

**HOPE TOWNSHIP BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
March 15, 2021**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Doug Peck at the Hope Township Hall, 5463 S. M-43 Hwy, Hastings, MI 49058.

**Members Present:** Arlene Tonkin, Deborah Jackson, Matt Peake, Doug Peck, Junior Homister

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Lisa Shockley-Curtis.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of Agenda:** Jackson requested the dates be corrected for items (D.), (F.), & (G.) under New Business and add Resolution Number 2021-8 under item (K.) Motion to approve the amended agenda by Homister, second by Jackson.  
All in favor. Motion carried.

**Bernard Museum Request.** Peck will request a formal letter and the museum's budget from the museum's director before the board decides.

**Budget Public Hearing:**

Supervisor Peck opened the Budget Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m.

- A. Public comment pertaining to the budget: None
- B. Supervisor Peck closed the Budget Public Hearing at 6:37
- C. Motion by Tonkin, second by Homister to approve the proposed 2021-2022 budget.  
Roll call vote.: Yes: Homister, Tonkin, Peake, Jackson, Peck; No: None
- D. Supervisor Peck **opened the Regular Board Meeting at 6:40 p.m.**

**Delton Fire Report:** None

**County Commission Report:** None

**Consent Agenda:** *All matters listed under item 6, Consent Agenda, are considered routine by the board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is required, it will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.*

- a. Approval of February 24, 2021 Budget Workshop Minutes
- b. Reports received: Building permits; Revenue/Expenditure report; Treasurer report; Sewer minutes; Library minutes
- c. Approval of Bills and signatures of Board Members: Deborah Jackson

Motion to approve consent agenda by Peake, second by Jackson.  
Roll call vote: Yes: Tonkin, Peake, Jackson, Homister, Peck; No: None  
All in favor. Motion carried.

### **Reports/Board Comments:**

**Supervisor:** March Board of Review had a total of 28 requests.

**Treasurer:** Tonkin read report. Report on file.

**Clerk:** Jackson reported there will not be a May election. Library director, Cheryl Bower, will step down from the position on April 1, 2021. Michelle Tsuji will be the interim director for six months with a pay of \$20.00 per hour. The treasurer and clerk will get new computers next week and Microsoft Outlook and Office 365 on April 20, 2021. The clerk and deputy clerk had a training session for the new website with Inspiration Studios.

**Trustee(s):** Homister reported the Planning Commission will have a meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021 regarding the Wilkinson Lake Gravel Pit.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

- A. Resolution 2021-3 Depositories for Hope Township public monies.**  
Board member Tonkin moved adoption of this resolution, supported by member Jackson.  
Roll call vote: Yes: Homister, Tonkin, Peck, Jackson, Peake; No: None  
All in favor. Motion carried.
- B. Resolution 2021-4 Designate Primary Bank Depository.**  
Board member Homister moved adoption of this resolution, supported by Peck.  
Roll call vote: Yes: Peake, Jackson, Tonkin, Peck, Homister; No: None  
All in favor. Motion carried.
- C. Resolution 2021-5 Treasurer's Tax Motions.**  
Board member Tonkin moved adoption of this resolution, supported by Homister.  
Roll call vote: Yes: Jackson, Homister, Peake, Tonkin, Peck; No: None  
All in favor. Motion carried.
- D. Resolution 2021-6 Township Board Meeting schedule 2021-22 fiscal year.**  
Board member Peake moved adoption of this resolution, supported by member Peck.  
Roll call vote: Yes: Homister, Jackson, Tonkin, Peake, Peck; No: None  
All in favor. Motion carried.
- E. Resolution 2021-7 General Appropriations Act.**  
Board member Jackson moved adoption of this resolution, supported by Tonkin.

Roll call vote: Yes: Homister, Jackson, Peake, Tonkin, Peck; No: None  
All in favor. Motion carried.

**F. Library Grant 2021-22.**

Motion to approve the library grant in the amount of \$43,500.00 by Jackson, second by Homister.

Roll call vote: Yes: Peck, Homister, Tonkin, Jackson, Peake; No: None  
All in favor. Motion carried

**G. Payment of bills through fiscal year end March 31, 2021.**

Motion to approve the payments by Tonkin, second by Homister.  
All in favor. Motion carried.

**H. Cemetery contract for April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022.**

Motion to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the agreement by Tonkin, second by Jackson.

All in favor. Motion carried.

