

**Royalton Township Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting November 8, 2021
Royalton Township Hall**

The regular November 8, 2021 meeting of the Royalton Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Supervisor Robert Basselman.

Members Present: Robert Basselman, Supervisor; Rachel Bernard, Clerk; Michael Eisenhart, Treasurer; Julie Marsh, Trustee

Members Absent: Jason Ackerman, Trustee

Others Present: Steve Tilly, Township Manager; Bill Boyd, Building/Official Zoning Administrator
Jessica Ishmael, Lincoln Township Library and Julie Wuerfel, County Commissioner

Motion by Marsh to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Bernard.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Motion by Eisenhart to approve the October 11, 2021 Executive Board Minutes and the October 11, 2021 Regular Board minutes as presented. Seconded by Marsh.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Eisenhart presented the Treasurer's Report showing a fund balance of \$2,666,240.81 in UFCU and \$8,489.99 in Huntington Bank for October 2021.

Motion by Bernard to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Marsh.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Motion by Eisenhart to approve the payment of bills for October 2021 totaling \$71,834.53. Seconded by Bernard.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Motion by Eisenhart to approve the payroll for October 2021 totaling \$22,093.63. Seconded by Bernard.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Planning Commission Report: No action was taken.

Library report presented by Jessica Ishmael. Programming for November was presented. Circulation for October was 13,822 in building and digital circulation was 19,150. The Library will be closed Thursday, November 25 – Saturday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. No action was taken.

Sheriff's report for September was submitted prior to meeting. No action was taken.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Motion by Eisenhart to approve the Summer Tax Collection Agreements with Saint Joseph, Lakeshore, Berrien Springs and Lake Michigan College schools. Seconded by Marsh.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Motion by Marsh to approve the PA 116 Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program application for parcel No. 11-17-0125-0011-03-0. Seconded by Eisenhart.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Tilly, Ackerman and Eisenhart interviewed Merritt Midwest, Wightman and Edgewater Resources for the position of Township Engineer of Record. The committee felt all three applicants would do a good job for the Township, but for sewer and water issues in the Township Mary Nykamp from Wightman would be the best fit. The Township would like to include Edgewater Resources in future projects.

Motion by Eisenhart as committee representative to appoint Mary Nykamp from Wightman as the Township Engineer of Record. The Township will also require 2-3 bids for future projects where engineering costs would be over \$10,000 and the Township Board would then vote on the engineer to be used in such projects. Seconded by Marsh.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Business from Audience: Discussion about boring under M-139 for a project took place. The Board will meet again on Monday November 22, 2021 to discuss further. No action was taken.

Items not on Agenda:

The Fire Board received the 2022 Officer recommendations from the Fire Department. **Motion by Eisenhart to approve the 2022 Royalton Township Fire Department Officers as follows: Chief: Jim Jonatzke, Assistant Chief: Leo Rodriguez, Captain: Zac Bernard, Lieutenant: Ryan Katowich, and Secretary: Ethan Duffel. Seconded by Marsh.**

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Basselmann discussed the short-term rental bill that the House passed and would like Tilly to send a letter to Senator Kim LaSata stating that Royalton Township is not in favor of the bill and would like to see that local municipalities retain control over such matters. Tilly would also like all Board members to reach out to Kim LaSata as individuals as well. **Motion by Eisenhart to approve Tilly drafting a letter to Senator LaSata stating that Royalton Township is against the Short-Term Rental Bill and that local control is important in such matters. Seconded by Bernard.**

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Julie Wuerfel, County Commissioner, stated that the 2-way stop on Linco and Hollywood would remain a 2-way stop as the traffic study showed a 4-way stop was not needed. Wuerfel also informed the Board that more walking room was requested by residents on the North end of Bacon School Rd.

Committee Reports:

Basselmann (Fire Board) stated that the Fire Department is in need of new air packs for the department and could cost around \$130,000 as the grant that was applied for was denied.

Tilly (Southwest Michigan Regional Sanitary Sewer & Water Authority) has not meet yet this month.

Eisenhart (JOBS) stated that Royalton Township does not have lead in the pipes and will not be required to do the pot-holing test other communities around us need to do.

Motion to adjourn by Eisenhart at 7:44 PM. Seconded by Marsh.

Ayes: Basselman, Bernard, Eisenhart and Marsh

Nays:

Absent: Ackerman

Abstain:

(Motion carried 4-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Bernard, Clerk