

1 MINUTES - PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP Regular Meeting

2 December 21, 2022

3 6:30 PM at Prairieville Township Hall

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6 CALL TO ORDER

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

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9 ROLL CALL

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

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13 Members absent: Clerk Goebel

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15 There were also 17 members of the public present.

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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.

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21 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

22 Review of the agenda.

- 23 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Trustee Doster,**
24 **to approve the agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.**

25
26 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 27 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Trustee Doster,**
28 **to approve the Nov. 9, 2022, minutes of the regular board meeting; all ayes,**
29 **motion carried.**
- 30
31 • **Motion by Trustee Doster, supported by Treasurer Pence, to approve the**
32 **minutes of a special meeting on Dec. 6, 2022; all ayes, motion carried.**

33
34 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

35 Commissioner Conner gave the report. A copy will be put on file. This was her last
36 meeting representing Prairieville Township as our Barry County Commissioner. She
37 was applauded and thanked for her service.

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

41
42 Mark Mihelich
43 11016 Alling Rd.

44 Mr. Mihelich is present representing the numbers of people who are against the drain on
45 Pine Lake. The numbers presented showed there are 470 signatures representing 275
46 homes against the drain. There are more signatures coming in.

47 Mike Kuhl
48 10836 South Dr.
49 Mr. Kuhl had a question about the cell tower going up in the middle of the disc golf
50 holes. He asked if any of the money raised by the cell tower goes back to the park.
51 There has been a history of making improvements at the park but not maintaining them.
52 He is concerned that the revenue needs to go to the parks. Supervisor Stoneburner
53 answered him that there will be adjustments to revamp the disc golf and walking trail
54 after the tower is done. In addition, current cell tower money is available to the park
55 during budget workshops for identified projects. As far as the money for the new tower,
56 that has not been decided as it is not finished. The last question Mr. Kuhl had was that
57 money has been spent on drain issues and he wondered who will be paying for this.
58 Supervisor Stoneburner answered that the residents will be assessed.

59
60 FIRE REPORT

61 The Fire Report was given by Chief Uridge and a copy of it will be put on file.
62 Chief Uridge also asked if the hiring process could be started for Catherine Seno for the
63 PTFD.

- 64 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, supported by Trustee Doster, to allow**
65 **Catherine (Kate) Seno to start on the PTFD pending successful completion**
66 **of the hiring process; all ayes, motion carried.**

67
68 POLICE REPORT

69 Police Chief Reizin gave the report. A copy will be put on file.
70 He also went over information for the new reporting system through Barry County and
71 asked budgeting questions. There is an annual cost of \$120.00 a year that has currently
72 been paid to Central Square/Zerker. He hopes to keep this program going in the future.
73 There also is a need for Adobe. Chief Reizin requested another computer for monitoring
74 of the safety service system for Prairieville Township Police Department (PTPD) and
75 Prairieville Township Hall. It includes a DVR. He found a refurbished computer from
76 Amazon for \$389.00. There is also a need to replace a printer.

- 77
78 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, supported by Trustee/Temporary Clerk**
79 **DeVries, to allow PTPD to use funds from their budget to continue with**
80 **Central Square/Zerker; all ayes, motion carried.**

- 81
82 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, supported by Trustee/Temporary Clerk**
83 **DeVries, to purchase annual Adobe Pro for PTPD at \$239.88 per year from**
84 **PTPD budget, discussion; all ayes, motion carried.**

- 85
86 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Supervisor**
87 **Stoneburner, to purchase a computer at \$389.00 to monitor the safety**
88 **system with 25% paid for from election fund, 25% township fund, and 50%**
89 **police fund, discussion; all ayes, motion carried.**

90 Please note that under Public Comment with Dan Weston there is a motion that
91 changes this.

92 PARKS' REPORT

93 Report was given by Recreation Director Scott Kuebler. It covered both November and
94 December for the Parks' activities in 2022.

