

ELMWOOD TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
January 15, 2025

The regular meeting of the ELMWOOD TOWNSHIP BOARD was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on January 15, 2025, by Supervisor Graff. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Present: Supervisor Graff, Clerk Brinkman, Treasurer Kilbourn, Trustee Brown and Trustee Laurie. Fire Chief Lopez was also in attendance.

Agenda: Brown motioned to approve the agenda; Kilbourn supported the motion; the motion carried.

Public: None.

Fire Report: There were two runs. There were 64 runs for the 2024 year, down 12 runs from 2023. Chief Lopez asked the board to match a DNR grant of \$4,999 for three sets of turnout gear. Brown motioned to match the DNR grant of \$4,999 for three sets of turnout gear; Kilbourn supported the motion; the motion carried. Kilbourn moved to accept the fire report; Laurie supported the motion; the motion carried.

Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes from the December 2024, meeting were presented; Brown moved to accept the minutes; Kilbourn supported the motion; the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Laurie moved to accept the Treasurer's report; Brown supported the motion; the motion carried.

Graff presented a Resolution to Set an Alternate Date for the March Board of Review First Taxpayer Appeal Meeting. Brown motioned to adopt the Resolution to Set an Alternate Date for the March Board of Review First Taxpayer Appeal Meeting; Kilbourn supported the motion; the motion carried.

Graff presented a Guideline Resolution for Poverty Exemption. Kilbourn motioned to adopt the Guideline Resolution for Poverty Exemption; Brown supported the motion; the motion carried.

The matter of changing law firms to represent the township was discussed. After discussion with Seth Koches and Josh Thall representing Bauckham, Thall, Seeber, Kaufman & Koches P.C. Laurie made the motion to terminate the legal services of Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith PC effective immediately and approve the engagement letter of Bauckham, Thall, Seeber, Kaufman & Koches PC to represent the township in all legal matters; Brinkman supported the motion. A

roll call vote was taken with Brown voting yea, Laurie voting yea, Graff voting nay, Brinkman voting yea and Kilbourn voting nay. The motion carried.

Graff said he is meeting next week with the sign company regarding the new sign to be installed in front of the township hall with ARPA funds.

Brinkman noted that another "Authorities and Responsibilities of Michigan Townships" book needs to be purchased as Mary Cunningham cannot find hers to be handed back to the township. The representatives from Bauckham, Thall, Seeber, Kaufman & Koches PC gave the township a copy of the book.

Kilbourn reported tax collection is continuing.

Laurie asked if the township board had a liaison yet between the township board and the planning committee. Graff said he was not ready to do that yet. Graff then motioned to put himself as the liaison between the township board and the planning committee; there was no second to support his motion.

Graff motioned to adjourn the meeting; the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Brinkman
Elmwood Township Clerk