

Synopsis
Milton Township
Draft Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023

Members present: C. Weinzapfel, S. Ball, L. Atkinson, J. Renis, and B. Pharo

Also present: Attorneys B. Derman, and 13 audience members

C. Weinzapfel called the meeting to order at 7 pm, the Pledge was recited, and a moment of silence was held to remember the victims and survivors of the 9/11.

Agenda Approval

Remove SW Torch Lake Drive Speed Limit under Supervisor's Report

Add Fence on Ridge Road under New Business

Motion to approve agenda as amended by L. Atkinson/S. Ball. Motion carried. 5-0

Approval of regular meeting minutes of August 14, 2023

Motion to approve by S. Ball/B. Pharo. Motion carried. 5-0

Public Comment:

Fred Gulick asked if board members reviewed the material he provided. They did.

Paulette Termatt asked regarding the steer on the O'Dell Road End Access.

Sheriff's Report: by Sheriff Hoch

Hoch brought Under Sheriff George Lassiter and introduced him and his qualifications.

233 total requests for service for August. Update on staffing. Information on Paddle

Antrim event safety plans.

Fire Department Report: by Chief J. Ball

5 calls for service for August. Update on new personnel and the department operations.

August clean-up day, we collected \$1597 for MDA. Almost \$3,000 for the year was collected. Update on maintenance and inspections.

EMS Report

There is a report in the packet

Zoning Report: by B. Hefferan

ZBA didn't meet

Planning Report: by B. Hefferan

We had a public hearing regarding utility grade solar. The recommendation was to send it to the township board for approval at the next meeting. Planning Commission for October was changed to the first Tuesday due to a schedule conflict. There will be a public hearing regarding a special land use permit for Water Fire Vineyard.

County Commission Report: by Hefferan

There will be a survey for a public safety center. This will give direction on how to proceed. Update on construction at the county building. Report on possible litigation regarding Torch Lake Township and Barnes Park. Sept 28th at 10 am, there will be a report on the Bellaire and Elk Rapids Hydro Dams.

Attorney's Report: by B. Derman

Derman discussed the meeting for the hydro dam report and its importance. Update on COLI broadband.

Supervisor's Report: by C. Weinzapfel

1. **O'Dell Road End:** There was a bench placed there by an individual and it's been requested that this bench be removed. B. Pharo said we shouldn't have people building things on township land. Atkinson agrees that this sets a bad precedence. Motion by B. Pharo/L. Atkinson to remove the bench. Motion carried. 5-0
C. Weinzapfel said repair work is scheduled for the O'Dell launch.
2. **Park Policy:** The issue of allowing food trucks at the parks have come up. Helicopter rides have also come up. Previously the board limited activity to non-profit, local, community related projects. Motion by L. Atkinson/S. Ball to establish policy to only allow nonprofit local community related activities at the parks and not allow for profit events. Motion carried. 5-0
3. **Feasibility Study:** Weinzapfel said they met with Joe from Wade Trim and discussed information about the study.
4. **Resignation Letter:** S. Ball is resigning from her position as clerk starting December 1. Motion by L. Atkinson/J. Renis to approve the resignation of S. Ball. Motion carried. 5-0
5. Bob Kingon and L. Atkinson have volunteered as alternates on the ZBA. Motion to approve B. Kingon and L. Atkinson as alternates on the ZBA by S. Ball/B. Pharo. Motion carried. 5-0

Library Report

As presented by L. Atkinson in the packet.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

1. Fence on Ridge Road. J. Renis said a person has put up plastic sheeting to fence their yard. We don't have an ordinance on fences. This may impact the 25 foot protection strip. It appears there are survey stakes that may have been torn out. What avenues do they have to solve this problem? Signs are going up and there may be a conflict with the neighbors. Could this be handled with blight or create an ordinance. C. Weinzapfel said he spoke with the neighbors and he understands this is a difficult situation. This appears to be a civil and legal involvement. Unfortunately, this is a dispute between neighbors.

Even if we sent this to the planning commission to create a fence ordinance, this fence would be grandfathered. J. Renis said people aren't being nice to each other. It's hard to enforce civility.

Public Comment

Paulette Termatt said she has some information regarding the steer on the beach on O'Dell. Weinzapfel spoke to a family member. It was a show steer and his grandson didn't think there anything wrong with it. Although unsettling to see a big animal like this on the beach, it isn't illegal.

Approval of Bills

Motion to approve the bills by S. Ball/J. Renis. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 7:48 pm.

These minutes are subject to approval at the October 9, 2023 meeting. A copy of these minutes are available at miltontownship.org

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Ball, Clerk
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