

February 6, 2024 Oliver Township board meeting minutes.

Supervisor, Tom Ziel opened the meeting at approximately 7 PM at the township hall. Members and guests present; Tom Ziel, Dave and Lonna Fisher, Steve Vaughan, Angela Guza, Dan Armbruster, Jim Seley, Kevin, McKenzie, Gary Sweeney, Bob, Ross, and Lonnie Schulz.

Motion to approve the agenda by Bob Ross and seconded by Gary Sweeney. Motion passed.

Consent agenda adoption, minutes of the previous board meeting and checks written. Motion to approve by Gary Sweeney and seconded by Kevin McKenzie. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report:
Balances are...

M-Class accounts.
General fund. \$262,262.67.
Emergency services fund. \$161,388.15

Frankenmuth credit Union.
\$431,021.64

Fire Chief's report:
Fire Chief, Jim Seley reported that the pumper truck had a bearing going out on a water pump and a seal is leaking. The truck needs to go to Front Line Services in Freeland Michigan for repairs. Fire Chief Seley presented a bill from Huron County Firefighter training and yearly summary of all the fire runs.

Jim Seley also talked about a FEMA grant that could be shared with other departments. The grant writing process would cost \$5000. Huron County Fire Fighter Training company would do the work and we possibly could receive enough money to buy a new grass rig. The grass rig consists of a new pick up and all the equipment in the back. The grant requires 5% local matching funds by the township. It could be refused at a later date, if desired.

Motion by Adam Herford to spend \$5,000 on the grant application process for a possible new grass rig. Support by Gary Sweeney. Motion passed.

Fire Runs:
January 12, wire down Grant Township.
January 12, wire down in Chandler Township.

January 13, carbon monoxide alarm.

January 15, personal injury, Moore and Haist intersection.

January 29, lift assist in Grant Township.

Site permit was issued to Tom Ziel for pole building, \$80 fee.

Budget item amendments:

Motion by Adam Herford and seconded by Bob Ross to set line item:

190–704 election salaries to \$4000 and 190-727 election supplies to \$3000.

Motion passed.

Motion by Bob Ross and seconded by Kevin McKenzie to set line item:

215-727 office supplies and postage to \$3000.

Motion passed.

Motion by Adam Herford and seconded by Bob Ross to set line item:

223–801 Audit and accounting expenses to \$10,000. Motion passed.

Motion by Gary Sweeney, and seconded by Bob Ross to set line item:

336–990 Grant writing to \$14,000 and line item 336–991 capital outlay equipment, fire department to \$80,000. Motion passed.

Tom Ziel mentioned that the roof on the township hall needed work and Norm Hessling was contacted to do repairs.

After much discussion, it was agreed to keep all the wages the same for the Township in the 24-25 fiscal except for election workers and mileage rate. Because of new "early voting" being held at Owendale, all election workers will receive wages and mileage, including clerk during all 3 elections in 2024.

Motion by Kevin McKenzie, and seconded by Gary Sweeney to pay election workers \$15 per hour with a chair person at \$17 during the February Election. Motion passed.

Motion by Adam Herford and seconded by Kevin McKenzie to set mileage rate at \$.67 per mile. Motion passed.

Township pay resolution:

Salary resolution for fiscal year, 24-25. Pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law, 41.95(3), new wages will be effective April 1, 2024.

Roll call vote; Tom Ziel - Yes, Robert Ross -Yes, Gary Sweeney - Yes, Kevin McKenzie - Yes, Adam Herford - Yes.

New wages listed as follows. The clerk has declared this resolution adopted and will be put in effect April 1, 2024.

Robert Ross, Clerk _____

Supervisor, \$793.00 per month.
Deputy Supervisor, \$100.00 per month.
Clerk, \$1061.00 per month.
Deputy Clerk, \$100.00 per month.
Treasurer, \$1329.00 per month.
Deputy, Treasurer, \$100.00 per month.
Trustee, \$153.00 per meeting.

Board Of Review, \$137.00 per six hour day.

Planning commission:
Chairperson, \$150.00 per meeting.
Secretary, \$125 per meeting.
Planning Commissioner, \$100.00 per meeting.
Zoning Board of Appeals, \$100.00 per meeting.

