

Mike Koshar, Supervisor
Douglas De Leo, Clerk
Darcy Miller, Treasurer
Office ph. 269 427 7300

Arlington Township
Van Buren County, MI.
52022 34th Ave.
Bangor MI 49013

Georgette Peterson, Trustee
Ted Swanson, Trustee

October 19, 2022

Call meeting to order: Supervisor Koshar called meeting at 07:00p.m.

Pledge: Was recited

Roll Call: Koshar here, Miller here, Peterson here, De Leo here, Swanson here.

Agenda: One addition was added under new business. (December meeting date)

Law Enforcement: Deputy Torres reported on 45 calls in the Township. His telephone number is 269 522 1017, he encourages the citizens to call if they see or hear of anything suspicious.

Fire Department: ABB reported on 47 calls in September. Training is ongoing and all members new or old receive training.

Lawrence Fire: Reported on 27 medical calls and 3 fire calls in Arlington. They are right on target for the six-month reporting.

Pride Care Ambulance: Steve Lowder reported 4 priority 1 calls, with an average time of 10:40 seconds and 3 priority 2 calls with an average time of 11:50 seconds. Slow month for the ambulance service which is good.

Commissioner's report: The county budget has been accepted as 25 million dollars for 2022/2023. Ryan Post has been hired as the new county administrator.

Tax assessor and zoning: Danielle Golebiewski has completed the L4029 and presented it to the county equalization director. She has been working on zoning compliance for a camp ground, camping trailers and shipping containers placed on property. She is researching old minutes from planning commission recommendations and viewing zoning maps.

Senior Services: Senior Services of Van Buren County has been well attended with Arlington residents. New sites are being developed for the areas surrounding South Haven. Bloomingdale is looking for a building. Pickle ball courts are full all the time.

Clerk's Report: Election will be held on November 08, 2022. Applications for absent voter ballots are available. Absent ballots have been mailed out and are returning either by mail, drop box or hand delivered.

Supervisor's Report: Answering calls and visiting sites that have blight complaints. Working with attorney on developing new forms for complaints and questions. He has been fielding complaints concerning smell from marijuana farms.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning Balance Sturgis Bank & Trust for October 19, 2022: \$157,146.37 Receipts \$1,457.00 Expenditures \$38,035.55 and Ending Balance \$119,080.82. Full report is on file.

Motion by Swanson to accept as presented and to include the Van Buren Reminder invoice of \$666.05 which was received late, supported by Peterson, Roll call: De Leo yea, Miller yea, Peterson yea, Swanson yea, Koshar yea.

Approval of Draft Minutes: September 21, 2022 minutes were approved with a motion by Peterson supported by Koshar. Unanimously supported.

New Business:

1. Parking lot light timer needs to be replaced. Motion by Swanson to replace timer with electronic timer. Cost not to exceed \$650.00. Peterson supports. Roll Call: De Leo yea, Peterson yea, Swanson yea, Miller yea, Koshar yea.

2. Blight procedures and grass/weed ordinance.

BLIGHT, LONG GRASS, NOXIOUS WEEDS, AND DANGEROUS BUILDINGS POLICY AND PROGRAM

The Arlington Township Board of Trustees has determined that certain property conditions in the Township, including blight, long grass, noxious weeds, and dilapidated and dangerous buildings are detrimental to the health, welfare, and safety of Township residents. The same conditions are detrimental to overall property values in the Township. The Township adopts this program in order to eliminate blight, the causes of blight, long grass, noxious weeds, and dangerous buildings located in the Township. The program consists of the following general steps and provisions:

