

APPROVED

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
ATHENS TOWNSHIP HALL

JANUARY 4, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Tuttle. Present were Treasurer Mike Irons, Library Director Missy Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner, Fire Chief Steve Wart and Deputy Clerk Amy Heath. Supervisor Steve Irons and Trustee Cliff Denney were absent.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to approve the December 2021 minutes as approved. Motion carried.

M Irons asked if it was beneficial to be grading at this time of year.

Lucy Lamson was going to reach out to Ron Smith, Water Resource Commissioner because we do not have enough information regarding the work to be done on the flooding problem at the southeast corner of the Village.

If we cannot make the big project work, maybe we can get the ditch cleaned out.

Bail reported that all of the building permits have been done. Wednesday of next week will be the Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements (AMAR).

Personal property statements will be out tomorrow.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

Missy Irons reported on the library. See attached.

ARPA is a Covid Grant which we received in the amount of \$159,201. This is based on the population determined by the US Treasury and the cap calculated from the NEU's top-line budget. We have to use it on items that are Covid related losses.

Missy Irons will bring back an itemized list of all the monies lost at the library because of Covid.

If we have money left, we could use it for broadband internet for the township.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to accept the CCPRC 2022 dated 1/4/22. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to approve the mileage allocation for 2021. No money was spent from the 2021 CCPRC. Motion carried.

Recycling will be coming to our parking lot, possibly one Thursday per month for 3 to 4 hours. This will be staffed by the county.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$281,663.91. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by M Irons to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Clerk

Approved

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
ATHENS TOWNSHIP HALL

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor S Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Stev Irons, Trustee Cliff Denney, Treasurer Mike Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Zoning Administrator Phillip Goodrich, Library Director Missy Irons, Fire Chief Steve Wart and Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to approve the minutes from the January Meeting as presented.

Two Mile Road between "O" Drive South and 2 Mile Road needs a culvert. The old one is rusted out. The County Road Commission said it needs one from 4' to 6' long. They probably won't do anything until spring.

There is a possibility of finishing "O" Drive South from where we stopped at the bridge to "Q" Drive South.

The Village is having Britney from Water Resources come to their meeting next month. S Irons and Tuttle will go to that meeting.

AMAR went well on January 12th.

CPI is 3.3% which is more than the last few years.

The building permits are almost done.

We have a lot of new solar panels going in. Solar Panels are exempt from taxes until the property is sold.

The deeds and address changes are up to date and personal property statements are starting to come in.

Assessment notices will be in the mail no later than the 23rd.

A sub community will be working on the zoning book and maps, then they will take their work to the planning commission.

Goodrich met with Sam Wheeler and now S Irons will take care of this.

Goodrich did nineteen building permits which amounted to \$7,630.00.

Missy Irons went over the library information. The amount that COVID cost the library is \$1,411.81. This includes lost books because of the doors being closed, wages that were paid even though there was no work, etc.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to pay the library \$1,411.81 from the COVID grant. Motion carried.

S Irons stated that there was a vacancy on the planning commission. He would like to recommend Sam Wheeler.

Discussion regarding this vacancy was heard. First, Amy Heath is the person who was taken off due to her working for the Township. Second, no one told her anything about this. She found out when Mr. Wheeler was introduced to the planning board as the new trustee.

The trustees both want to see the law that states that the deputy clerk cannot serve on the planning board.

S Irons said he dropped the ball; he is the one who should have told Amy. He wanted to talk to her is person, then he forgot. D Denney asked why he did not at least call. He said he did not have her phone number.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by C Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$40,129.12. Motion carried.

Bail stated that she has been here for 27 years has always felt appreciated. She feels that it was wrong the way Amy was treated.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor S Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Treasurer Mike Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Zoning Administrator Phillip Goodrich, Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner, Fire Chief Steve Wart, Lt. Nate Walker, and several citizens. (See attached list) Trustee Cliff Denney was absent.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to approve the minutes from the February meeting with the correction that the culvert measurement is 4' to 6' high. Motion carried.

S Irons said that he has called Cory at the Road Commission three times and he has not returned any of the calls.

