

Diane Ratkovich
Supervisor
Michelle Stamboulellis
Clerk
Maris Metz
Treasurer,
Lonnie Scott
Karen Nolte,
Laura Sanders,
Karen Sikkenga,
Trustees

DEXTER TOWNSHIP

6880 DEXTER-PINCKNEY RD.
DEXTER, MI 48130
(734) 426-3767



www.dextertownship.org

**MEETING OF THE DEXTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2023 6:00PM**

Location: Dexter Township Hall, 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Rd., Dexter, MI

CALL to ORDER: Supervisor Ratkovich called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE: Recited by all.

ROLL CALL: Present – Ratkovich, Stamboulellis, Metz, Sanders, Nolte, Scott, and Sikkenga.
Absent – None. Also present: Alexandra Dieck, Attorney; David Rohr, Director of Planning and Zoning, and Janis Miller, Recording Secretary.

SUPERVISOR'S REMARK/CONFLICT OF INTEREST: No conflicts of interest.

1st CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Opened 6:02 PM

Terri Kleinschmidt, 9367 Anne

A resident of Silver Lake for 50 years has a concern about a petition she said she never saw, or read, and she own's three properties on Silver Lake. ~~She is in the record as voting no to the weed kill on the lake. She questioned the selection of which riparian properties got to vote. Her opinion was that the process and petition were flawed and a legal process needed to be established.~~ Dexter Township Legal Counsel, (Bodman), was present for clarification.

Colleen Fitzgerald, 9460 Anne St.

She became aware of the Special Assessment District in the summer of 2021 when she was elected Vice-President of the Silver Lake Association. She assisted with getting signatures on the petition along the north shore of Silver Lake.

Kevin Crouch, 9475 Anne St.

He noted the resolution was tabled at last month's Board of Trustees meeting and encouraged the Board to pass it tonight. He personally handed out information to lake residents and stated that if they needed more information, or had questions, they could contact the County. He said the 2/3 goal had been met and the Board needed to approve it.

Jeff Stannis, 8624 Dexter Townhall

He wanted to know if the Township had a code enforcer. He asked the Board of Trustees if they could help as he had a neighbor who was building a home on the lake and did not have a silt fence surrounding her property.

Robert Barber, 9531 Anne St.

He was one of the volunteers who went door-to-door with the petition. He said the lake has been deteriorating the last ten years and the invasive weed treatment was the right move.

Judy Mulholland, 9223 Anne St.

As a long time, Silver Lake resident, she said she had never been surveyed and in her opinion the government had let them down.

Elizabeth Fojtik, 8553 Dexter Townhall

She attended the Board meeting on January 17th, talking to people and handing out information. She stated that everyone knows what's going on.

Kevin Crouch, 9475 Anne St.

He said he had never heard of fish dying in other treated lakes, or bodily harm to kids and adults.

Cathy Crouch, 9475 Anne St.

She said the Lake Association had done their due diligence over the last year and a half and encouraged moving forward with the Board of Trustees approving the petition. As the County will be holding public meetings regarding the weed kill on Silver Lake, she said questions would be answered and conversations encouraged at that point.

Mark Hachey, 9309 Thumm

As a certified pesticide applicator, with aquatic specialization, he knows something has to be done with the weeds. He is a fisherman who eats the fish he catches and is against the chemical treatment of weeds on Silver Lake. He stated that watering fertilized lawns causes runoff that encourages the invasive weeds. His concerns included the period of time the lake would be shut down and the possibility of double signatures on the petition.

Closed 6:22 PM

APPROVAL of the AGENDA:

Motion by Metz to approve the agenda as presented. Motion second by Sanders.

Discussion: Trustee Sikkenga had formulated a timeline for each agenda item and asked if the Board wanted her to notice when time limit for each agenda item was reached. Supervisor Ratkovich stated they wanted to keep the meeting to two hours. As the meeting agendas are long, it was mentioned that maybe the Board should meet twice a month. No decision made tonight.