Election Worker Chairperson at the normal "Tuesday" at the Elkton village hall \$17.00 per hour.

All other Election Workers at the normal "Tuesday" \$15.00 per hour.

All "early election voting" workers \$15 per hour and \$.67 per mile.

Tom Ziel reported that there was nothing new in the MREC situation.

Planning commission report, Bob Ross reported that the Next Era people were at the latest planning commission meeting and they were looking for site permits by June or July for a battery storage project in section 13 of Oliver Township. They agreed to pay for special meetings of the planning commission. The consensus of the township board was to see what the County does with their solar and battery ordinance. Their ordinance will be passed shortly, and Oliver Township will follow similarly with its ordinance.

Planning commission will meet in April for a regular meeting.

Steve Vaughan reported on several state and local issues. The changing of positions on the county commissioner board has made for some difficult transitions and getting projects done, such as the MSU building.

Assessor Angela Guza, presented the poverty guidelines. After much discussion poverty guidelines were set as follows. Motion by Adam Herford, and second by Robert Ross to adopt.

Rollcall vote:

Adam Herford – yes, Gary Sweeney – yes, Kevin McKenzie – yes, Tom Ziel – yes, Robert Ross – yes.

Resolution adopted. See following document.

Township Board Resolution to Adopt Hardship/Poverty Exemption

Income Guidelines and Asset Test

WHEREAS, the principal residence of persons, who the Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (ML 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA390 of 1994, the Township of Oliver, Huron County, MI adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

1. Be an owner of and occupy as a principal residence the property for which an exemption is requested.
2. File a claim with the supervisor/assessor or Board of Review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year or a signed State Tax Commission Form 4988, *Poverty Exemption Affidavit*, for anyone who did not file a federal or state income tax return.
3. The guideline for the maximum assets the taxpayer may have is \$21,734. Assets are defined as resources other than the homestead and the standard mode of transportation. These include but are not limited to, real estate other than the principal residence, personal property, extra motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement funds, antiques, artwork, jewelry, etc. that could be converted into cash for use in the payment of property taxes.
4. Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
5. Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is being requested.
6. Poverty exemptions must be applied for each year. If an exemption is granted, it is for one year only.
7. The total income of the applicant and each member of the applicant's household shall not exceed the Federal Poverty Income Standards, as defined and determined annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, times a factor of 110% ("household income test"). The federal poverty income levels are published annually by the State Tax Commission. The income guidelines will be a part of the application and updated annually.
8. The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but four days prior to the December Board of Review meeting (The Tuesday following the second Monday of December) to allow for time to call a meeting of the Board of Review. The filing of this claim constitutes an appearance before the Board of Review for the purpose of preserving the right of appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in denying or granting a full or partial exemption.

The foregoing resolution offered by Township Board Member ADAM HERFORD and supported by Township Board Member ROBERT ROSS.


Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": HERFORD, SWEENEY, MCKENZIE, ZIEL, ROSS

"Nay": _____

Township Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

I, Robert Ross, the duly and appointed Clerk of Oliver Township, Huron County, MI, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the township board of said township at the regular meeting of said board held on February 6, 2024, at which a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.



Robert Ross, Oliver Twp. Clerk

2-6-'24
Date

Budget hearing date is set for March 19 at 7 PM at the township hall.

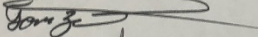
Motion by Adam Herford and seconded by Gary Sweeney to pay the bills. Motion passed.

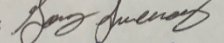
Motion by Bob Ross and seconded by Kevin McKenzie to adjourn. Motion passed.

Under Michigan Compiled Law 168.674, the Oliver Township Election Board met on February 6, 2024 to approve the following election inspectors to work the Feb 27, 2024 election.

Phyllis Baranski - Democrat
Lonna Fisher - Republican
Dave Fisher - Republican
Rosa Klosowski - Republican
Jamie Wolschlager - Democrat
Janet Caister - Republican
Mary Morley - Democrat
Bev Damm - Republican
Robert Ross - Republican

Election Board

Tom Ziel: 

Gary Sweeney: 

Robert Ross: 