There will be a meeting next Tuesday with the Village, Township representatives and the Drain Commissioner regarding the flood situation in the Southeast section of the Village.

Bail reported that the assessment notices are out. She would like to thank Mike and Missy Irons, Amy Heath, Phillip Goodrich, Madyson Vosburg and Nolan Fry for all their help putting these together.

The Board of Appeal organizational meeting will be on March 8th. The Board of Appeals will be held on March 14th from 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 4 pm and on March 15th from 2 pm to 5 pm and from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached. Goodrich reported on the items the planning commission is working on. See attached.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by M Irons to approve the NHBP site plan and open space. Motion carried.

S Irons asked if there is any way to get the word out to the public when we have a public hearing. We publish it in the Battle Creek Enquirer, on our website and on the marquee at the library. It was discussed that we really do not want to go to social media.

The library has hired two employees, one for cleaning and light carpenter issues and one for a substitute librarian.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by D Denney to hire Eric Mattson as a custodian and Myra Swartz as a substitute librarian. Motion carried.

S Irons recommended to the board that we approve Sam Wheeler to fill the vacancy on the planning commission.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to approve Sam Wheeler to fill the vacancy on the planning commission. Motion carried.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

The budget was discussed, and changes were made.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to adopt the budget revision with a net income of \$92,705.00 dated 2/22/22. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$46,537.23. Motion carried.

Kayla Wright was present to discuss the update to the Nottawa Creek Watershed. She presented a survey for citizens to fill out. See attached.

Doug Damon, Supervisor of Fredonia, said that the road commission is pushing them to grind their roads and put them back to gravel. He wanted to hear what we were doing.

The Tribe is seeking a grant to fix the Indian Bridge.

There was a presentation for an air purifier.

Janice Mangold wants her potholes patched; she lives at 3160 "2" Mile Road.

The annual meeting will be held on Monday, March 21st at 7:30 pm.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by M Irons to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Clerk

APPROVED

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
ATHENS TOWNSHIP HALL

APRIL 5, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor S Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Trustee Cliff Denney, Assessor Marcia Bail, and Zoning Administrator Phillip Goodrich. Treasurer Mike Irons was absent. See attached guest list for others who attended.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

For road repairs on O Drive South from 2 Mile Road to Q Drive South, the cost would be approximately \$120,000 for not quite a mile. The guardrails would be approximately \$40,400 which we would have to pay half.

Motion by S Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to table the road repairs for O Drive South from 2 Mile Road to Q Drive South so that we can get more information. Motion carried.

Connie Roe would like to have something done to her road, S Drive South, from 4 ½ Mile to 5 Mile.

The culvert on 2 Mile has a hole in the culvert.

On March 8, Tuttle and S Irons met with the Village Board and Ron Smith, Water Resource Commissioner. It was discussed that we would need to get a drain petition. The Board of Determination which is made up of three people none who are residents of the Township will discuss the situation. The engineer will look at the project. The Water Commissioner can move it forward or stop it. We can re-petition after five years.

The Village has decided to file a petition, but it needs to be redone because it only included the township not the village.

We should have had the petition by now.

We need to be very careful with the timeline.

Attorney Kaufman introduced herself. We need to let her know who is ok to call her for questions and opinions, etc.

Helen Guzzo from Calhoun County Senior Services presented the program available and left us some information.

Bail stated that she had 17 appeals of which 13 were from disabled veterans and 2 were assessor changes.

Equalization went great. She has rolled over the data base.

She has about 53 more appraisals and they will be done. She has not heard anything from AMAR yet.

Bail and Goodrich did a land division for Russ Burt on M Drive South.

She will be on vacation in Arizona from the 14th to the 24th.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

Goodrich reported on the work he did last month. See attached.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to adopt Ordinance #22-01, "AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 16 OF ATHENS TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE ADDITION OF SECTION 16.24 WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS". Motion carried by roll call vote. C Denney, yes – Tuttle, yes – S Irons, yes -- D Denney yes.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to appoint Greg Amaro, Steve Tuttle, and Brian Setlack to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by Tuttle to allow Goodrich to refund permit money to Robert Denney and CTI Mechanical Contractors. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to hire Eric Matteson to clean the township hall at \$14.00 per hour. Motion carried.

