

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
July 16, 2024 7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order/Pledge/Roll Call:

Supervisor Bill Kasprzak called the regular meeting of the Howard Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Howard Township Business Office. Pledge to the flag was given. Board members, Mike Gordon, Bill Kasprzak, Hank Johnson, Phil Hurlbutt and Mike Daly were present. Gary Conover and Sheri Wozniak were absent.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Gordon, supported by Johnson to approve the amended agenda, carried.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Hurlbutt to approve the June 18, 2024 regular meeting minutes, carried.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Gordon read the July 2024 financial report into the record. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Daly to accept the July 2024 monthly financial report as presented with a beginning balance of \$1,748,343.76 and an ending balance of \$1,675,642.21 carried.

Approval of Bills

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Hurlbutt to approve the monthly bills for payment, carried.

Departmental Reports

Commissioner Jeremiah Jones reported that the Cassopolis Courthouse renovation is proceeding, power will be shut off on July 25, it is unclear how long or how county operations will be affected. The building department continues to be busy. The Fire Department answered 10 Fire calls and 42 medical calls in the last month. SMCAS responded to 47 medical calls in the township and 741 calls in their district. The Undersheriff spoke in support of the upcoming CCDET millage. The Sheriff spoke about the department's staffing challenges that are soon to be solved. A total of 10 new deputies are in the process of being hired and trained. The Sheriff also endorsed Clint Roach for Sheriff. The parks have been dealing with ongoing water issues at Pepper Martin Park, but at this time it appears to be fixed. There are several trees in the parks that have been identified as needing either removal or trimming an estimate cost is 20,000.00. The disc golf course was repaired. A motion was made by Daly, supported by Kasprzak to approve the monthly reports, carried.

Information:

Old Business

New Business

Approve Resolution 2024-008 Weed treatment assessment for Barron Lake Association. A motion was made by Hurlbutt, supported by Johnson, Carried.

Approve The planning commission decision to deny a rezone request. A motion was made by Daly, supported by Hurlbutt, Carried.

Approve The articles of incorporation for SMCAS. A motion was made by Gordon, supported by Johnson, Carried.

Correspondence

Other Business from the Board

Public Comment: Barb Green asked SMCAS director Brian Scribner, what SMCAS did for the township outside of what we are paying them for. Cass county prosecutor Victor Fitz spoke in support of the CCDET millage and Clint Roach for Sheriff.

Adjournment: Adjourned at 7:35 pm, carried.

Sheri Wozniak
Howard Township Clerk