**I. Board Appointments: Zoning Board of Appeals (Robert Norton & Robert Tyner) term ending 3/31/2024), Planning Commission (Robert Norton term ending 3/31/2024).**

Motion to re-appoint ZBA members by Tonkin, second by Homister.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to re-appoint Planning Commission member by Peck, second by Tonkin.

All in favor. Motion carried.

**J. SWBCSA Resolution – Elimination of Roving Board Member as follows: 2021-9**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR SOUTHWEST BARRY COUNTY SEWER AUTHORITY**

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Homister and supported by Member Jackson:

WHEREAS, Act 233 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1955 (“Act 233”) authorized two (2) or more municipalities to incorporate a joint Sewer and Water Authority for the purpose of acquiring, owning, improving, enlarging, extending and operating a sewage disposal system water supply system or a combination of said systems; and

WHEREAS, the Townships of Barry, Hope, Johnstown and Prairieville (together, the “Constituent Municipalities”) all located in the County of Barry, have incorporated the Southwest Barry County Sewer Authority pursuant to Act 233; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Act 233, Article XVII of the Articles of Incorporation for the Southwest Barry County Sewer Authority states in part the following:

“...amendments may be made to these articles at any time if adopted by the legislative body of each Constituent Municipality of which the Authority is composed. Any such amendment shall be endorsed, published and certified, and printed copies thereof filed in the same manner as the original articles, except that the filed and printed copies shall be certified by the recording officer of the Authority.”

WHEREAS, proposed Amendment No. 1 to the Articles of Incorporation for the Southwest Barry County Sewer Authority, which is intended to reduce the number of Commissioners on the Authority Commission from the present five (5) Commissioners

to four (4) Commissioners by eliminating the "Rotating Commissioner" and a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, has been presented to the Township Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Amendment No. 1 to the Articles of Incorporation for the Southwest Barry County Sewer Authority is hereby approved in the form attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A. That fact of the adoption shall be endorsed on Amendment No. 1 to the Articles of Incorporation were indicated by the signatures of the Township Supervisor and Clerk and the Supervisor and Clerk are so directed.
2. Following adoption of Amendment No. 1 to the Articles of Incorporation by all the Constituent Municipalities, Amendment No. 1 shall be published, certified and filed in the manner provided by Paragraph 3 of Amendment No. 1.
3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Yeas: Members: Peake, Jackson, Peck, Tonkin, Homister

Nays: Members: None

Abstain: Members: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

**K. SWBCSA – Monthly rate increase Resolution 2021-8 as follows:**

**RESOLUTION TO SET SEWER FEES FOR THE SOUTHWEST BARRY COUNTY SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM RESOLUTION 2021-8**

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Homister, supported by Member Peake.

WHEREAS, Township Ordinance No. 82, as amended, known as the Southwest Barry County Sewage Disposal System Connection, Use and Rate Ordinance (the "Sewer Ordinance") provides that the Township Board shall from time to time establish and set the amount of various rates and charges for use of the Southwest Barry County Sewage Disposal System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Debt Service Charge shall be increased from \$34.50 per month per Unit to \$40.00 per month per Unit, effective July 1, 2021.
2. The capitalized terms used in this resolution shall have the meanings as defined in the Sewer Ordinance.

Yeas: Members: Peake, Jackson, Peck, Tonkin, Homister

Nays: Members: None

Abstain: Members: None

**L. Ratify Fire Dept Budget \$408,650.00.**

Motion to ratify the Delton Fire Dept budget of \$408,650 by Jackson, second by Homister.

All in favor. Motion carried.

**M. Audit engagement letter.**

Motion to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the Walker, Fluke and Sheldon audit engagement letter by Jackson, second by Tonkin.


All in favor. Motion carried.

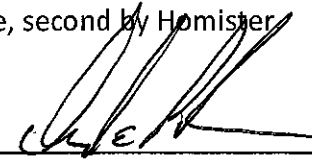
Board members discussed granting permission to a resident to farm the unused portion of the Cedar Creek Cemetery land. More information and discussion will follow later.

Board members discussed the steps required to begin a possible veteran's memorial project on the Hope Township Hall premises. More information and discussion will follow later.

**Additional Public Comment:** None

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Motion to close by Peake, second by Homister  
All in favor. Motion carried.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Jackson  
Hope Township Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Peck  
Hope Township Supervisor

Date: April 12, 2021  
Status (circle one)    Tentative Minutes    Approved Minutes