

1 MINUTES - PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP Regular Meeting

2 June 21, 2023; 6:30 PM at Prairieville Township Hall

3
4 CALL TO ORDER

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

6
7 ROLL CALL

8 Members present: Supervisor Stoneburner, Clerk Goebel, Treasurer Pence, Trustee
9 DeVries and Trustee Doster

10
11 Members absent: none

12
13 There were also 15 members of the public present.

14
15 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR TROOPS

16 All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America
17 and a moment of silence for our troops.

18
19 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 20 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries, supported by Trustee Doster, to approve the**
21 **agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.**

22
23 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 24 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, supported by Trustee DeVries, to approve the**
25 **minutes of the May 17, 2023, Regular Board Meeting as presented; all ayes,**
26 **motion carried.**

27
28 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

29 There was no commissioner in attendance.

30
31 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for
32 the Recording Clerk.)

33 There was no public comment.

34
35 FIRE REPORT

36 Chief Uridge gave the report and a copy will be put on file. Included there were 10
37 Safety Net calls with 6 from Prairieville and 4 from Hickory Corners. They have
38 purchased radios which are being used for better communication between departments.

39
40 Chief Uridge asked for permission to start the hiring process for Clinton Post.

- 41 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner to allow Prairieville Township Fire**
42 **Department to work with Clinton Post and start the hiring process for the**
43 **PTFD, supported by Clerk Goebel, all ayes, motion carried.**

44
45 Chief Uridge introduced three new EMT's Taylor Stewart, Cassie Flick and Makayla
46 Konecny who have just completed their training. Congratulations to these ladies!!

47 POLICE REPORT

48 Chief Reizin gave the report, and a copy will be put on file. He attended the Pine Lake
49 Association meeting in early June. Chief Reizin also thanked Supervisor Stoneburner for
50 his help with traffic control during the recent fire. He talked about the unity among the
51 fire department, law enforcement, and the neighbors who helped during this massive
52 fire. He was so impressed with the coordination among these people. He suggested a
53 plaque to thank people.

54

55 PARKS' REPORT

56 Scott Kuebler, Recreation Director, gave the report. Some of the Parks' money is being
57 put into a CD with Treasurer Pence's help. The Board would like to see the credit card
58 amount raised and will be discussing this. Treasurer Pence will be attending the next
59 Parks meeting. Bathrooms at Gull Lake have had issues and they hope to have
60 addressed this. There are 175 total fishing tournaments for the year that are scheduled.
61 The Parks is sponsoring Delton Kellogg Bass Club.

62

63 There was a complaint that was shared with Scott about the walking trail at Pine Lake
64 Rec needing mowing. There is also an electric issue at the Pine Lake Rec Pavilion. The
65 breakers had tripped but when put back on, they still didn't work. Verizon is going to
66 investigate this as they may have inadvertently cut the line.

67

68 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

69 Supervisor Stoneburner:

70 ○ Southwest Barry County Sewer Authority has now purchased property on M43
71 near Scribner St. and Bush St.

72 ○ Revitalize Delton meeting on June 22 at 6 pm

73 ○ Gull Lake Sewer and Water is putting sewer around Sherman Lake

74 ○ Gull Lake Water Quality Meeting – PFA's are being monitored but have minimal
75 impact at this time.

76 ○ On May 1, 2023, Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority had to report sewer
77 overflow on 38th St. The overflow was contained that day, cleanup was
78 completed, and no homes were affected.

79 ○ Barry Bowers, Barry County Supervisor, found a resolution about charging fees if
80 fire or police go out of the township to assist another township. He does not want
81 to do this as departments need to work together for the betterment of everyone.
82 At their next meeting they will be changing this.

83

84 ● **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner that Prairieville Township will not charge**
85 **fees if Prairieville Township Fire Department and/or Prairieville Township**
86 **Police Department assist with other police or fire departments outside of**
87 **the township, supported by Clerk Goebel; all ayes, motion carried.**

88

89

90 TREASURER'S REPORT

91 There is currently \$2,063,784.07 in pooled cash.

92 ○ Fund balances as well as other information are in the reports which are on file.

