

Synopsis  
Milton Township  
Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2021

Members present: L. Bargy, S. Ball, L. Atkinson, T. Cole, and B. Pharo

Also present: Attorneys B. Derman, C. Weinzapfel, J. Ball, B. Hefferan, Sheriff Dan Bean, and 10 audience members

Bargy called the meeting to order at 7 pm and the Pledge was recited.

Agenda Approval by consent

Approval of regular meeting minutes of May 10, 2021

Motion to approve by L. Atkinson/S. Ball.

Motion carried 5-0

**Public Comment:**

Jerry Mensing asked about getting the roadway going into the cemetery paved. Bargy said he has not forgotten. It is still on our list.

George Voulemenous of Northshore Trail discussed the public access at O'Dell Rd. Some people are asking to have it closed. I consider it an asset to my property value. There are several of us, which use it often. I haven't seen many problems. I wish you would consider not closing it.

Bargy said we got five letters from people saying they use it and they'd like it improved. Bargy said they are looking into ways to improve it and the permits that must be pulled. We will be installing a split rail fence to better identify the boundaries.

Pharo said there is no consideration of closing the access.

**Sheriff's Report – Dan Bean**

139 events in May 2021. Sheriff Bean reviewed this year's numbers versus last year's numbers. They will be down seven people on road patrol. They are in the process of hiring. Update on July 4th at the Torch River Bridge and coordination between all of the various agencies. Sheriff Bean asked if he could move the communications trailer to Station #2. Update on fireworks ordinance. Regarding the Law Enforcement Center. This is not an overcrowding issue. We are a 56 bed facility. It's an infrastructure issue. It's a problem now and will continue to be a problem until it's fixed.

The board had no issues with the sheriff's department using the communications trailer at Station #2.

**Fire Dept. Report - Chief Ball**

9 calls for service for May. Discussion of Kitchen Farm fire. Update on equipment received from grants. Report on training. Ball said he's glad to help the sheriff's department with Torch Fest. Discussion of truck maintenance. Hose and ladder testing has been completed.

### **Zoning Report - C. Weinzapfel**

Weinzapfel addressed the ordinance for hours at our road-end accesses and if they should have a specific time or if it is dawn to dusk. The Planning Commission Subcommittee is working on the traffic study for the RV Park and they agreed to go forward with Phase 2 of the traffic study. Steep slopes subcommittee hasn't met yet. A call was received from a man at Florand Cottages inquiring about a buffer between our properties. The Park and Rec committee will be on site for review.

### **Planning Report - B. Hefferan**

We are meeting virtually. Hefferan discussed the special meeting on June 8 for a special use permit in the village.

### **Ambulance Report:**

Steve Meyers of MMR stated that staffing is the biggest issue right now. He discussed the number of responses last year. Bargy said with the busy season coming up, is there extra coverage available? Meyer said a backup would come from Whitewater. Torch Lake, can also help cover. Response time is 12:59, 80% of the time. Pharo announced that Mary Hoadley has resigned from the Oversight Committee. Pharo recommended Chief J. Ball.

Motion by B. Pharo/L. Atkinson for Chief J. Ball to take a seat on Ambulance Oversight Committee.

Motion carried 5-0

### **Attorney's Report - B. Derman**

Update on short term rental issue in the Michigan Legislature. Report on William Bailey lawsuit in Antrim County. Information on ERDL ownership. Still working on the Birch Lake Road violation. Update on sewer extension issue.

### **Supervisor's Report - L. Bargy**

Bargy has been contacted by the tower company. They would like to renew the current lease. He will refer to Derman. Considering a new desk for the front door. We will be putting up a split rail fence at O'Dell, Winters and Campbell access sights. Bargy would like a date to discuss the petition for the sewer extension. Bargy will get the materials out to board members. The board needs to review the petition to determine if there is enough interest to do a feasibility study.

Bargy asked to amend the Supervisor's budget to buy a laptop computer for himself. He's been using his own.

Bargy also discussed getting new chairs. S. Ball said they are getting pricing on this.

**2020-2021 Budget Amendments:**

\$166.71 for Election

\$765.57 for Zoning

\$2,500 for Ambulance

\$34,447 for Roads

\$2924.96 for Clean Up Days

\$57.38 for Recycling Maintenance/Repair

Total: \$52,429.40

\$25,000 to Contingency

\$27,429 to Fund Balance

Motion by B. Pharo/L. Atkinson to approve the budget amendments.

Motion carried 5-0

Bargy announced that C. Weinzapfel has decided to retire at the end of July. We will need to write up an advertisement. He's been the zoning administrator 21.5 years.

**Library Report - L. Atkinson**

Atkinson discussed the ERDL Lease Agreement: All negotiations are on hold due to the title search initiated by the ERDL building committee that revealed in May 1960 an undivided one half interested of the Island Property was deeded to Elk Rapids Township. To date, Elk Rapids Township will be conducting a forensic type survey to identify the original 4.82 acres deeded to the Village.

The building committee was tasked with identify the issues of expanding the island house versus another location. The library board president noted the importance of having a plan B.

Audit of Capital Campaign is pending

Capital Campaign shift to Friends: More discussion pending with the formation of an ad hoc committee with appointment members of The Friends.

**Public Comment**

C. Kinzel asked where is the proposed sewer line going. Bargy said Elk Tip to Easley. Kinzel asked if everyone would have to hook up. The ordinance states anyone within 300 ft. of the line, would have to hook in. D. Anderson asked about people with new septic. Bargy said they would need to hook on as well.

**Approval of Bills**

Motion to approve the bills by L. Atkinson/S. Ball. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 7:46 pm.

These minutes are subject to approval at the July 12, 2021 meeting. A copy of these minutes are available at [miltontownship.org](http://miltontownship.org)

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Ball, Clerk