TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIP

ANTRIM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

APPROVED MINUTES OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING 5-0 WITH CORRECTIONS

JANUARY 17, 2023

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING

TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIP

Present: Cook, Schultz, Martel, Merchant and Windiate

Absent: None

Audience: 6

**A. REPEATING AGENDA:**

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM followed by the pledge to the flag.

2. Minutes: **Motion** to approve Minutes of December 20, 2022 as prepared passed 5-0. **Motion** to approve Minutes of Special Board Meeting of December 22, 2022 with corrections passed 5-0. In Item 3. Change Mr. Lott’s first name to “Andrew”. In item 4. Line 3 change “lot” to “grave” and “lots” to “graves”. **Motion** to approve Minutes of Special Board Meeting of January 4, 2023 with corrections passed 5-0. In the line that begins “Job” add to “Current Rate” “per hour” and add to “Proposed Rate” “per hour”. In Item 6. Line 2, remove “as it took down trees then rather than now”. **Motion** to approve Minutes of Special Meeting of January 11, 2023 with one correction passed 5-0. In Item 3 B. line 4, change “an” to “am”.

3. Correspondence/Announcements: None

4. Agenda Content: **Motion** by Schultz to approve as prepared was seconded and passed 5-0.

5. Citizen Comment: Jarris Rubingh commented on the snow storm at Christmas. It cost the county $165,000, including fuel and OT. Regarding the status of the new garage in Central Lake, the cement floor job was terrible and will need to be re-done. No more money for that project until it is fixed. The Chairman of the Commissioners made his appointments; Jarris will no longer be the liaison to the Road Commission.

**B. CONSENT AGENDA:** All reports were accepted by Consent.

**C. SPECIAL REPORTS AGENDA:** Mr. Merchant reported that the January 14th Planning Commission meeting was cancelled and is rescheduled for January 23, 2023. MS Windiate reported that the only current FOIA is one she has been working on for a while. The November 2022 election needs to be certified before any information can be released for that request.

**D. AGENDA FOR BOARD ACTION:**

**OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Motion** by Schultz to approve the Pay Schedule for fiscal year 2023-2024 was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
2. **Motion** by Cook to approve Resolution 2023-01 Treasurer Salary at $33,000 per year was seconded and passed

5-0 roll call vote.

1. **Motion** by Cook to approve Resolution 2023-02 Clerk Salary at $27,300 per year was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
2. **Motion** by Cook to approve Resolution 2023-03 Trustee Salary at $ 5,800 per year was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
3. **Motion** by Schultz to approve Resolution 2023-04 Supervisor Salary at $$31,500 per year was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
4. **Motion** by Cook to approve Resolution 2023-05 approving Bob Hawkins, as Ordinance Enforcement Officer, to be designated by Zoning Administrator to sign Zoning Ordinance violation tickets. Motion was seconded and approved 5-0.
5. **Motion** by Schultz to approve the nomination of Jeff Wynkoop as ZBA alternate #2, moving Rita Service from alternate #2 to alternate #1, effective January 19, 2023 Motion was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
6. **Motion** by Windiate to approve the increased billing rate of the Township attorney, Todd Millar, from $190 to $200 per hour was seconded and passed 5-0.
7. **Motion** by Schultz to approve the contract for complete financial audit from Baird, Cotter & Bishop as the Township auditors. Audit years and costs are for 2023 @ $5,975; 2024 @$6,200; and 2025 @ 6,500. Motion was withdrawn.

**E. AGENDA FOR BOARD DISCUSSION:**

1. Discussion on how to proceed with a Police Power Ordinance for Noise and Dangerous Building Ordinance. After deliberation, the consensus of the Board was 4 to 1 not to pursue a Noise Ordinance any farther at this time.

2. Dangerous Building Ordinance; many good thoughts came from the discussion, so the consensus of the Board was 4 to 1 to pursue an ordinance FURTHER

**F. AGENDA ITEM FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY:**

**1. Reminder the budget meeting will begin at 6PM on March 7, 2023 immediately followed by the Annual Meeting of Electors.**

**G. CITIZEN COMMENT: NONE**

**H. BOARD COMMENT:** Martel remarked about a loud animal sound he heard at his home. Sounded like a big cat. Just wanted people to know. Merchant had nothing. Windiate commented about the FYI email she sent to the Board and Commissions regarding the impending ZBA court case. Cook met with the Road Commission and they have agreed to make the beach area at the Nature Preserve a No Parking area, all the way back to the existing parking spaces. Signage will be coming and County will install. Schultz commented that the State of Michigan has revised Revenue Sharing, upward, on Friday, January 13th. Torch Lake Township’s projected increase is 2.8%, which translates to $3,599. Good news on Friday the 13th! Next, she has been in contact with the engineer regarding the new streetlight to be installed at Bay Colony and US 31. The work should begin soon. Last, the township has retained a copy of MTA’s Cindy Dodge ‘s book “Township Assessing, A Guide for Township Boards”. Check it out at your leisure. It’s excellent. Mr. Cook completed the meeting with his last comment regarding the email Mr. Martel sent as Trustee to the Planning Commission, OF WHICH HE STONGLY DISAPPROVED, about work to be done on the Zoning Ordinance.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business the **Motion** by Cook to adjourn was seconded and passed 5-0.

**J. FUTURE MEETINGS:**

**1. Planning Commission Monday January 23, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

**2. Zoning Board of Appeals Wednesday January 18, 2023 at 6 PM**

**3. Zoning Board of Appeals Wednesday February 15, 2023 at 6 PM**

**4. Regular Board Meeting Tuesday February 21, 2023 at 7 PM**

**5. Planning Commission Tuesday February 14 , 2023 at 7 PM**

**These Minutes are respectfully submitted and are subject to approval at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.**

**Kathy S. Windiate**

**Township Clerk**