

**SPALDING TOWNSHIP**

**POWERS, MICHIGAN 49874**

**FEBRUARY 21, 2024 – 6:30 PM CST**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Moraska. The following Board members were presented: Jim Moraska, Jerry Bartnicki, Connie Wells, Chris LeBoeuf, and Kevin LaBonte was absent. Guests included: Gerald Kleiman, Randy Viau, Dan Hammerberg and Leon Felch

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** The motion was made by Chris to approve the agenda with Jerry supporting.

**CLERKS REPORT:** All bills are up to date. A motion was made by Chris to approve the Clerk's Report and minutes from the last two meeting was made by Chris and supported by Jerry.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Jerry presented a handout showing the Township's monthly balances (check register) and went over the report. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Chris and supported by Jim.

**LIQUOR REPORT:** Cheryl Mencinger will continue to serve our township by providing monthly liquor reports. All is well in both taverns and the grocery store for the month of February.

**FIRE REPORT/FIRE CHIEF & FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The department responded to 1 call that lasted 39 minutes with nine volunteers at a cost of \$0. Equipment repaired and/or improved: Installed batteries E1, installed air auto eject E1, completed air auto eject install on HR5, ran small equipment and inspected and cleaned ladders.

**CEMETERY/PARK REPORT:** There was one burial on February 17, 2024, one burial on February 21, 2024 and a family will be purchasing a lot. There was no park report.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT:** There will be a Board of Review Training on February 29<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:30 at the Township Hall. The cost is \$30.00 per person. Change notices have been printed and went out in the mail. Tax rolls are ready and will be turned over to the Board of Review. A PRE form was picked up for Bisson.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** No report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**FIRE TRUCK MILLAGE & OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL:** We are currently looking at placing two millage proposals on the ballot for the August election. 1.) A renewal for fire department operation & 2.) A new millage for the purchase of a new fire truck. Dan would like both requests on the August ballot. The deadline for submitting this for the ballot is May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**FEMA ASSISTANCE/FIRE FIGHTER GRANTS:**

**Memorandum Submitted: Memo #2 Billing Ordinance for our consideration**

Spalding Township Cost Recovery Ordinance – Since the large fire event in Menominee that lasted nearly two weeks a recommendation has been made that each township adopt a billing ordinance in order to recover some expenses in the event of another large-scale event that might have a state or federal declaration emergency. This would enable the state and federal governments to reimburse expenses for apparatus or personnel to entities with such ordinance in place. Dan presented a sample billing ordinance that specifies reimbursement at the federal rate as published by FEMA. Jim will be requesting our MTA lawyers to look into this matter.

A **FEMA** assistance grant has been applied for.

**VETERAN’S PARK DECK:** Jim inspected work at the Veteran’s Park. The beach area is in and the deck is framed in. The project is expected to be completed by the beginning of May.

An area is being cleared near the truck pull are to increase parking space.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ELECTION UPDATE:** Early voting for the State of Michigan began on February 17<sup>th</sup> and will continue until February 25<sup>th</sup>. February 27<sup>th</sup> if the Official Election Day from 7 a.m. 8 p.m. local time. We completed our public and private tests for the tabulator and VAT (Voter Assist Terminal) on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Connie will be available at the township hall February 24-25 for assistance with Absentee Ballot. We currently have 149 absentee ballots returned. 195 were sent out.

Some important upcoming election dates include: EV for Primary will be July 27-August 4. EV for the General Election will be October 26-November 3.

Candidate Filings for 2024:

- If a candidate is running as a Republican or Democrat in Township positions, the filing deadline is Tuesday, April 23 by 4:00 pm.
- If a candidate is running as NPA (no party affiliation), they do not appear on the August 6<sup>th</sup> primary election. The deadline for NPA candidates is Thursday, July 18 by 4:00 pm.
- If a candidate is running for a Village position, the filing deadline is Tuesday, July 23 by 4:00 pm.

Applications to be filed can be found with the township clerk.

**ORDINANCE FOR THE WATER AUTHORITY:** This agenda item was tabled.

**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2024:** Jim reviewed the new budget for the upcoming fiscal year. He highlighted few changes.

**LETTER TO SENATOR GARY PETERS:** Jim drafted and sent a letter of support to Senator Gary Peters on behalf of the Menominee County Road Commission’s funding request for replacement of the River Road Bridge over the West Branch Big Cedar River.

**MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS (ROLL CALL VOTE):** A motion to pay the bills was made by Chris and supported by Jim. Roll Call Vote: Jim, yes, Connie, yes, Jerry, yes, Chris, yes, Motion approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment.

**ANY OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE TOWNSHIP:** None given.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chris with Connie supporting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.  
CST

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Wells

Township Clerk