**HOMESTEAD TOWNSHIP**

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2024

A REGULAR MEETING OF Homestead Township was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Tia Cooley.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Shannon Purchase, Pat Delorme, Tia Cooley, Michael Mead, and Beverly Holbrook.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Cooley to approve agenda as presented. Support: Purchase. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Cooley to approve the Consent Agenda as written. Support: Purchase. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mary Haan talked about kitchen remodel in the township hall.

REPORTS:

ZONING: Marvin was unable to be present.

ASSESSING: Kit Wilson is out of town. Gunnar filed a written report. He will resume his assessor duties officially as of September 1, 2024.

PARKS:

Paul from HARP stated that more signs were placed in PRP for added security. \*The Overlook Trail is done. The final grading and seeding will be finished. \*They are receiving good feedback on the park. \*A culvert was added to keep backup water from washing out the road. The 2nd layer of asphalt is still to be finished. \* The turtles are being observed but there have been no problems yet. \*The old school benches are being refurbished and used. The extra picnic tables in the ballpark will be used in PRP. \*There was a good crop of blueberries this year but there is still a problem with witch’s broom on the plants. Could call the MSU Extension agent in Benzie to come down and look. Bob Schutzki said he would be happy to look and possibly have someone that can give suggestions. \* There will be a fall clean up again. \*HARP still has some grant money left from Eco Seeds to spend. \*They are going to delay the entrance off US31. \*They will concentrate on the trail from the blueberry patch into the village of Honor. \*They need to address kayak launch trailer parking and adding steps to the kayak launch.

Shannon reported that the men’s ball is finished next week, women’s this week. They are starting a co-ed league for 8 weeks on Tuesday nights. This will start after the men’s league is finished. Board discussion on better assessment of costs to have leagues. \*Bathrooms are good. \*The trash cans in the PRP cost $199 and are made like Trex deck material. \*The dugouts are not being worked on yet. Shannon will call the contractor. \*The mobile tractor repair found out the John Deere needed a new safety switch and now it works. He said the other tractor needs a new alternator which costs $600.

PLANNING COMMISSION: No meeting in July.

COMMISSIONER: \* August Election is done. The Jail millage did not pass so they will put it on the November ballot as a renewal. \*There will be a public meeting on Oct. 22 for the County Master Plan. \*The solid waste director has resigned. They hired outsource staff.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: \*The fire millage passed. \*YTD 215 incidents. \*On September 15 our department would like to be part of the Emergency Response for the Iron Man. This needs board approval and Supervisor signature. \*Lake Township is in the talking stage of having Homestead Fire cover their northern township. We will need our board approval before March 25, 2025.

Cooley made a motion to accept all reports as presented. Support by Holbrook. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

FINANCE: PAYABLES: The regular monthly bills have been paid on time. Holbrook presented the Invoice register, and 3 additions were made. 1. Benzie County Treasurer $407.94, GT Mobile $753, and Summit $245.50. Cooley made a motion to pay all payables, supported by Mead. Roll call: Mead – yes, Delorme – yes, Cooley – yes, Purchase – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Table

OLD BUSINESS:

CLEANING POSITION: Have 2 bids as contractors and 2 bids hourly. Board discussion and decided on hiring as contractors. Purchase made a motion to accept the bid from Margaret Balogh for cleaning bi-weekly. Supported by Cooley. Roll call: Mead – yes, Cooley – yes, Delorme – yes, Purchase – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

NOISE ORDINANCE: Tabled until Marvin can attend meeting.

LAND DIVISION FEE: Cooley made a motion to update the fee schedule as of August 14, 2024. Supported by Purchase. Roll call: Purchase – yes, Delorme – yes, Cooley – yes, Mead – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion passed. The Ordinance will be corrected at a future date.

NEW BUSINESS

CEMETERY DISCUSSION: Purchase said that it would be easy to prep another section in Homestead Cemetery. Then it could be surveyed to plot. There is also almost 5 acres unused in the back of this cemetery. Champion Hill cemetery is 25 acres in total. He will start to open an area behind the new area that can be surveyed to plot. These two areas will alleviate some of the needs of our residents. Holbrook stated that there is work to be done to update the history of these two cemeteries. There is a need to have a safe system to record each cemetery.

DEHUMIDIFIER QUOTE: Received a quote from Westshore for dehumidifiers and air cleaners for the hall and offices totaling $7364. Mead made a motion to accept this bid in total, supported by Purchase. Roll call: Mead – yes, Cooley – yes, Delorme – yes, Purchase – yes, Holbrook – yes. All yeas, no nays. Motion passed.

LIQUOR LICENSE: Bob Schutzki from Daddy Long Legg winery is requesting an approval for a license from the State. This must be approved by the township board. They are not having a tasting room. They will be doing sales only. Cooley made a motion to approve this request, supported by Holbrook. Roll call: Purchase – yes, Delorme – yes, Cooley – yes, Mead – yes, Holbrook – yes. All ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

IRONMAN: Mead made a motion to have our fire department be at the September 15, 2024, Ironman as part of the Emergency Response team. Supported by Cooley. All ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT: Cooley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 pm. Supported by Mead. All ayes, no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the draft minutes of the July 10, 2024, Homestead Township Board meeting. Signed herein by the Homestead Township Clerk, Beverly Holbrook on this the 17h day of July 2024.

Respectfully Submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Beverly Holbrook, Clerk