1. The Township has appointed an Ordinance Enforcement Officer (“OEO”);
2. The OEO will become familiar with and keep copies of all relevant ordinances and state statutes;
3. In evaluating individual situations, the OEO Officer will determine whether there is reason to believe that the condition of property violates any of the relevant ordinances or statutes;
4. If the OEO observes a violation, the OEO will provide the property owner and/or occupant with written notice of the property condition and the ordinance or statutory provision that has been violated.
5. The OEO Officer will attempt to deliver the notice to the owner and occupant. The OEO is not required to personally deliver the notice.
6. Posting on the front or main door of the main structure on the property is adequate notice and enforcement shall not be delayed once such a posting occurs.
7. The owner and occupant are equally responsible for the condition of the property and violations of ordinances and statutes.
8. Once the notice of violation is posted, the owner and occupant shall have 14 days from the date of notice in order to remedy the violation.
9. The OEO, in the OEO’s sole discretion, may grant additional time to remedy the situation if the owner and/or occupant demonstrate to the OEO that they are acting in good faith and making significant progress in curing the ordinance violation.

It is a shame marijuana can't be considered as a noxious weed.

10. The additional time shall not under any circumstances exceed 30 days.

11. If the ordinance violation is not cured in a timely manner, the Blight Officer shall provide the owner and/or occupant with a citation identifying a civil infraction.

12. The violation will be prosecuted in state court.

13. In serious situations, as determined by the Township, the Township is authorized to seek an injunction preventing the owner and occupant from maintaining the property in violation of ordinance provisions. In such a situation, no prior notice to the owner and/or occupant is required.

14. The Township is authorized to take action to mow or clean up property where the owner and/or occupant fails to remedy the condition described in a citation.

15. All mowing or clean-up costs shall be added to the tax roll for the property on which the violation occurs.

16. The OEO will report to the Board monthly regarding the status of blight matters in the Township.

17. When a building becomes dangerous as defined by state law, and as determined by the Township OEO, Building Inspector, and/or Zoning Administrator, the Township is authorized to take steps to have the building demolished and the cost of demolition added to the property taxes for the property on which the building is located.

11. 27035 CR 215

Township forms: The attorney has presented the new forms for blight complaints, zoning applications, and notices. They will be discussed and adopted at the next meeting.

3. Van Buren Reminder: A motion by Peterson, supported my Koshar to publish advertisement concerning zoning, building, electrical, plumbing inspectors, and mechanical, will be published once a month. Roll Call: De Leo yea, Peterson yea, Miller yea, Swanson yea, Koshar yea.

4. Cemetery Plots: Survey will be conducted on the cost of cemetery plots and regulations.

5. December meeting date: Motion by Koshar to move the December 2022 meeting back one week. The meeting will be held on the 14th of December.

Unanimous approved.

Old Business:

1. Discussion on possible land violation form.

Motion by Koshar, supported by Peterson to approve language on land violation form that the zoning administrator can use in her work. Unanimously supported.

2. Cemetery survey: A bid was received for the surveying of our three cemeteries. Motion by Swanson to approve bid, supported by De Leo. Roll call: De Leo yea, Miller yea, Swanson yea, Peterson yea, Koshar yea,

3. Daniels Property: A bid was received from GEI Consultants of MI, P.C. to repair the erosion on Daniels property. GEI has bid \$19,362.00 for the restoration of the waterway. GEI will provide all material and secure all permits. Quality Cannabis will pay \$7500.00 of project. Township's share of the bid will come from restricted Marijuana funds. Motion by De Leo to accept the bid from GEI with support from Peterson. Roll call: De Leo yea, Miller yea, Peterson yea, Koshar yea, Swanson yea.

4. Blighted Property: 46761 Broadway, Bloomingdale MI 49026. Tuesday the 25th of October the sheriff will meet contractors who have shown an interest in cleaning up property at the site for their evaluation.

5. Storage containers and trailers: Several containers have shown up on property that has no special use permit clearance. Notices were mailed out to remove or submit a new site plan for planning commission consideration.

6. Smith Gravel Pit and North Coast INN: Nothing new to report on either one.

7. Consumers Power Co: Would like to meet with Arlington Trustees for an educational secession on solar farms. Supervisor Koshar will contact Consumers Power Company and arrange a meeting.

8. Interviews: Two candidates have applied for the open position of Zoning and Code Enforcement officer. November 16th interviews will be held at 06:00p.m.

Minutes submitted: Douglas De Leo, Clerk
October 20, 2022