It is ok to pay for Greg Amaro's attendance at the Planning and Zoning workshop on 3/31/22.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$44,710.51. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to accept the budget as presented with a total income of \$812,200.00 and total expenditures of \$705,475.00. Motion carried.

Ben Skarp was present to discuss the proposed Open Space Preservation community that is planned to be built at 2548 S Drive South by the Tribe. See letter attached.

Clair Parlin stated that it was appalling how close NHBP is staking out to the property line.

Attorney Kaufman stated that the board has done everything within the law. NHBP has developed it according to our Zoning Ordinance.

It was suggested that we amend the open space wording to allow more of a set-back. We would have to put a 6-month moratorium to change the ordinance if we wanted to change it.

If Mr. Skarp wanted to fight our decision, it would go to Circuit Court and the suit would be with the Township.

Attorney Kaufman suggested that we table the adoption of the March meeting until we have a Special Meeting on April 18th at 10:00 am. This meeting will be to discuss the pros and cons of the open space preservation ordinance

Camella Eutsey was present to ask the board to pass a resolution to move the 55-mph speed zone sign to outside the Village. MDOT will need to do a speed study to see if this can be done.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by C Denney to adopt the Resolution #22-01 dated this date "TO MOVE THE SPEED LIMIT SIGN OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE LIMITS. Motion carried by a roll call vote. C Denney, yes – Tuttle, yes – S Irons, yes – D Denney, yes.

If anything should come of the case regarding the open space preservation situation, the board members would not be liable.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor S Irons. Present were Trustee Cliff Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Treasurer Mike Irons, Zoning Administrator Phillip Goodrich, Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner, Fire Chief Steve Wart, and several citizens. (See attached list) Clerk, Deb Denney was absent. Marcia Bail joined the meeting later.

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

Motion by C Denney 2nd by S Tuttle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by S Tuttle to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2022, township board meeting minutes. Motion carried

Motion by S Tuttle, 2nd by C Denney to approve the April 18, 2022, Special Township board meeting minutes.

Roads: Talked to managing director about the \$40,000.00 guard rails. S Irons was told we are responsible for our half of the guard rails. S Irons told them that we would not be doing anything with the county since the deadline the county had given has passed.

Drains: JR Brunner talked about what was discussed at the meeting at the village about the Athens Acres Plat - Henckel Drain. Randy Ramsey showed a map of all the village of Athens that showed the drain district had been established. It was decided to see where this went before the township filled out any paperwork to proceed.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

Wart also presented a Fire Resolution to the board for if a property has a fire that the township keeps the insurance money in escrow until the structure is restored. If the structure is never restored & is abandoned by the homeowners, the township can then use that money to tear down the structure. If the structure is restored, then the money is turned over to the homeowners.

Motion by C Denney, 2nd by Mike Irons to adopt resolution #22-02.

Roll Call	Supervisor, S Irons	yes
	Clerk, D Denney	absent
	Treasurer, M Irons	yes
	Trustee, Tuttle	yes
	Trustee, C Denney	yes

S Irons declared the motion had passed & the resolution has been adopted.

Goodrich reported on the items the planning commission is working on. He also asked the township board for approval to bring attorney Catherine Kaufman in to help with the marijuana ordinance. Motion was made by S Tuttle, 2nd by C Denney to give approval for one meeting with Catherine at this time to see how much of her time would be needed for this. The planning commission is meeting with Catherine at 6:30 PM on June 8, 2022.

M Irons told the township board that the township had disengaged with Ann Seuryneck with Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC so that the Athens Community Library would hire Ann. The township had been delayed in disengaging with Ann until she approved the insurance for the township for the library. This will allow the library to proceed with becoming compliant with the state.

Missy Irons presented the township board with an update on what has been going on at the library. She also discussed the millage & the "Yes" committee. See attached.

