

**THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 8, 2024**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**Roll Call;** Present Gordon Osburn and Mangold. Absent Zabel and Mitchell

**Public Comment;** None

**Agendas;**

Motion by Gordon, supported by Osburn, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried  
Motion by Gordon, supported by Osburn, to approve the Consent Agenda with the Bills to be Paid estimated total of \$22,760.23 Roll Call; Ayes, Gordon, Osburn and Mangold, Nays; None, Absent; Zabel and Mitchell. Motion carried 3-0-2.

**Old Business;**

- 1 Presentation of Broadband Expansion in Three Oaks Township by Midwest Energy & Communications (MEC) by Terry Rubenthaler, Chief Operating Officer & Jennifer Gilliam, Business Development Coordinator. A background of MEC and how they were awarded recipient of the ROBIN Grant to provide reliable high-speed internet to Berrien County. Discussion centered on the cost of \$650 per location of the 436 No Service/Underserved parcels equally a total cost of \$283,400 to the Township. Conclusion of the discussion was that the Township will enter into a conversation with Berrien County Commissioner /Berrien County Broadband Internet Task Force (BCBIT) member Teri Freehling and Berrien County Board Chair Mac Elliot to negotiate a lower price per location. Both were in attendance.
2. Berrien County Board Chair Mac Elliot introduced himself and informed the Township Board of his intention to seek re-election to the office.

**New Business;**

1. A motion by Mangold, supported by Osburn, to approve the Berrien County/Three Oaks Township Roadwork Agreement for Basswood Road, grinding existing roadbed, add six (6) inches of 22a road gravel and level from Kruger Road to US-12 (1.00 miles) for a Twp. cost of \$58,466.00. Roll Call: Ayes; Osburn, Mangold and Gordon, Nays; None, Absent; Zabel and Mitchell. Motion carried 3-0-2.
2. A motion by Gordon, supported by Mangold, to amend the 2024-2025 Roads & Bridges Budget. Roll Call: Ayes; Gordon, Mangold and Osburn, Nays; None, Absent, Zabel and Mitchell. Motion carried 3-0-2.
3. Motion by Mangold, supported by Gordon, to amend the 2024-2025 General Fund Budget, transferring \$11,417 to the Roads & Bridges Budget to cover the deficit in revenue. Roll Call: Ayes; Mangold, Osburn and Gordon, Nays; None, Absent; Zabel and Mitchell. Motion carried 3-0-2.

4. Mangold informed the Board of a Buyback Request, from Carolyn Krossovich Drenth of the Frank Krossovich grave site in Hillside, Block 2, Lot 6, Graves 3,4,5 and 6 for a total cost of \$30.00. Carolyn is the sole surviving sibling and lives out of state. A motion by Gordon, supported by Osburn, to buyback the graves for \$30.00. Roll Call: Ayes; Mangold, Gordon and Osburn, Nays; None, Absent; Zabel and Mitchell. Motion carried 3-0-2.
5. Mangold informed the Board of the Notice of Forest Lawn Cemetery Annual Clean-up.
6. Mangold informed the Board of a request from T-Mobile for a Tele-Conference on possible savings to the Three Oaks Township Office.
7. Village Manager Dan Faulker recently indicated that the Village of Three Oaks is still entertaining ways in which to acquire The Community Garden and lots that the Twp. currently owns.

**Final Comment;**

Teri Freehling commented on support for the reelection to office of Mac Elliot.

Bob Wagner inquired on any news from the Archaea Energy/Republic NGR Plant issue.

The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned @ 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

George A. Mangold  
Township Supervisor