthly sewer utility billing of \$60.50 does not change in total but the \$22 be reclassified to Oper/Maint/RRI every month moving forward. Motion to accept was made by Marlow with support from Croninger roll call was taken Croninger – yes, Marlow – yes, Russell – yes motion carried with Harman and Wylie absent

Motion 3: The Sewer Board recommends to the Township Board the following procedure for finding an existing tap or installing a new tap into the sewer system: The contractor/homeowner has the responsibility to contact the 811 system (MISS DIG in Michigan) to mark all utility lines in the area of construction. Through MISS DIF, sewer plant personnel will be contacted to mark all sewer lines/taps in the area of construction. It is the responsibility of the contractor/homeowner to hook up the sewer system. Russell advised the Township attorney has been contacted regarding this she then made a motion to table this until the rest of the board is here to discuss what the attorney as advised support from Marlow roll call was taken: Croninger – yes, Marlow – yes, Russell – yes motion carried with Harman and Wylie absent.

Septage Report: Nagy advised for the month of August septage took in 89,913 both SBR's are currently running and meeting NPDES permit limits. This is down and would have to get at least \$8000 a month till the end of the year to get what was brought in last year.

ZBA report: Russell advised there were 2 variances heard at the meeting 1 was approved 1 was tabled.

Wetlands Committee: None

Planning Commission: None

County Commissioner: Lee advised there is a Shavehead Lake Board meeting here at Porter Township on October 2 at 5:30 pm. He also advised the state is changing the way voting will be next year. They have discussed the county budget that has been operating in the red for some time now. He advised they cut some positions that had not been filled in some time that would free up some money and help the county get back to operating in the black with a 1.8-million-dollar deficit, he also advised the rising property taxes are hurting people Cass County is 4th for foreclosure and Michigan is 10th overall for foreclosures,

Public Comments: Jeff Bonta advised they are having trouble with people speeding on the section of Wayne Street around Indiana Lake they would like the Township to give support for something to try to slow people down some suggestions were to raise awareness or initiate a 35 mile an hour speed limit, add children playing signs, he would also like to have a speed study done for that section they have spoke to the CCRC regarding this also. Marlow advised he will follow up with the CCRC regarding this and also explained that all speed limits are set from the CCRC or DOT.

Charlie Fish advised it has been his understanding there is some private road issues. The Township is currently in the process of getting the Ordinances Codified with should help with some of the issues

Motion made by Russell and supported by Croninger to adjourn all in favor motion carried at 7:09 p.m. with Harman and Wylie absent

Beth Russell
Porter Township Clerk