Amy Heath informed the board for D Denney that the cleaning person the township had hired was not longer interested in the position. Missy Irons said she still had the applications from the people that applied for the library position & would send those applications over.

Yeo & Yeo was move approved at our budget meeting to be our accountants. The board had asked Mike & Deb to investigate other options. Mike spoke with Mark Campbell which is who the village of Athens has. Mike said he was very direct & did not like the way the library was set up. Mike contacted Catherine Kaufman to discuss the issues Mark brought up with the library & she said we were fine with the way the library was set up. She also recommended we contact Siegfried Crandall PC & gave Mike their number. Mike contacted them & they have already looked at our township & are interested in being our auditors. They have sent us a fee structure & audit proposal. See attached. Mike recommended to the township board to hire Siegfried Crandall PC for our audits & told the board that they could do our audits in June.

Motion was made by C Denney, and 2nd by S Tuttle to drop Yeo & Yeo. All approved

Motion to hire Siegfried Crandall PC was made by C Denney, 2nd by S Tuttle. All approved

Marcia Bail reported that Robert was doing assessments in the Athens Acres area of the village. Marcia will be doing rechecks sections 1-6. She has also attached a continuing education class on marijuana & the assessments that can be assessed on a property involved.

Mike informed the board of the Covid money & the fact that they have revamped the system & now explain what it can be used for. Standard allowance can be spent line items off the budget. There is \$150,000.00 coming which so far has been used on the new fire truck & for the library for lost books & covid payroll when they were closed for a week.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$55,273.92. Motion carried.

Citizens Time:

Lynn Hankey presented himself to the township board as a candidate for Calhoun County Commissioner. Wants to see more done with the roads, shoring up the county employees & also helping the farmers.

Tuttle brought to the attention of the board that date on page 3 of the meeting minutes needs to be changed to the correct date.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by C Denney to adjourn meeting at 9:06 PM. Motion carried.

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Cliff Denney. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Trustee Cliff Denney, Treasurer Mike Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Library Director Missy Irons, Greg Amaro, Sherri Amaro, Linda Amaro, Village President Mike Alverson, Fire Chief Steve Wart, Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner, Mike Armitage from Calhoun County Dispatch and Lynden Hankey who is running for County Commissioner. Supervisor Steve Irons was absent.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by M Irons to approve the minutes from the May meeting as presented. Motion carried.

There were no reports on the roads or the drains.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

There will be a special meeting by the planning commission regarding the marijuana issue. Attorney Kaufman will be here for this meeting.

Missy Irons reported on the library. See attached.

The library will use our folding chairs for their summer reading program. They will keep them in the fire department.

We will be getting a grant for a maximum of \$1500.00 for equipment, etc. for elections. We have ordered a new lap top computer for our E Poll Book. We are still using the original laptop that the State provided when we first went with the computer. We have to buy the items then turn in the receipts to be reimbursed.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by D Denney to increase the cleaning rate to \$15.00 per hour. Motion carried.

We have Jenny Lane starting next week to clean the township hall.

Tuttle remarked about the fantastic job Ron VanHauten has done cleaning and repairing the tombstones in the cemeteries.

We have a couple of trees that need to be trimmed as they are hanging out over the drive at the Stimpson Cemetery. Tuttle will get a quote from Parks' Tree Service to do this.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report.

Southern Michigan Bank and Trust has implemented a new policy as fraud has become a big issue. From now on, when we write a check, we need to send them the information so that they know it

is a legitimate transaction. A copy of our check register will be ok. If we do not do this, they will not cash the checks. This will add a new step for Mike and Deb but should not create any problems.

Bail reported that the inspections are done in Athens Acres, and she is working on name and address changes.

We received a letter from AMAR. Bail received a 100% on the work she did. WAY TO GO MARCIA.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$44,400.23. Motion carried.

Alverson was present to discuss the Henckel Drain. Are we working on this project? The map shows that there is already a drain in that area. Randy Ramsy said he wanted to proceed with petitions. Spicer might be the engineer.

