

**Fairfield Township
Regular Board Meeting – Township Fire Hall
February 14, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Chris McCallister followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Supervisor Chris McCallister, Treasurer Dawn Comar, Trustee Bonnie Zenk, Trustee Paul Green & and Clerk Deb Keller.

Julie Moore, candidate for State Representative introduced herself and gave a brief summary of her background and why she is running.

Supervisor McCallister started the Budget Hearing at 7:03. He highlighted changes in the budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023. Zenk moved to close the budget hearing, second by Green. Budget hearing adjourned at 7:20.

A motion was made by McCallister to approve the minutes from the January 10 regular Board meeting, second by Comar. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the bills as listed was made by Zenk, second by Green. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

A motion to accept amendments as given was made by Green, second by Comar. Amendments: General Fund: 101-253-706 Social Security \$0.01, 101-265-921 Sewer Usage \$202.00, 101-410-703 Electrical Inspector \$358.40, 101-410-902 Membership & Dues \$129.14 and 101-987-831 Tax Tribunal Pay Back \$14.31. Fire Fund: 206-339-734 Equipment \$80.68, 206-336-930 Repair & Maintenance \$526.39. Water Fund: 591-484-813 Bulk Water Mowing \$140.00. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion passed.

Comar gave the Treasurer's report. Keller moved to approve, second by McCallister. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion passed.

Fire Report – Fire report was given by Chief Nic. Chief Nic reported on gas monitors that need to be replaced. He reported that current firefighters discussed training requirements, truck check requirements, SOG's, a Township Open House event and the possibility of holding the Memorial Day pancake breakfast. McCallister made a motion to amend the agenda to add RKI 4 Gas Monitor, second by Comar. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Planning Commission – Zenk reported that commission met and set meeting dates as follows: April 13, June 8, August 3, October 5 and December 7. Also discussed other topics.

Supervisor's Report – McCallister reported on Budget Workshops, tree cleared at park, Road Commission discussions including new supervisor for Fairfield, Road Commission meeting on February 23 and various discussions on utilities. McCallister reported that he reached out to Level One for a cost to repair the concrete in front of the Fire Station overhead doors that is causing leaking into the Station. Department members have been using towels to try to contain the water from flowing inside. All correspondence will be on file at the Township Office.

Audience Participation – none

Old Business

Solar Ordinance – tabled

USDA Loan – Paid Assessments – tabled

Review Road Projects – Meeting with Lenawee County Road Commission will be February 23 at 1:00 pm at the Lenawee County Road Commission Office.

ARPA Ideas – tabled

Electronic payments – tabled

Trash Tags – McCallister made a motion to increase the trash tag prices starting April 1 to \$3.00. Second by Green. Roll call vote: Comar – yes, Green – yes, McCallister – yes, Keller – yes, Zenk – yes. Motion carried.

Sound System Upgrade - tabled

New Business

Planning Commission – McCallister moved to appoint Andrew Roddy to the Planning Commission for a two-year term, second by Zenk. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion passed.

Fire Department Loan Payment – Discussion on the repayment of the Fire Department loan from the General Fund that was approved by the board on March 9, 2020. The Board at the time had agreed to loan the Fire Department \$60,820.58 to purchase cot, stair chair, Lifepak Monitor/defib and LUCAS Chest Compression System. The agreement that was made between the board and Chief Cupp at the April 13, 2020 meeting was 3 annual payments of \$18,000 and a 4th payment of the remaining balance. Forgiveness of the loan was discussed as well as postponing the payments and making the payment. Comar made a motion to make a \$18,000 payment from Fire to General for the 1st installment on the loan that was made to purchase equipment, second by Keller. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Fire Department Engine 3 – April 12, 2021 the board decided to sell 1992 International/KME 77-3 due to failed pump. The board at that time set \$25,000. The vehicle was originally gifted to the Township by Adrian Township and has not been in service for over a year. McCallister made a motion to set the base price (low price) at \$15,000, second by Keller. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Fire Department Unit 3 Utility – Chief Nic stated that the normal procedure is to place all equipment on a Fire Truck as the first vehicle to arrive on the scene would be an engine. There are very few departments in the County that actually have a Utility truck. McCallister had paperwork showing that the truck was purchased in 2012 for \$34,990. Equipment added was a slide out and running boards for \$1,979. Current market values indicate that the truck would sell way above the cost of the vehicle and upgrades. Questions to Chief Nic in regards if there would be vehicles enough to still transport the department once it increases in membership. He explained that we would have more than enough to transport. Keller made a motion to give McCallister authority to negotiate on behalf of the Township for a price of not less than \$50,000. Support from Comar. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Fire Department Tanker – Tanker 5 is a 1991 Chevrolet that has not been used in over a year, it a stick shift that is not safe for use, can only carry water, not pump water and has not been inspected by DOT. McCallister moved to list that tanker for sale with a base of \$15,000, second by Comar. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Fire Department MFR License – Chief Nic updated the board in regards to the coming up license that will need to be renewed with the State of Michigan and recommended that the township drop the MFR license. During the renewal process, the department has to notify the State how many current members with at least an MFR license. The State requires 4-6 people that are available 24 hours a day and currently the department does not have the required personnel. Chief Nic informed the board it was better to drop the MFR License for now, build up the roster and then reapply compared to having the State revoke our license. McCallister made a motion to drop MFR license for now. Second by Zenk. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

RKI 4 Gas Monitor – Chief Nic informed the board that the current gas monitors can no longer be serviced. He also brought to board’s attention that there was a County wide grant a few years ago that our acting Chief did not participate in that would have covered the cost of this equipment. Due to not participating, the Department now need to update on their own. Discussion on donations made to the Department by Silbond be used. McCallister moved to purchase the monitors earmarking the donation by Silbond, second by Comar. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Michigan Rural Water Association – McCallister moved to join the Michigan Rural Water Association. Second by Green. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Voter ID Cards – redistricting – McCallister made a motion to approve the purchase and mailing of new Voter ID Cards due to the redistricting, second by Green. Roll call vote: Zenk – yes, Keller – yes, McCallister – yes, Comar – yes, Green - yes. Motion carried.

Green made a statement to have the siding on the Fire Station looked at.

Zenk moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Keller, Clerk