

WAKESHMA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

December 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Gatlin called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. *Present:* Gatlin, Fry, Munn, Bennett and Thole. *Absent:* N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the consent agenda moved by Thole. Seconded by Munn.

Motion carried unanimously. 5:0

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Munn reviewed the Treasurer's Report – to include the General Savings, General Checking, Tax Checking, Trust & Agency, and Michigan CLASS Account.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report moved by Thole. Seconded by Fry.

Motion carried unanimously. 5:0

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

A citizen expressed her frustration with vehicles parking along the streets in Fulton during heavy snow – preventing snow plows from removing the snow in its entirety from the roadway. Lieutenant Faulk with the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department suggested a local ordinance between the months of October and March that prohibited overnight parking. A discussion ensued about the potential cost and enforcement of such an ordinance.

A citizen expressed her concerns with her neighbor's lot potentially being sold and a barn being built on the property. Supervisor Gatlin ensured the citizen that all building codes would have to be followed if the property owner decided to pursue such a project.

Commissioner Gisler shared that he is serving his final term on the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners. He was recently elected to a 4-year term but anticipates his seat on the County Board being open in 2028.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

HHW Contract – The overall contract for the year decreased – but Supervisor Gatlin anticipates the HHW contract for the following year to increase. Motion to approve the HHW contract moved by Munn. Seconded by Fry.

Motion carried unanimously. 5:0.

Approve Fire Authority Budget – The budget is increasing approximately \$460 per month. The Fire Authority is considering alternative sources of revenue. Supervisor Gatlin is advocating for Wakeshma Township residents in these meetings. Motion to approve the Fire Authority budget moved by Gatlin. Seconded by Fry.

Motion carried unanimously. 5:0.

ROAD COMMITTEE

N/A

CORRESPONDENCE

N/A

ZONING ENFORCEMENT

N/A

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Lieutenant Faulk reported that there were (24) calls for service in September 2024, (25) calls for service in October 2025, and (12) calls for service in November 2024. Most of these calls are non-criminal and/or suspicious but did review some statistics on calls concerning B&E, Traffic Accidents, Death Investigations, Stolen Vehicle (UDAA), and Assaults.

Lieutenant Faulk also disclosed that he will be retiring from the Kalamazoo County Sheriffs Department at the beginning of 2025 after 28 years of service with the department (and 36 years of service in law enforcement). He will be going to Saint Joseph County to serve as a Captain in their Sheriff Department. The board congratulated Lieutenant Faulk on his career in public service and wished him well in his future endeavors.

FIRE AUTHORITY

Supervisor Gatlin informed everyone that the Fire Authority is still at a deadlock and that the “2024 Fire Authority Audit” has not been approved.

Commissioner Gisler opined that he doesn’t believe that an audit needs to be approved by the board in the first place.

Supervisor Gatlin will continue to keep the township updated with any changes with the Fire Authority.

BOARD COMMENTS

Bennett – None.

Fry – Provided statistics on voter turnout from the November 5th election and shared his appreciation for the poll workers who helped ensure we had a smooth election in Wakeshma Township.

Gatlin – None.

Thole – Shared information from the latest SMCI meeting last month.

Munn – Collecting winter taxes through February 2025.

Supervisor Gatlin adjourned the meeting at 7:29PM.