Why weren't we told about this drain being there at the beginning of this issue? Alverson will set up another meeting with the authorities and see what can be done.

M Irons asked Alverson about what the Village was planning to do with the money from the park grant. He stated that they were still talking about a kayak launch site at the river and new equipment in the park.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by D Denney to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Clerk

APPROVED

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

July 5, 2022

ATHENS TOWNSHIP HALL

The meeting was called to order by S Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Trustee Cliff Denney, Treasurer Mike Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Zoning administrator Phillip Goodrich, Fire Chief Steve Wart, Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner, Greg Moore, Attorney Catherine Kaufman Gregg and Sherri Amaro, Linda Amaro and Diane Thompson candidate for County Commissioner.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by Tuttle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to approve the minutes from last months meeting as presented. Motion carried.

S Irons reported that the brining is done on the gravel roads. So, grading has been done and some grass has been cut.

Wood chucks have undermined the road right next to the culvert on 1 ½ Mile Road. They have fixed this but the hole is back.

The culvert was not the problem on 2 Mile Road, it was a beaver damn. The beaver damn is gone.

Attorney Kaufman was present to explain the marijuana situation. If we opt in medical and adult users, we can charge up to \$5,000 for each grower. This money has to be used for marijuana items.

Adult use can be an excised fund or micro could be used.

Growers must be in an agriculture or industrial zone. They must be at least 1,000 feet from schools.

As of 2008, medical marijuana can be grown by the person or someone else can do it for them. The caregiver can only grow for 5 people.

We can limit the number of growers.

The planning commission is interested in this marijuana program.

Grower's process and sell, micro businesses default to the State rules. They can still grow up to 12 plants for their own use.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to have planning move forward on the micro marijuana issue. Motion carried.

A conditional use will have to be approved for the marijuana growers. The \$5,000 license fee is separate from this.

When advertising, keep 2 weeks to a month to apply with us and the State.

Bail is sending letters out for re-checks.

July Board of Review will be July 17th at 7:00 for clerical errors, etc.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

The planning commission recommended to the Township board to hire Southcentral Michigan Planning Council to update the Master Plan. The contract says it would be no more than \$9,600 to complete the project.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to have Southcentral Michigan Planning Council to help complete the Township Master Plan.

Goodrich reported that he had 3 building permits last month.

Moore stated on the Revenue Sharing Board. See the budget and 10-year chart attached.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to keep Mike Irons as the alternate on the LRSB. Motion carried.

On June 1st, the full-time librarians received a \$1.00 per hour raise.

The director, Missy Irons, gets a \$1.25 raise.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by M Irons that we re-allocate money from professional services to a new line item. Motion carried.

The meeting for the fire milage will be held at 7:00 p.m. just before the township board meeting on August 9, 2022.

Election meeting to elect inspectors & test the machine will be Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Tuttle said the cemetery restoration is moving along and is ahead of schedule.

Tuttle said the Stimpson Cemetery needs have tree work done on the perimeter. Tree work up the driveway on the west side to the back and then east along the north end would be \$9,000. It would be \$15,000 total to do the total perimeter (drive, north & east side) of the Stimpson Cemetery.

M Irons can roll \$15,000 from tax checking to pay for this.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to pay \$15,000 for Parks Tree Removal to remove the trees and fix the drive. Motion carried.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to accept the treasurers report and place it on file. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to pay accounts payable in the amount of \$19,997.39. Motion carried.

The audit went well.

Diane Thompson came to meet the board; she is running for County Commissioner in the 6th District.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by M Irons to adjourn. Motion carried.

Deb Denney, Township Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor S Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Cliff Denney, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Fire Chief Steve Wart, and Ron VanHounten. Treasurer Mike Irons was absent.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to approve the minutes from the July meeting as presented. Motion carried.

There hasn't been anything from the County Road Commission. The roads are getting bad again. S Irons will check to see what we can do.

They are working on the drain off N Drive South between M-66 and 6 Mile. They are also working on the Nottawa from 5 Mile to 6 Mile and 5 Mile to 4 Mile.

