

1 MINUTES - PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP Regular Meeting

2 August 17, 2022

3 6:30 PM at Prairieville Township Hall

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5
6 CALL TO ORDER

7 The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. by Supervisor Stoneburner.

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9 ROLL CALL

10 Members present: Supervisor Stoneburner, Treasurer Pence, Clerk Goebel, Trustee
11 DeVries and Trustee Doster

12
13 Members absent:

14 There were also 10 members of the public present.

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16
17 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR TROOPS

18 All who were present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States
19 of America and a moment of silence for our troops.

20
21 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

22 Review of the agenda.

- 23 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries, support by Trustee Doster, to approve the**
24 **agenda; all ayes, motion carried.**

25
26 CONSENT AGENDA

27 *All items listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine by the board and will be*
28 *enacted by one motion. If discussion is required, it will be removed from the Consent*
29 *Agenda and considered separately.*

- 30 a. Approval of July 20, 2022, Regular Board Meeting minutes
31 b. Reports received: Revenue/Expenditure Report; Building Report; Civil Fines;
32 and Financial Report

- 33 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries, support by Clerk Goebel, to approve the**
34 **consent agenda as listed; all ayes, motion carried.**

35
36 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

37 The report was given and will be put on file.

38
39 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for
40 the Recording Clerk.)

41 Nichole Lyke, Barry County Chamber and Economic Development Alliance was in
42 attendance and reported on their progress.

43 Ms. Lyke discussed the ongoing work to get broadband to all of Barry County. The
44 Committee started in July of 2021 and was formed to identify areas that lack that
45 coverage. Currently 8% of the people in the county have no internet access and 24%
46 have less than adequate coverage. The goal is to extend broadband service to all

47 residents of the county with a download speed of 100 Mbps. Technology is growing so
48 fast we need to plan for future. They want to work with municipalities to get this to
49 happen. They are continuing to apply for grants. Ms. Lyke shared a Barry County
50 Broadband Feasibility Report. She also left information for the public and will be glad to
51 answer any questions.

52

53 FIRE REPORT

54 Chief Uridge gave the report. A copy of the report will be put on file.

55

56 POLICE REPORT

57 There were no representatives from the police department in attendance.

58

59 PARKS' REPORT

60 Chairperson MaryAnn DeVries gave the report. She shared with the Board the generous
61 tip the workers at the park received as well as positive emails from the public. A copy of
62 the report will be put on file.

63

64 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- 65 • Supervisor Stoneburner received a call about an environmental assessment of
66 Pine Lake Rec area from Verizon. There are no changes and hopefully we will see
67 a shovel ready project soon.
- 68 • The Four Township Resource Council will disband in November due to lack of
69 interest and ability to stay in touch with members during COVID 19. A survey was
70 given out, but it did not provide enough of response to attract a new slate of board
71 of directors. The money left over will be distributed to appropriate groups.
- 72 • There are no delinquent sewer accounts in Prairieville Township. Both A1 Asphalt
73 and A1 Mechanical are behind in sewer fees. Supervisor Stoneburner asked that
74 you do not use them until they have paid these fees for the sewer.
- 75 • There are rate increases from city of Kalamazoo to Gull Lake sewer users. These
76 increases are for 5 years. This includes 12% in 2022, 10% suggested in 2023,
77 forecasted 7.5% in 2024, 7.5% in 2025 and 7.5% in 2026.

78

79 TREASURER'S REPORT

80 All fund balances are in the black. We are still waiting on bill for the roads. At the end of
81 August, we will get more revenue sharing. Auditors are coming August 23 and 24.

82

83 TRUSTEES' REPORTS

84 Trustee Doster: Planning Commission – going to review fencing ordinance per request.
85 Approved permit for accessory building. At the recommendation of Rebecca Harvey will
86 review county language about trails and look at similar verbiage for the township. Goal is
87 to help Parks with getting a grant for NCT.

88

89 Trustee DeVries: Passed out information about the notice of public hearing for Pine Lake
90 water level issue and a copy of resolution from Jim Dull. Jim will be at the September
91 meeting to answer any questions the board or others may have. This will get the project
92 started. This is to put the 24-inch storm sewer in and do a test pump to check for adequate

93 percolation.

94

95 CLERK'S REPORT

96 Thanks to the excellent staff of inspectors the election went smoothly. I wasn't the last
97 one to Barry County!!

98

99 PAYMENT OF BILLS

- 100 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, support from Supervisor Stoneburner, to pay bills**
101 **in the amount of \$236,852.39; all ayes, motion carried.**

102

103 Resolution 2022-19 Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing

104 Due to changes, it is now mandatory to have a public Truth-in-Taxation hearing. Without
105 this there would be a reduction in tax revenue.

- 106 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, support from Treasurer Pence, to adopt resolution**
107 **2022-19 which states that Prairieville Township will hold a Truth-in-Taxation**
108 **public hearing on September 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Proper notice shall be**
109 **published at least six days prior to the meeting in the Hastings Banner; roll**
110 **call vote; all ayes, motion was duly adopted on this date.**

111

112 Chief of Police

113 Chief of Police Candidate Michael Reizin was in attendance with his wife, Crystal. He has
114 22 years of law enforcement experience and is currently employed with Detroit. His goal
115 is to be a chief in a small community. He brings a lot of experience. Mr. Reizin and his
116 wife will relocate to Prairieville Township. Crystal is looking for a job as nurse. They have
117 a son in college

- 118 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, support Trustee DeVries, to hire Michael**
119 **Reizen as the next police chief of Prairieville Township pending results of a**
120 **physical and background check. All ayes, motion carried.**

121

122 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for
123 the Recording Clerk.)

124 MaryAnn DeVries
125 12712 Merlau Ave.

126 She thanked Dick VanNiman and Lorraine Brown for their help with a plan to hold down
127 the catchment pad at Upper Crooked Lake. They designed and constructed this. Their
128 volunteer work is appreciated.

129

130 BOARD COMMENTS

131 Supervisor Stoneburner: Thank you Richard for all that you do. Thanks to everyone for
132 being here.

133

134 Treasurer Pence: Welcome Mike!

135

136 Clerk Goebel: Welcome to the community!

137

138 Trustee DeVries: Thank you Richard VanNiman on the great job at AV Counting Board.

139 Trustee Doster: Welcome Mike

140

141 Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

142

143 Respectfully submitted,

144

145

146 MaryAnn Bliss DeVries

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