

Township of Marilla Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023, 6:30pm - In-Person Meeting
9991 Marilla Road, Copemish Mi. 49625

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Douglas Glick, Township Supervisor.
Pledge. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum.

Present: Vegter, Glick, Cundey, Bay **Abs:** Bahr
Visitors: Chris Bay - D. Treasurer, Pat Milliron, Julie Cirone

Approval of Minutes:

10/10/2023: Motion to approve minutes made by Vegter and seconded by Bay. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

Floor opened to public comment and questions at 6:34 pm

Floor closed to public comment and questions at 6:35 pm

New business

1. Kaleva Public Library would like to place a “Little Free Library” at the Marilla Township hall. Julie Cirone explained that the public library would provide, install and maintain the structure as well as stock the free books. Glick made a motion to approve the “Little Free Library” as presented and Vegter seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.
2. Newsletter for the Winter 2023 tax mailing needs to be completed. Get information to Glick by 10 am Friday.
3. Maple Grove has sent the township the fire and rescue contract. The fee remains the same as the previous year and the township has passed a millage that helps cover the cost. Vegter moved to approve the provided 2024 contract and Bay seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.
4. RG Snowplowing has again offered his services for snow removal. The rates will remain the same as last year and he has acquired a lawn bar to help with scrapes. Glick made a motion to renew our previous contract with RG Snowplowing and Vegter seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Old business

1. The sexton John still needs to be contacted to see if he is interested in signing the new re-written contract. If he does not desire to do so the township will advertise the position.
2. Solar Ordinance - The state has recently taken the renewable energy zoning from the local units and is requiring that in order to have developers apply with local units, they must have a "compatible renewable energy ordinance".
3. Online payments for taxes are not available at this time.
4. The treasurer and clerk would like to attend a MTA financial training in Gaylord on Dec 5th, 2023. Glick made a motion to approve the training cost of \$125 each, Vegter seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Douglas Glick - Supervisor Report

Misty Cudney - Clerk Report

Presented bills and payroll. Motion to accept and pay the bills as presented made by Glick and seconded by Bay. All in favor. Motion passed.

New vacuum cleaner may be needed. Fire Extinguisher inspections were completed for 2023. Light bulb in the entry needs to be replaced. New Quickbooks program replaces the two we have been using.

Camie Bay - Treasurer Report

Financial Report October 2023			
Cemetery/Timber		\$51,593.05	
<i>General Account</i>			
Refund		\$332.60	
Bounced check fee		\$50.00	
land use		\$150.00	
Bills paid		\$10,598.24	
Interest		\$3.23	
Balance when everything is in LEDGER		\$125,180.05	

Steven Vegter/Bruce Bahr: Township Trustee Report

Zoning Administrator: Misty Cudney (interim)

Clean up day was successful. A few properties sold recently and have requested permits for homes and/or accessory buildings.

Cemetery Committee: Bruce Bahr (Abs)

*Driveway is complete and the second half payment is to be sent.

Planning Commission Report: Steven Vegter

Maps and charts still continue to be a challenge. The Master Plan is the same as last month as the meeting in October was canceled.

Rezoning Request:

The township board has three action options.

1. Disapproves proposed rezoning, with no further action by Planning Commission.
2. Approves proposed rezoning, in ordinance form, with or without permissible changes.
3. Refers proposed rezoning back to the Planning Commission for further consideration and comment within time specified by the Township Board.

A motion was made by Glick to approve the proposed rezoning application while acknowledging the previous comments and concerns. Glick : Aye, Vegter: Aye, Bay: Nay and Cudney: Nay. (Bahr was abs) Motion was turned down.

Discussion was had regarding the original public hearing and planning commission meeting. Cudney shared her concern that the approval was not fact based enough to support the decision to rezone so drastically. Bay also thought there may be other options that could be explored.

A motion was made by Cudney to send the rezoning application back to the Planning Commission for further factual data and discussion, to be completed before the Township Board meeting on December 12, 2023. Cudney: Aye, Glick: Aye, Bay: Aye and Vegter: Aye. (Bahr was abs) Motion was approved.

The planning commission will meet on November 21st 2023 at 6:30. Pat Miliron was in attendance on Phyllis Cholette's behalf. He was notified of the meeting time.

Motion to adjourn made by Vegter and seconded by Bay. All in favor. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Misty Cudney, Marilla Township Clerk

*Approved Dec 12, 2023