Bail has the L4029 and the tax mileage rate.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to approve the tax mileage rate. Motion carried.

July Board of Review was rough. Louie Roggow a member of the Board of Review passed away; he will be missed.

The Governor passed a new law stating that the Assessors can now do the Poverty Exemptions.

Bail reported that sections 1 thru 3 are done once she checks back with them. Nothing will be done now on sections 4 thru 6.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

We will get with JR Brunner to have him get the surveying done at North Athens Cemetery.

VanHounten is working on a couple head stones at the Walker Cemetery that need repair.

It was suggested that we put a bigger base under the headstones, so we don't have to get close with the lawn mower. This would eliminate week whacking.

It was also suggested that we put a couple poles with a chain across the drive so that we can keep the vehicles, motorcycles, 3 wheelers, etc. from going up into the cemetery. This will help with destruction of the headstones.

The tree work at the Stimpson Cemetery looks good. The quote was for \$15,000 and the bill was for \$18,000. From now on we will get more bids and get them in writing.

We will work the drives up so that we can seed them with grass.

We will be doing a recycling here at the Township parking lot. It will be manned so that we might be able to keep the mess to a minimum.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to table the Treasurer's report until next month. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to pay accounts payable. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Township Clerk

APPROVED

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
ATHENS TOWNSHIP HALL

September 6, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor S Irons. Present were Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Cliff Denney, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Jr Brunner & Ron Hawkins. Treasurer Mike Irons & Clerk Deb Denney was absent.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Marcia said the August 9 meeting minutes had an error. The line "The Governor passed a new law stating that the Assessors can now do the Poverty Exemptions". "Poverty Exemptions" should be "Principle Residence Exemption".

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to approve the minutes from the August meeting as presented. Motion carried.

After Steve made 4 phone calls to Corey at the road commission, he found out he was on vacation. They will be seal coating first & then going to brining. Steve asked them about mowing the roadsides & trimming the signs. He also asked them about cleaning up the down trees & was told they would do that this winter. Culverts are done but Steve had further discussions with them on the culverts.

Steve had not talked to Ron or Mike Alverson. Mike was supposed to get a hold of Steve, but he had not that yet. Need to reword the petition to say something about using the current drain.

Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary ask to use the Township Hall for a meeting. The township board approved. Debbie Brand also asked if they could use the Township Hall for the Fall Craft Show. The Township board approved.

Marcia is sending out letter for building permit activity. She has been asked for two land divisions. One she approved but the other was turned down due to the not being enough property.

JR Brunner reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

Phil brought up that Levi Delagrange wants the planning commission to do an amendment change. The planning commission was given by Phil two different ordinances within their book. The planning commission is discussing using section 14.21 Standards for Conditional Rezone. They will discuss it further next meeting.

The library wants to hire Madyson Vosburgh as a substitute librarian. The Township board approved the library hiring Madyson.

Tuttle informed the board that JR had installed the barricades up at each of the cemeteries. Tuttle brought up that Stimpson Cemetery did not have a sign. JR said he still had one & would get it installed. It was brought up about surveying the North Athens cemetery again. Tuttle said he would call Ron Miller & have him get with JR.

Tuttle also asked the board about getting a plaque of appreciation for the restoration of the cemeteries done by Ron VanHolton. He was asked to investigate it & bring it back to the board.

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
ATHENS TOWNSHIP HALL

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September 6, 2022

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to approve the July 6, 2022 & August 9, 2022, Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to pay accounts payable - \$33,001.64. Motion carried.

Ron Hawkins was present to let the board know he is running Representative in State Legislature 45th District. He handed out cards for the board to & told them there was more information on his website. He did take some questions the board had for him also.

Phil Goodrich is wanting to build a house. He does not want to take the other one down but want to use it as an accessory building. The board wants to make sure there are not issues nor do they want to set a precedence. It was asked that Phil check with Catherine Kaufmann.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to adjourn. Motion carried.

