

Synopsis  
Milton Township  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2022

Members present: L. Bargy, S. Ball, L. Atkinson

Members absent: T. Cole and B. Pharo

Also present: Attorneys B. Derman, J. Ball, B. Hefferan, S. Kopriva, J. Peterson, Tom Stevenson, and 7 audience members

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

Agenda Approval by consent

Approval of draft minutes of the regular meeting of March 14, 2022  
Motion to approve by L. Atkinson/S. Ball. Motion carried.

Approval of draft minutes of the Budget Hearing March 28, 2022  
Motion to approve by L. Atkinson/S. Ball. Motion carried.

Approval of draft minutes of the Special Meeting March 28, 2022  
Motion to approve by L. Atkinson/S. Ball. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

**Tom Stephenson, President of the Elk Rapids Public Library**

Nannette Miller will be retiring and a selection committee is formed to find a new library director. We are also working on a needs assessment and looking at all corners of the district to see what they need in a library. L. Atkinson thanked Stephenson for all of his work on the library board.

Kate Martinson said they would like to discuss the proposed fence at the Waterfront Park. We propose a split-rail fence instead of a chain link. The association would pay for the split-rail and have it installed. The board will take the suggestion under advisement.

Susan Mohr of Ringler Road said she would like to see the township use ARPA funds for 186 Networks to run broadband in our area. She supports using ARPA funds for this.

Another citizen said she lives on Shippy Lane and they don't have access to reliable internet service as well. She would like to see ARPA funds being used for this.

Brent Grossman of ER Youth Baseball said they are looking at doing improvements to the baseball fields. We would like to put up banners, promoting our sponsors. We could take them down after every game. S. Ball said it's been our policy that we do not allow

signage. This request has been brought to the Township Board in the past, and it was not permitted. The Township Board would like to approve any proposed improvements, prior to the initial start.

**Julie Brown: Superintendent: Elk Rapids Schools**

Brown gave an overview of the work being done for the bond proposal, which was passed in 2020. She discussed the various phases and the work being done at the high school and middle school.

**Sheriff's Report**

Provided in packet

**Ambulance Report**

Provided in packet

**Fire Department Report:** by Chief J. Ball

5 runs for March. 19 for the year so far. One member is resigning. This will take us to 13 members. Update on new 800 MHz pagers. Working on a contact list for STR in the township so we can contact the owners or caretakers if needed. Update on grant awards.

**Zoning Report: by S. Kopriva**

Up to 33 permits for the year. Many of these were for Ancient Mariner for more storage buildings.

**A. Vacation Rental Ordinance Amendment**

There were a couple items that in using the ordinance that we found to be difficult. One is the permits are good for two years and they are from issue date which makes them difficult to track. The proposal is for them all to expire annually and in October. If there are issues, we can examine them in October.

The other issue is Health Department language. One item is to update to language of "properly functioning." Right now we require that you've only applied to the health department. Now we would like them to be sure the system is good before getting the permit and then reevaluate every five years.

Motion by S. Ball/L. Atkinson to approve adopting amendment Ordinance #01-2019 Vacation Rental Ordinance to change the expiration date of licenses and updating licensing procedure Section and to approve as presented an amendment to Section 113.106 Vacation Rental Permit. C.7 Water and wastewater system evaluation, D. Permit Expiration. Carried 3-0

**B. Zoning Fee Schedule**

We have put together a more comprehensive list to the fee schedule. Several updates were needed to list all of the fees.

Motion by L. Atkinson/S. Ball to approve updating the Zoning Fee Schedule. Motion carried. 3-0

**C. Application for Land Combination/Divisions:**

William Hayden has made application to merge lot 11391 Orchard Dr., parcel 05-12-710-003-00 with parent parcel 11420 SW Torch Lake Dr. 05-12-231-005-00

This is a combination of a platted lot and a meets and bounds lot.

Motion by L. Atkinson/S. Ball to approve the application as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

**Planning Report:** by B. Hefferan

We will have two public hearings at the next meeting. One will be regarding the bylaws and one to the ordinance. We will also be discussing steep slopes.

**Attorney's Report:** by B. Derman

Derman has asked the ZA to check on McKenzie Drive and Campbell Road issues.

Derman needs the signed agreement with South Torch Lake. J. Ball will check in on this.

**Supervisor's Report:** by L. Bargy

Township clean-up day is April 30th.

**Library Report**

No update

**Unfinished Business:**

**A. American Rescue Plan: Broadband**

We've received half of our funds from ARPA. It's important to bring high speed internet to the south portion of our township. 186 Network has submitted plans to do so, and is ready to proceed.

Motion by S. Ball/L. Atkinson to spend ARPA funds to bring Broadband internet to the south portion of Milton Township.

Roll Call: L. Bargy – Yes; L. Atkinson – Yes; S. Ball – Yes. Absent: Cole and Pharo  
Motion carried 3-0.

**B. Road End Access:**

Derman provided a packet with a map showing where Waring Road End Access is.

Derman discussed who owns what property. Question on how to proceed.

**C. Fencing:**

Getting bids on fencing for the Waterfront Park.

**Public Comment:**

Jerry Mensing inquired as to making improvements to the cemetery road. Bargy said that it was scheduled for improvements. Mensing asked about the land combination/division as it is his neighbor.

**Approval of Bills:**

Motion by S. Ball/L. Atkinson to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 8:15

These minutes are subject to approval at the May 9, 2022 meeting. A copy of these minutes are available at [miltontownship.org](http://miltontownship.org)

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Ball, Clerk