95
96 Parks Commissioner Appointment

- 97 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Supervisor**
- 98 **Stoneburner, to appoint David Haas to fill the open position on the Parks**
- 99 **Board, effective 12/21/2022 with the term ending on November 20, 2024; all**
- 100 **ayes, motion carried.**

101
102 The Parks and Recreation Board meets on the 4th Monday at 6:30 p.m. A schedule can
103 be found on the website.

104
105 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- 106 ○ There was a hearing for a dangerous building at 10760 Stoney Point. This building
- 107 will be taken down.
- 108 ○ Barry County Road Commission invited Prairieville Township to a road meeting on
- 109 Jan. 9, 2023, at 2:30 in p.m.
- 110 ○ There has been concern by some residents about truck traffic going through
- 111 Prairieville Township. The concern was about the number of trucks, Supervisor
- 112 Stoneburner followed up on this and the traffic is coming from Charlotte and going
- 113 to Martin as well as returning. They are following the speed limit.

114
115 TREASURER'S REPORT

- 116 ○ The General Fund was 1.7 million for all accounts/fund balances.
- 117 ○ Taxes are being collected now.
- 118 ○ For residents affected, Treasurer Pence clarified road assessments and the
- 119 interest involved in unpaid balances.

120
121 TRUSTEES' REPORTS

122 Trustee Doster: The Safety Net program was updated with a contract change. Response
123 time is now lower at 27 minutes. Safety Net is activated if it will be over 27 minutes for an
124 ambulance to get there. The basic life support ambulance will now have an EKG monitor.
125 There will be EKG monitor training for those involved. There was no Planning Commission
126 meeting last month.

127
128 Trustee DeVries: Recycling is moved to December 31 from December 24. He talked with
129 the coordinator of the program, and she asked about a weather issue policy. It was
130 discussed that the township needs to investigate this and get a policy in place.

131
132 CLERK'S REPORT given by Temporary Clerk

133 Ordinance and PCI amounts for November were reported. Revenue and Expenditure
134 Report shows where the township is at on each line item.

135
136 PAYMENT OF BILLS

- 137 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Treasurer**

138 **Pence, to pay bills in the amount of \$407,315.45; all ayes, motion carried.**

139
140 UPDATE ON PINE LAKE AND UPPER CROOKED LAKE

141 Jim Dull, Barry County Drain Commissioner, was in attendance and gave updates on
142 Upper Crooked Lake and Pine Lake.

143
144 Upper Crooked Lake Update

145 For the last two years they have done temporary pumping at Upper Crooked
146 Lake while working on a permanent solution. The pump station is being built and
147 they are at work getting electric in. There are no flooded homes at this time.

148
149 Pine Lake Outlet Structure Update

150 Although this project that is being investigated has been called a drain, it is
151 technically an outlet structure.

152
153 Background

154 In 1996 there was a court order that the minimum lake level at Pine Lake would
155 be 890.0 That court order also stated that there was no maximum level. In 1997 it
156 was clarified, and the normal lake level was identified as 890.5 by the court. In
157 2020, the lake level was 894 feet and there were houses and roads flooded.

158
159 Currently

160 There is a survey that has been sent to all residents of Pine Lake. There is
161 concern by many residents that the 890.5 feet for a normal level is too low. For
162 the last couple of months, the lake level has been at 892.6. Currently the survey
163 shows that more people want 892 – 893 feet as a normal level.

164
165 Information:

166 The county carries the bill for the Pine Lake Outlet Structure. Residents will pay
167 for this through an assessment on their tax bills. Prairieville Township's only
168 involvement in this is passing the assessment on to residents.

169
170 There will be time used after the adjournment of the meeting for residents to talk to Jim
171 Dull and have specific questions answered.