Amy Heath, Township Deputy Clerk

APPROVED

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 4, 2022

The Meeting was called to order by Treasurer M Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Treasurer Mike Irons, Zoning Administrator Phillip Goodrich, Library Director Missy Irons, Ms. Vanderveer, Mr. & Mrs. Greg Amarro, Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner and Diane Thompson who is running for County Commissioner. Absent were Supervisor Steve Irons and Trustee Cliff Denney.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to approve the minutes from the September meeting as presented. Motion carried.

The Road Commission widened the culvert on 2 Mile Road. The water is running as it should.

S Irons and Tuttle met with the Village and Engineer Ramsey regarding the drain situation. The proposal was not clarified enough for the engineer's liking. We probably will not get any help from Branch County or any other County. The water is going south and will eventually go into an intercounty drain.

Bail reported that she sent building permit letters out last week. She will start working on them next week. Robert (the man who is working for Bail) is working on Birchwood Estates.

She had 7 PRE-Denials because they did not respond.

Goodrich would like to keep his old house for an accessory building once his new house is done. He has checked this out and he can if he does not have a cooking stove in it. (See letter.)

Motion was made at the planning meeting to let the Goodrich's live in the old house while the new home is being built.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by D Denney to allow the Goodrich's to live in the old house while the new home is being built. Motion carried.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by D Denney to give the Goodrich's 30 days after the occupancy permit is issued to remove the cooking stove or tear the old house down. Motion carried.

Goodrich will talk with the attorney about a micro business license for marijuana. The planning commission is not interested in any other licenses at this time.

Mike Brunner would like a variance for 4510 and 4490 "O" Drive South to split the property with less than 5 acres.

Southcentral Michigan Planning, Patrick Hudson, from Master Plan Survey, would like to send a survey out to all the residents.

Missy Irons reported on the library. See attached.

Nolan Fry who was doing the maintenance work at the library resigned. Missy stated that the door handle sticks, the screen door comes open and three windows do not have seals. M Irons will contact Tom Brody who put the windows in.

The Web had 542 visits and 479 page views.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by M Irons to send out surveys for the Master Plan. Motion carried.

D Denney asked that we purchase a rug shampooer to spot clean the carpets. They look terrible.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by D Denney to buy a good rug shampooer. A suggestion was made that we get a Bissell Big Green Professional. Motion carried.

M Irons gave the treasurer's report.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by M Irons to pay the accounts payable in the amount of \$26,810.98. Motion carried.

Recycling went well. They will be here on the 1st Thursday of the month from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

The potholes really need to be filled on 3 ½ Mile Road.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by M Irons to adjourn the meeting.

Debera Denney, Township Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor S Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Treasurer Mike Irons, Assessor Marcia Bail, Zoning Administrator Phillip Goodrich, Fire Chief Steve Wart, Deputy Fire Chief JR Brunner, Library Director Missy Irons, John Knowles, Lucy Lamson, Diane Thompson, Jim VanArman, Rob Nobach, Mark Rozell, Tina Rozell and Charles Orr.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by M Irons to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to approve the minutes from the October meeting as presented. Motion carried.

The County is bringing in a boom truck to cut the trees back away from the road. They are also cutting them away at the guard rail and signs.

The 2 Mile Road culvert is the same size as the old one. There was a beaver swimming in the creek with a stick in his mouth. (Building another dam?)

Bail reported that they are finished with Birchwood mobile Home Park. Robert is working on the new building permits and Bail is working on the check backs, etc.

She has been busy doing name and address changes.

There were three people who did not respond to the State's letter regarding the Principle Transfer Affidavit.

Wart reported on the Fire Board Meeting. See attached.

The Planning Commission wanted Goodrich to contact Attorney Kaufman regarding the marijuana ordinance. There is a public hearing scheduled for November 22, 2022, at 7:30 pm.

There will be a public hearing on January 31, 2023, for changes regarding the zoning map.

They are working on an ordinance, or an ordinance change for rural businesses.

Goodrich stated that we need to appoint a person to sit on the Zoning Board of Appeals. It was brought to his attention that we do not need anyone we have Setlack, Amaro and Tuttle.

Missy reported on the library. See attached.

