

GOLDEN TOWNSHIP

**August 13, 2024**

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Golden Township Board was called to order by supervisor, Carl Fuehring, at 7:30 p.m. in the Golden Township Hall.

Roll Call of Board Members: Carl Fuehring, Connie Cargill, Rachel Iteen, and Doug Dykstra

Board Members Absent: Bill Kolenda

Also present: Rob Draper, Zoning Administrator; Ed McNeely, Township Attorney and 43 guests.

**Minutes:**

Motion by Mr. Dykstra, supported by Mrs. Cargill to approve the minutes of last month's regular board meeting. All yes, the motion carried.

**Agenda:** Motion by Mr. Dykstra, supported by Mrs. Cargill to approve the agenda with additions of 8. Drainage off 18<sup>th</sup> Ave., 9. Shotwell Solutions. All yes, the motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

1. Mi Dept. of Treasury – Audit of Assessment Roll
2. Linda Stadler – Mears Arts and Craft Show

**Mears Art and Craft Fair:** Motion by Mrs. Cargill, supported by Mr. Dykstra to approve moving the Mears Art and Craft Show from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in July to the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday (Heroes on the Dunes has taken over that date) and to raise the fee from \$50 to \$55. All yes, the motion carried.

**Financial Report:** The ending balance in the fund as of August 9, 2024 was as follows: General Fund \$43,792.51; Road fund \$34,923.29; Capitol Savings Fund \$2,883.08. The Michigan Class investment funds for the above funds are as follows: GF \$443,331.43; RF \$523,612.10; CSF \$176,929.76.

**Bills:** Motion by Mr. Dykstra, supported by Mrs. Iteen to pay check numbers 20136 - 20192 and EFT 183 in the general fund for \$142,914.60. Roll call vote all yes, the motion carried.

**Reports:**

**-Zoning:** There were 76 permits with 16 of them being new homes, 222 rental permits (227 last year).

**Kim Klotz Borderline Adjustment:** Parcel # 006-024-400-04 Increased area around home and buildings.

**Joseph Willer Land Division:** Parcel #006-024-400-09, 5 splits. See attachments.

**-Parks:** Parks look good. Applefest board met for discussion. 5-year park plan is being worked on.

**-Fire:** Jake Whelpley reported that by the end of July there were 192 medical first responses. There are 21 fire fighters and they may get 2 new fighters. The Emergency Services Building has been completed and the occupancy permit received.

**-Planning Commission:** There was no PC meeting last month. There will be a public hearing August 27, 2024 for the application for PUD for site condos off B-15 (Ridge Road) and Harrison Road Area.

**-Roads:** 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and the first brining have been completed.

**-Assessor:** Michigan State Tax Commission served notification that Golden Township along with all of Oceana County have been selected to be part of their 2024 assessment roll audit program.

**August 2024 Assessor Report**

The July Board of Review met on July 15th and corrected 2 clerical errors on personal property and reviewed 1 application for poverty.

We received our audit letter from the State on July 11th. I have uploaded all the necessary forms and will meet with the auditor on August 28th.

Currently, we have no pending MTT cases. The deadline to file for residential and agricultural was July 31st.

If you have any questions, please let me know!

Barbie Eaton, Assessor

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Audit Management Representative Letter:** Motion by Mrs. Cargill, supported by Mr. Dykstra to approve and sign the audit letter. All yes, the motion carried.

**Zoning Ordinance Changes:** Motion by Mr. Dykstra, supported by Mrs. Cargill to approve the Zoning Ordinance changes recommended by the planning commission and reviewed by the township lawyer, Mr. McNeely. All yes, the motion carried.

**Sale of Property:** Motion by Mrs. Cargill, supported by Mr. Dykstra to contact the 2 bid holders to request their highest best offer for property #006-026-100-04 in a sealed bid by Friday, August 30, 2024. The township board will make their decision at the September 10<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Roll call vote all yes, the motion carried.

**Porta-Jon at the Emergency Services Building:** Motion by Mr. Dykstra, supported by Mrs. Cargill to place a porta-jon from All Seasons for the year in the amount of \$977.68 at the Emergency Services Building either inside or outside. Roll call all yes, the motion carried.

**Vertical Bridge (cell tower lease):** ~~Table this.~~ Leave the lease as it is. The original lease was for 30 years.

**Cemetery Trees Donation:** Motion by Mrs. Cargill, supported by Mr. Dykstra to approve the donation by Mike Binder to have 2 trees planted in the cemetery in his family's area where trees have been removed. Roll call vote all yes, the motion carried.

**Library:** Right now, Golden Township residents may use the Shelby Public Library in house books for the month of August, and Pentwater Library offered to serve with no restrictions and no cost at this time. Library updates may be found on the goldentownship.org website. Mr. McNeely spoke on the issue talking about "local support" and the "local board" and stating that there is a non-resident borrowing fee that many libraries offer.

**18<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drainage into Silver Lake:** Motion by Mr. Dykstra, supported by Mrs. Cargill to have Hallack develop a plan to fix the problem with a drainage ditch from Mac Woods south to Spencer. Roll call vote all yes, the motion carried. Drain Commission, OCRC, and township need to agree on the plan.

**Shotwell Solutions, LLC:** Motion by Mrs. Cargill, supported by Mr. Dykstra to approve the contract for IT support for a year for the monthly amount of \$535. Roll call vote all yes, the motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

-Nancy Husk compared the contracted entities for the Hart library and said that Elbridge township paid \$4.00 per person and if golden was treated the same, the fair price would be \$6,640 using the 2020 census of 1660 people in Golden.

-Jack Dorlag applauds the township for trying to solve the drainage problem on 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. He also asked that the township request the road commission to stop putting gravel in the ditches as it also flows into the lake.

-Chris VanAntreupt talked about the library dispute. There should be negotiations.

- Robert Carter went to the library meeting Monday, July 12. He said the library is all about the assessed value and they are not interested in negotiations.
- Jordan Walsworth said the township should get representation on the library board. Pay this year what they are asking, continue negotiations until it can be brought up for public vote and have it clearly specify what the additional funds are for.
- Fran Kyncl reading and children are extremely important to me. Let the community decide.
- Barb Frenznick spoke about there was a reciprocal program with Oceana and Mason Counties, but our library cards are inactive now and this doesn't work. If the township does not pay the library, where will my dollars go that I pay into the general fund. Interest received from MI Class could be used to pay the extra \$5,000.
- Marty Hayden spoke about the problems that you are having at 18<sup>th</sup> Ave., also exist at 24<sup>th</sup> Ave. It washes out from the top of the hill (dunes entrance) all the way down into Silver Lake.
- Michael Cook Questioned Hallack coming up with a plan for 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. when it is the job of the Drain Commission to design a plan. Get 10 people together to sign a petition to get the road commission, drain commission, and Golden Township. Golden Township is not the golden goose for the library.
- Ben Vanderkodde spoke of their kids love of the library and of continued support for it.
- Tom Hartman keeps hearing about the road commission, but he is unsuccessful in getting them to trim the trees on his road. Not for allowing sheds only on a parcel in the township.
- Bernhard Frenznick spoke on finalizing the contract on the library. Hart pays in about \$250,000. Work it out.
- Lee Nienhuis spoke on her children's love of reading. There are no libraries in the public school. Negotiate.
- Carl Kaat spoke about the road commission not doing anything anymore. The drain commissioner has not done their job. Don't ask the people to give more money to fix problems, the government agency need to do their job.

Meeting adjourned 9:06 pm.  
Respectfully submitted by,

Rachel Iteen  
Golden Township Clerk