172
173 RESOLUTION 2022-20 PINE LAKE AND DOSTER ROAD

- 174 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Supervisor**
175 **Stoneburner, to table the Pine Lake-Doster Road resolution to the January**
176 **2023 meeting; all ayes, motion carried.**

177
178 BOARD LIST OF APPOINTMENTS

- 179 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Treasurer**
180 **Pence, to appoint Carl Goy to Board of Review as an alternate with the term**
181 **expiring on December 31, 2024; all ayes, motion carried.**
- 182
183 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Trustee Doster,**

184 to appoint Alissa Osborne and Fritz Bork to continue as members of the
185 Planning Commission with the term ending December 31, 2025; all ayes,
186 motion carried.

- 187
- 188 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, supported by Trustee Doster, to**
189 **appoint Ted DeVries from alternate to a permanent member of Zoning**
190 **Board of Appeals; all ayes, motion carried.**

191

192 PARKING LOT SALTING CONTRACT

- 193 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Supervisor**
194 **Stoneburner, to adopt the contract with Frontline Maintenance and Service**
195 **LLC to salt the township hall parking lot as needed; all ayes, motion**
196 **carried.**

197

198 RESOLUTION 2022-23 SPEED STUDY

- 199 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, supported by Trustee Doster, to table**
200 **the speed study resolution until the January 2023 meeting; all ayes, motion**
201 **carried.**

202

203 BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES

- 204 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Trustee Doster,**
205 **to adopt the following budget workshop dates:**
 - 206 ○ **Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 9 a.m. – Police**
 - 207 ○ **Wednesday, February 23 22, 2023, at 11 a.m. – Fire**
 - 208 ○ **Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 9 a.m. – General and all other funds**
 - 209 ○ **Monday, February 27, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. – Parks**

210 **The vote was all ayes and the motion carried.**

211 Please note that these will all be held at the Prairieville Township Hall.

212

213 SEXTON SERVICES – PRICING

214 The township received a letter about price increases with Wickham Cemetery Care. The
215 price for foundations is going up from 37 cents per square inch to 44 cents per square
216 inch. Full burials have increased also. Full burials will be looked at during budget
217 workshops.

- 218
- 219 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Trustee Doster,**
220 **to accept the price increase from Wickham Cemetery Care; all ayes, motion**
221 **carried.**
- 222
- 223 • **Motion by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, supported by Trustee Doster,**
224 **to increase the township’s foundation fee to 50 cents a square inch; all**
225 **ayes, motion carried.**

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227 SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACT

228 This new contract begins on April 1, 2023. The reason there are increases in the plowing
229 is to cover the Parks’ costs for maintenance and fuel.

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- **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, supported by Trustee/Temporary Clerk DeVries, to accept a bid from the Prairieville Township Parks and Recreation Board for snow removal starting April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024; all ayes, motion carried.**

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

Scott Kuebler
9775 Ford Rd.
Delton, MI

Mr. Kuebler had a question about using different vendors for snow removal and the need for coordination. Supervisor Stoneburner explained that issue had been addressed.

Vivian Conner
12563 E. Blue Lagoon
Shelbyville, MI

Ms. Conner forgot to share in her report to the Prairieville Board that the County Board recently voted not to follow the attorney’s recommendation by a 3-2 vote.

Dan Weston
10857 Long Pt.

Mr. Weston asked the board to reconsider purchase of a computer for the Police Department that had been approved. His concern is this will be a high usage computer that will be housing a public record. You want the best value for your money. It would be better to spend money up front to get the best, so it doesn’t have to be replaced.

- **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, supported by Trustee Doster, to hold off on the computer purchase for the Prairieville Township Police Department until better pricing and equipment information are available; all ayes, motion carried.**

BOARD COMMENTS

Supervisor Stoneburner: Thank you for being here. Thank you, Ted, for stepping up and helping us.

Treasurer Pence: Thank you for being here. Thanks to Vivian for all of her dedication.

Temporary Clerk: Thanks

Trustee DeVries: Thank you Vivian. You kept us informed. Jim Dull thank you for continuing to come. Thanks to everyone for being here.

Trustee Doster: We will miss you Vivian, thank you to everyone for being here.

276 Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.
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278 Respectfully submitted,
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281 MaryAnn Bliss DeVries
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