

Millington Township Regular Board Meeting January 15, 2024

Regular meeting called to order at 6:00pm at the Millington Township Hall by Supervisor R. Loomis. Also present L, Jaruzel, A. Green, R. Loomis, S. Keinath and J. Sabgash

There were 11 guests in the audience.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Keinath, Support by Jaruzel to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Loomis, support by Sabgash to accept the minutes from the December 18, 2023 regular scheduled meeting and the January 4, 2024 special meeting.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Treasurer's report was presented. Thank you

Motion by Keinath, support by Green that bills be paid as presented:

General-	\$	20,068.66
Fire-	\$	5,671.42
Police-	\$	22,900.04
Refuse-	\$	18,697.58
Tax Collection	\$	409,989.82
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Total	\$	477,327.52

Ayes: Loomis, Sabgash, Keinath, Green and Jaruzel Nays: None. Motion carried.

Millington Township Fund Balances ending December 31, 2023

FUND	MIF SWEEP MONEY	MARKET SAVINGS
General	\$ 557,888.04	
Cemetery Trust Fund	2,101.81	
Fire	273,365.18	\$39,100.16
Police	204,700.11	
Refuse	(96,663.53)	
Murphy Lake Weed Control	9,379.12	
Capital Projects – Buildings	34,847.45	
Capital Projects - Machine & Equipment	13,469.32	
Trust & Agency	6,482.78	
Fire Damage Escrow Fund	25,084.00	
Tax Collection Fund	294,123.64	
IFT Tax Collection Fund	11,007.31	
IFT Tax Collection Fund	(14,080.21)	
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	\$ 1,321,705.02	\$39,100.16

Public Comment: Karen Yeager-Stiver: Referred to the December 18, 2023 public comment about the dispute about STR's stating that the STR's are the cause of the dispute. The Township Board must act ethically, transparently, and legally when making decisions about STR's.

Ed Maschke: The investigation of the Township Board regarding STR findings according to the Tuscola County Advertiser (document submitted) states it is not criminal but a civil matter. We need to move forward with the ordinance amendments for STR's

Mark Morris: All the here say and lies being spread about STR's is what is causing the dispute around Murphy Lake.

Gordon Love: Attorney from Cohl, Stoker and Toskey introduced himself and his firm and areas they specialize in. They only deal with municipalities.

Sherry Morris: Spoke about the Ordinance Violation Notice they received on April 29, 2021 which stated they need to cease using their LR property as a short-term rental as it violates Millington Township Ordinance 08-100, Article 7 Section 7.01. Their attorney did not agree with this notice as he stated that the use of the property as a short-term rental falls within the definition of a single-family dwelling, which is permitted in the LR District. People against STR's feel that STR's will make their taxes go up, S. Morris stated that non-homesteaded properties pay more taxes than homesteaded properties and stated that the annual assessment increase for each property is constitutionally limited to 5% or the inflation rate, whichever is less. S. Morris spoke on lot frontage and how quite a few lots on the lake have a decent frontage. Stated at the Tuscola County Planning Commission meeting when reviewing the Millington Township Ordinance amendments one of the Tuscola County Planning Commission members Donald Wellington said that the existing STR's should be grandfathered. S. Morris would like to see that they be grandfathered in. S. Morris did provide a packet of documents to the Township Board.

Mark Morris: Spoke on the difference between STR's and Long Term Rentals since the ordinance amendments pertains to both type of rentals. STR's are pristine due to the guidelines set by VROB and AirBNB. STR's have to uphold a certain standard.

Paul Dudley: Tuscola County Planning Commission stated at the meeting to review the proposed Millington Township ordinance amendments that when looking at the existing Ordinance there is nothing to enforce when it comes to STR's and since the STR's are compliant before and are still compliant they should be grandfathered in. P. Dudley stated he would like to see the inspections be removed from the amendments and reduce the number of STR's but everything else looks good.

Zoning Administrator Report Out: presented an outline of the Zoning Permit process, put together a suggested fee schedule since one was not available and presented a STR review. In T. Daenzers findings she refers to Millington Township Ordinance Article 4, section 4.03 which reads " All uses of land or structures listed as "principle uses permitted" shall be permitted throughout the district under which they are listed. Any use not expressly listed as a "principle use permitted" is prohibited in the district unless approval has been obtained from the Planning Commission for the use as a "use permitted after special approval". T. Daenzer review piles of documents and heard from some very impassioned individuals either for or against STR's. In conclusion she suggested the Millington Township Board should immediately take action to enforce the current ordinance. T. Daenzer spoke about the Master Plan and said these should be the guiding principles that direct the Boards actions relative to the ordinance amendment to provide for STR's. She made a suggestion to a possible survey for the Township Residents to get their opinion on STR's. T. Daenzer also stated it is important for the Board to have an accurate understanding of a lawful nonconforming use or a "grandfather clause" see Michigan statue MCL 125.3208(1). Documents were submitted.

L. Jaruzel: The Planning Commission has removed some working from the ordinance amendments but they are still not there yet and will hopefully be moving forward by next Planning Commission meeting which has been moved to February 5, 2024

Public Comment: Sherry Morris: nothing in the Millington Township Ordinance about short term rentals that says they are prohibited as it is a single family dwelling and refers back to her attorneys email.

Paul Dudley: concerned about having a possible survey go around Lake about STR's since there is so much negative talk about STR's.

Mark Morris: not a good idea to have a vote around the Lake. Who would go around and explain both sides of the STR's situation. A petition had went around and false information was given by the petitioner to the residents that signed the petition.

Tom Keinath: stated that it wouldn't be a vote it would be a survey.

Ed Maschke: doesn't want to go back and redo nine months of work regarding the STR's ordinance amendments.

Motion by Green, support by Keinath to table the fee schedule until the February meeting

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Loomis to accept the Millington Township regular meeting schedule and the Planning Commission meeting schedule with corrections of the February 12th meeting being switched to February 5th.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Jaruzel to accept the new poverty guideline scheduled amounts

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Green accept the Wilkinson's contract for \$5290 and 2 applications of brine for the roads.

Ayes: Sabgash, Jaruzel, Keinath, Green and Loomis Nays: None Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Jaruzel to accept the Arthur Latham proposed park budget from April 1, 2024 thru March 31, 2025 as presented.

Ayes: Green, Sabgash, Loomis, Keinath and Jaruzel Nays: none Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Jaruzel to hire Cohl, Stoker and Toskey as the Millington Township attorney.

Ayes: Sabgash, Jaruzel, Keinath and Green Nays: Loomis Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Jaruzel to amend the agenda to add training course for Zoning Administrator.

Ayes: All Nays: none Motion carried

Motion by Keinath, support by Green to send the Zoning Administrator to the Citizen Planner Classroom Program for \$250.

Ayes: Jaruzel, Green, Loomis, Keinath and Sabgash Nays: none Motion carried

Supervisor's Report. Thank you.

Motion by Green, support by Keinath to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51PM.

Jackie Sabgash, Township Clerk

UNAPPROVED XXXX
Approved _____