Vote on motion: All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL of the MINUTES:

Motion by Metz to approve the regular Board of Trustees Meeting minutes of January 17th, as presented. Motion second by Scott. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Metz to approve the Board of Trustees Special Meeting minutes of January 26th, as presented. Motion second by Scott. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Metz to approve the Board of Trustees Budget Workshop minutes of January 31st, as presented. Motion second by Sanders. All ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION DISCUSSION:

A. Silver Lake Weed Assessment – Oral Presentation Theo Eggermont, Washtenaw County Director of Public Works

Theo reviewed the County's process. There are four other lakes in the area with SAD's (Special Assessment Districts). The County does not advocate for or discourage the weed control. The Silver Lake project is based on the benefits to the environment as the treatment will reduce invasive weeds and encourage native weeds.

Lauren Koloski, Washtenaw County Environmental Supervisor: She addressed the concern regarding the chemical(s) used in the lake to kill the invasive weed species. They have to submit an application to EGLE and receive approval from the EPA before going forward. The DPW has to review all the data, including endangered species if present, before going forward with treatment. The DNR reports on a type fish/fish population survey prior to treatment. The question of Dexter Township's Policy of 2/3 signatures came up and Attorney Dieck said the policy [Resolution #21-633] was not an ordinance, or law. The

policy was developed to capture resident interest and thereby show Township Board support to the County.

Supervisor Ratkovich stated the motion: To approve the Silver Lake improvement project, initiating Resolution #23-658. Trustee Sikkenga so moved. Seconded by Nolte.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Sikkenga, Sanders, Stamboulellis, Nolte, Scott, Metz, and Ratkovich; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Poverty Exemption and Asset Test – Resolution #23-659

To correct an error in the motion at the January 17th Board meeting, Supervisor Ratkovich stated the motion: To approve the Poverty Exemption Resolution #23-659 as of [effective date] January 17, 2023. Trustee Nolte so moved. Seconded by Scott.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Sanders, Sikkenga, Stamboulellis, Scott, Metz, Nolte, and Ratkovich; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Meeting Schedule – Resolution #23-660

Supervisor Ratkovich stated the motion: A resolution for Dexter Township Resolution #23-660, to approve our meeting calendar for 2023 -2024. Trustee Sikkenga so moved. Seconded by Metz. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORAL REPORTS:

A. Presentation for Portage, Base & Whitewood Owners Association (PBWOA) – Mark

Teicher

Mark Teicher was absent from the meeting.

B. Update from Planning & Zoning – Director of Planning and Zoning David Rohr

DPZ Rohr noted the Master Plan Schedule he had sent everyone. The Planning Commission will have the Master Plan for three months (April, May, and June), developing a work plan. The Zoning Map will be addressed in the fall of 2023. The draft minutes for the Chelsea Area Construction Agency as they are meeting this Thursday to go over their budget. A more detailed report for the Dexter Township Board will be available next month, after they approve their budget and long-term investment strategies. Attorney Dieck also noted that the Natures Preserve Development Agreement would be presented to the Board at their March 21st meeting.

C. Update on Deputy Clerk – Clerk Michelle Stamboulellis

Clerk Stamboulellis read a letter summarizing her search and the Board's reaction to her request for the position to be fulltime at \$29.00 an hour. *Clerk Stamboulellis* stated she and her current Deputy Clerk have decided to continue to work together and *put forth a motion to reinstate the Deputy Clerk's hourly rate at \$25.00 for 20 hours a week*. The current Deputy Clerk has been working for Dexter Township for the past 14 months, with the past 7 months at ZERO compensation, and has learned how to navigate the General Ledger and successfully worked on two Certified Successful Dexter Township Elections. Treasurer Metz seconded the motion. Discussion: The reasons Clerk Stamboulellis will keep her current Deputy Clerk. The fact that the Clerk statutorily appoints her deputy and the Board of Trustees not having confidence in the current Deputy Clerk. The number of resources brought in to help correct the General Ledger. The three top applicants for the Deputy Clerk position had neither BS&A experience or QVF experience. There isn't faith that if we

continue [with the current Deputy Clerk] on the path that we are on, we won't be back in the same situation in another four months. It was noted that the Clerk's office insures the financial well-being of the township.

