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**Calvin Township Regular Board meeting**

**WM. J. Robinson Community Center**

**18727 Mt. Zion St.**

**PO Box 305**

**Cassopolis, MI 49031**

**December 12, 2023**

**Minutes of November 14, 2023**

Supervisor Adrienne Glover called the Calvin Township Board Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Clerk Michelle Anderson gave the opening prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Board members present were as follows, Adrienne Glover-Supervisor, Rosemary Gillam-Treasurer, Michelle Anderson- Clerk, Keith Carter- Trustee. Absent Rebecca Mitchell-Trustee.

**Agenda:** Approval of regular meeting agenda, motion by Treasurer Rosemary Gillam , 2nd by Trustee Keith Carter. Motion carried.

**Visitors:** Eight visitors were present.

**Public comments:**

Ms. Miller, had a question regarding fencing regulations on lakefront property. Has an issue regarding a boat lifts in the front yard and blocking peripheral vision of the lake . The ordinance in place in in regards to vehicles and boat lifts are not vehicles. Feels the zoning board of appeals has failed them. Township will turn the concern over to the Township attorney to address the ordinance and boat lift concern.

-During a Penn township meeting it was mentioned that the Calvin Township minutes were not posted on the internet. .

**Minutes:** Approval of October minutes, motion by Trustee Keith Carter, 2nd by Clerk Michelle Anderson . Motion Carried.

**Treasurer Report:** Motion by Trustee Keith Carter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clerk Michelle Anderson to approve general fund checks 10250-10269 and receipts 245333-245343.

Audit report came back good.

December 1st Winter taxes will be mailed with a newsletter. Motion Carried.

**Reports:**

**Ambulance-** Moving forward with SMACAS about (\$18,000 a week) among 11 municipalities.

**Assessor:** No report

**Fire:** Trustee Keith Carter read the report-report available upon request.

**Commissioner:** RJ Lee reported: Opioid meeting 15 mil will be distributed over 10 years. Looking at how to use and would like to use toward ambulance services. Short on road patrol leasing out to the tribe. 10% increase risk of losing 24 hour service. A policy meeting will be held for transportation and mileage. Cass Public Transit is bankrupt and may not be supported and in need of funds, this may be in millage.

**Inspectors or Zoning Administrator:** Trustee Keith Carter read the report-report available upon request.

**CAUA:** Minutes on file

**Planning Commission** - No report

**Enforcement/Blight** – Trustee Keith Carter read the report-report available upon request.

**Road Committee** – Trustee Keith Carter reported - a meeting will be held to go over the 5 year plan.

**Other reports:**

**Zoning: Douglas M. Kuhlman reported:** Gravel mining taking place at the State Level. State wants to take over townships and municipalities say so. Will preempt renewable energy within a year, nothing yet.

State terms regarding short term rentals - Calvin may need to consider, with current ordinance right now 90% can't rent. Ordinance and planning commission zoning and policies are not ready yet.

**Sheriff Behnke reported:** New tower was put in for the policing network and will benefit St. Joe and Cass county, cost of 1.98 mil will be split. Cass County Animal Shelter Christmas(flier shared.) Thankfully the animal release rate is up from 50% to 95% increase in release rate.

Be careful of Facebook's scams, one we are aware of is from Rehna in Dowagiac.

Be careful deer are moving and car accidents are up.

There are 8 vacancies for the police academy, the county will pay for training, you have to be over 21 and a correction officer if under 21.

Motion by Treasurer Rosemary Gillam, 2nd by Clerk Michelle Anderson , to approve reports as given. Motion Carried.

**Old Business:**

Sale of Land on Paradise Lake -Turn over to realtor? It is 2 plots of land by Paradise Lake that overlooks land off Chicago Rd.. Motioned by Trustee Keith Carter, 2nd by Treasurer Rosemary Gillam. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

-Received check from Enbridge \$2,200 for grant request from Trustee Keith Carter for AED's. One will be placed in the community center and the other in the building office.

-Property clean up - Ballard \$1,520, only one bid came in, it was a concern that the bidder may have had ties to the company that put the bid out. job. Hard to find people to do clean-ups, will continue to try to get another bid. Clean-up amount owed will be placed on property taxes. Motioned by Treasurer Rosemary Gillam, 2nd by Clerk Michelle Anderson, motion carried.

-Road tour will take place November 28th at 6:00pm

-Cell tower - It would be a 50 year lease and placed in the back corner of the Calvin Township Cemetery providing the township approximately \$700 a month income.

-Send a thank you card to Calvin Community Church for their donation.

Dusk to dawn signs need to be purchased for the parks because people are parking and parked and walking around the parks very late at night, and without the signs the police can't ask why their in the park so late or even to leave. Motion by Clerk Michelle Anderson, 2nd by Treasurer Rosemary Gillam. Motion carried.

Also still an issue of people parking along the road. No parking signs are up but are being ignored, not sure what else to do. All overflow parking should use the other parking lot by the Township Office building..

#### **Bills/Obligations:**

MEC Electric Office \$105.83

Costco \$60

MEC Electric Community Cnt. \$340.65

HAAS Alarm \$99.00

Electrical Inspector \$1054.80

- Call Franger and pay up to \$2,000 if needed

Zoning Solutions \$998.13

Motion by Trustee Keith Carter, 2nd by Treasure Rosemary Gillam to pay said obligations and any standing obligations due before the next board meeting. Motion Carried.

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrienne Glover, Supervisor

Michelle Anderson, Clerk