The library windows are very close to being off warranty. We will have to pay for the work on the windows except for the glass.

The Tribe is moving dirt on S Drive South at the former Jim Fisher residence.

S Irons recommended Goodrich for the Board of Review.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to have Goodrich sit on the Board of Appeals. Motion carried.

It was proposed that we have a Special Meeting on the 1st Monday in December with the Village, our Attorney Catherine Kaufman, and Ron Randy the Drain Commissioner.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by D Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to pay the accounts payable in the amount of \$29,410.41. Motion carried.

Diane Thompson was present and is running for County Commissioner.

Johnny Knowles said they are going to tear down the middle school classrooms. They are keeping the gym and the kitchen will be remodeled to make restrooms. The old gym is going to be the wrestling room.

Motion by D Denney 2nd by M Irons to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Township Clerk

ATHENS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
ATHENS TOWNSHIP HALL

DECEMBER 6, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Irons. Present were Clerk Deb Denney, Deputy Clerk Amy Heath, Trustee Steve Tuttle, Supervisor Steve Irons, Trustee Cliff Denney, Treasurer Mike Irons, Library Director Missy Irons, Zoning Administrator Phillip Goodrich, Fire Chief Steve Wart, Village Trustee Lucy Lamson, Sheriff Steve Hinckley, Chuck Orr, Village President Mike Alverson, soon to be County Commissioner Diane Thompson, Julie Vandermeer, Sherry Amaro and Greg Amaro.

Motion by M Irons 2nd by Tuttle to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to approve the minutes from the November meeting with the exception that Trustee C Denney was absent. Motion carried.

S Irons reported that the County's mower is in the Township, and they are patching the roads

There was a lot of discussion about the flood area in the Village (Southeast Corner of the Village). M Irons asked about purchasing two acres of property and putting in a retaining pond. We could use the dirt from the hole to make a berm. Possible property would be Yoder's or Riddle's.

We need to get Randy Ramsey the engineer to give us his input.

Alverson will check with Ramsey to see if we can meet with him.

The school property, the Yoder property, the Riddle property and the hole right behind Lucy Lamson's are all possibilities for discussion to work on this problem.

There is a possibility of putting a pump in to take care of any emergency overflow.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to table the flood/water situation until the January meeting.

Wart reported on the fire board meeting. See attached.

Goodrich said that Sam Wheeler would sit on the zoning board of appeals and Chuck Orr would sit on the planning commission.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to have Sam Wheeler as a member of the zoning board of appeals and Chuck Orr as a member of the planning commission. Motion carried.

Once the marijuana ordinance passes, the State handles everything.

Attorney Kaufman is looking at rural business and then we will have a public hearing. This will allow more leeway for the planning commission to do conditional uses.

Missy Irons reported on the library board meeting. See attached.

Missy will check with Arrin Upton regarding wages for cleaning the library and township hall.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by M Irons to hire Arrin Upton to clean the township hall and the library and Gavin Snodderly as a maintenance worker for the library. Motion carried.

The library insurance agent said the sidewalk had to be fixed. They will not cover injuries that result as a result of the sidewalk in the condition that it is in. Because the property is maintained by the Village, the incident report will be sent to the Village, should something happen.

It was suggested that the Village have Duckworth Concrete come out and lift the sidewalk and put some foam under it.

Goodrich will check with Attorney Kaufman about him sitting on the Board of Review.

M Irons reported on the treasurer's report. He mentioned the fact that our revenue sharing check was over \$30,000.

Motion by Tuttle 2nd by C Denney to accept the treasurer's report and place it on file as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by Tuttle to pay the accounts payable in the amount of \$46,638.82. Motion carried.

Sheriff Hinckley reported that there are more violent crimes. We just had a case in Athens today involving an individual being shot with a BB pistol creating injuries.

Corrections people are doing a wonderful job. They are CPR Certified; they manage meals and medicines. There are 2 CCSD cars on the road each shift.

Vandermeer thanked us for having the recycling.

Motion by C Denney 2nd by D Denney to adjourn. Motion carried.

Debera Denney, Athens Township Clerk