Vote on Clerk Stamboulellis' motion:

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Stamboulellis; Nays – Metz, Scott, Nolte, Sikkenga, Sanders, and Ratkovich; Absent – None. Motion failed 1-6.

Motion by Sikkenga to give the Deputy Clerk 16 hours per week at minimum wage.

Motion

seconded by Scott.

Discussion: Why 16 hours and not 20 hours. To minimize the cost for the Deputy as we have to hire extra help to discharge the duties. The number of hours is arbitrary but the Board would like to see the responsibilities of the Deputy Clerk and how much time is spent in each task, to assign a value for wages.

Trustee Scott offers amendment to the motion to have the Deputy Clerk work 20 hours a week at minimum wage. Sikkenga accepts the amendment.

Attorney Dieck said that there needs to be a review of hours and the decision should be tabled until next meeting to allow time to collect the data needed.

Trustee Sikkenga withdraws her motion. Trustee Scott withdraws his second to the motion. The Deputy clerk discussion will be added to New Business next month.

D. Update on General Ledger – Clerk Michelle Stamboulellis

Clerk Stamboulellis submitted corrections to the General Ledger. Bookkeeper Kim Haines has looked over the GL and since we are under budget, she does not see any budget amendments so the Board can close out the books for 2022/2023 and move on with a fresh start in April 1st. Trustee Scott inquired about the to-do list from the budget workgroups and asked about an update for comparison. Trustee Sikkenga was looking for the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds in the budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Continued Discussion of Budget / Set Budget Meetings & Workshops – Supervisor Diane Ratkovich

Discussion guide was in the Board packet. Consensus of the Board to meet Tuesday, March

14, 2023, at 6pm for a Budget Workshop, with the Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Budget

preceding the March 21st Board of Trustee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Boundary Survey of the Monier-Van Gorder Property – Trustee Laura Sanders

Motion by Sanders to approve \$1,800 for a boundary survey of the Monier property, by Arbor Land Consultants. Motion second by Sikkenga.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Stamboulellis, Sanders, Sikkenga, Metz, Scott, Nolte, and Ratkovich; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion carried 7-0.

AUTHORIZATION of PAYMENTS – Treasurer Metz

Motion by Metz to approve payments for: General Fund \$61,593.67, Fire Fund \$194,229.82, Police Fund \$88,540.85, Open Space and Land Preservation \$2,229.48, and Payroll \$30,023.64; for a grand total, including gross payroll, of \$379,349.46. Motion second by Stamboulellis.

Roll Call Vote: Yea – Stamboulellis, Sikkenga, Sanders, Metz, Scott, Nolte, and Ratkovich;

Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion carried 7-0.

2nd CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Opened 7:56 PM

Mark Hachey, 9309 Thumm

He questioned if each parcel got a vote on the petition. He complemented the Board as they had their hands full. He doesn't have a problem with weed control, even if it is for conservation. He offered his service in developing an ordinance on watering from the lake and post 46 boat traffic.

Closed 7:58 PM

OTHER ISSUES, COMMENTS and CONCERNS of BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF:

Scott: working with David on a different cell provider. Reaching out to other townships to start an informal conversation regarding public safety.

Sikkenga: Was it useful to estimate times to keep meeting on track?

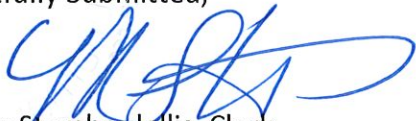
Stamboulellis: Pointed out that by the Board of Trustees authorizing township payments each month, they are voting each month to approve the Deputy Clerk's work.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- i) Budget Amendments
- ii) Discussion of Board meeting twice a month
- iii) Update on Deputy Clerk

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Nolte to adjourn the meeting. Motion second by Metz. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Stamboulellis, Clerk

Dexter Township

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, MICHELLE STAMBOULELLIS, THE DULY QUALIFIED CLERK FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF DEXTER, WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FORGOING IS A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS TAKEN BY THE DEXTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT A REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY AND THAT THE FORGOING MINUTES ARE THE APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST, DAY OF FEBRUARY 2023.

MICHELLE STAMBOULELLIS, CLERK, DEXTER TOWNSHIP