- 93 ○ Treasurer Pence discussed where she is finding the best rate for CD's.
- 94 ○ Tax bills will go in the mail next week.
- 95 ○ Online tax payments accepted July 1 through September 14.

96
97 TRUSTEES' REPORTS

98 Trustee Doster:

99 PC master plan says to discuss relevant ordinances of township. They discussed
100 this and at this point have decided to let them be. There will be a discussion this
101 coming month to look at ordinances about the water table.

102
103 Trustee DeVries:

104 ZBA met this month. A request was tabled until July 5 so the residents making
105 the request can look at options to stay within the setback. Last year ZBA denied
106 a side setback, over the winter a home was built in that general area and a 16-
107 foot retaining wall had to be built as the house started to settle. Trustee DeVries
108 also checked on a complaint about a garage going into a road right away. There
109 is no construction at this time but this is being monitored.

110
111 CLERK'S REPORT

112 Clerk Goebel has a copy of the Barry County Road Report. He is in the process of
113 ordering more equipment and drop boxes. Clerk Pam Palmer has done a wonderful job
114 for the county.

115
116 PAYMENT OF BILLS

- 117 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, supported by Trustee DeVries, to pay bills in the**
118 **amount of \$48,384.59; all ayes, motion carried.**

119
120
121 PUBLIC HEARING Resolution 2023-14: Truth in Taxation

- 122 • **Motion to open public hearing 2023-14 by Clerk Goebel and supported by**
123 **Supervisor Stoneburner; all ayes, motion carried.**

124
125 Clerk Goebel explained: Truth in Taxation allows us to levy the maximum allowable
126 millage. He then read Resolution 2023-14 to the board and public.

127
128 Public Comment

129 David Mitchell

130 13500 Burchette Rd.

131 Mr. Mitchell asked about the increase in taxes on property sold and questioned if that
132 would cover the need for additional taxes. He wanted to share this with the board.

133
134 Scott Kuebler

135 Truth in Taxation questions – he is wondering why we are increasing taxes if we have
136 \$2 million in the bank. Treasure Pence answered this and explained the amount in the
137 bank was for all funds the township handles.

139 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel to adopt 2023-14, supported by Supervisor**
140 **Stoneburner; roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried and was duly adopted**
141 **on this date.**

142
143 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner to close public hearing, supported by**
144 **Trustee DeVries; all ayes, motion carried.**

145
146 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for
147 the Recording Clerk.)

148 David Mitchell

149 13500 Burchette Rd.

150 Mr. Mitchell said he is concerned about legislation being pushed by gravel outfits which
151 will take local control away from the townships. He knows we have great committees
152 and rock-solid ordinances. He hopes it stays at the local level.

153

154 Richard Glassman

155 15760 Kane Rd.

156 Mr. Glassman had a question about Rod's comments and tax revenues. Is a deficit
157 projected in the next year? Treasurer Pence said we are okay and Clerk Goebel
158 explained because of roads, there could be a budget deficit this year but we will be
159 collecting revenue to cover that in the next few years.

160

161 BOARD COMMENTS

162 Supervisor Stoneburner: Thank you for being here. Also thank you to all who helped
163 fight the fire. It made me proud to be in Prairieville Township.

164

165 Treasurer Pence: Auditors are coming. Thanks, Rod, for your help.

166

167 Trustee DeVries: Should there be something budgeted for Merlau as far as what we are
168 paying for roads in the budget? Treasurer Pence answered that the auditors are coming
169 next week and will be asked the best way to handle that issue.

170

171 Clerk Goebel: The Memorial Day parade was great. We have a new deluxe flag in front
172 thanks to esteemed citizen, Richard VanNiman.

173

174 Trustee Doster: What is the update on the bathroom remodel? "It will be minimal," was
175 the answer.

176

177 Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

178

179

180 Respectfully submitted,

181

182

183 MaryAnn Bliss DeVries

184