

Minutes of Mikado Township Board Meeting
February 10, 2020

Supervisor Jesus "Yogi" Yruegas called the Mikado Township Board Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. at the Mikado Civic Center. He welcomed the thirty-three (33) guests that were present and joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call showed Supervisor Yruegas, Clerk Sands, Treasurer Travis, Trustee Odell and Trustee Griffin present. No one was absent.

Supervisor Yruegas mentioned he would like to move the Civic Center/Township Property Issues to follow item #8. Motion by Odell/Travis to approve the Agenda as adjusted. Motion carried.

Public Comment opened at 7:01 and closed at 7:15. Various residents and non-residents made comments.

Motion by Griffin/Travis to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

The Financial Report for January 2020 was given by Treasurer Travis as follows: The General Fund balance brought forward was \$65,722.51 with receipts of \$7,729.79, less disbursements of \$10,827.84, leaves a balance in the General Fund of \$62,624.46 plus CD's of \$20,000.00 (\$10,000.00 being Stabilization CD) leaves an overall balance in the General Fund of \$82,624.46. The Road MIF balance brought forward was \$45,383.10 with receipts of \$7.71 leaves a balance in the Road MIF of \$45,390.81 plus CD's of \$20,000.00, leaves an overall balance in the Road MIF of \$65,390.81. The Fire MIF balance brought forward was \$16,065.18 with receipts of \$2.73, leaves a balance in the Fire MIF of \$16,067.91 plus a CD in the amount of \$10,000.00, leaving an overall balance in Fire Fund of \$26,067.91. Motion by Sands/Odell to accept the Financial Report of January as presented. Motion Carried.

An Amendment to the Budget was necessary. We had to add money to the General Fund Budget to cover money spent for the Presidential Election. Motion by Odell/Griffin to adopt Budget Amendment #2019-2020.06 regarding the addition of \$710.00 to the Election Cost Center from the General Fund Contingency. Roll call vote, Griffin-yes, Travis-yes, Odell-yes, Yruegas-yes, Sands-yes. The Supervisor declared the amendment adopted.

Motion by Odell/Travis to approve the Bills in the amount of \$12,264.03 plus the Fick & Son bill not received yet. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS:

Civic Center/Township Property Issues: Nicki Stuit-Bartz was the spokesperson for several residents and non-residents in attendance that had questions addressed to the board.

First question; Was the check written of money left over from Mikado Days Funds from the previous two years, for the outside play equipment to be upgraded at the pavilion? Answer; No, the money is in the Township General Fund and a bill will be presented to the Township Board for payment of these funds that will not exceed \$1,659.83.

Question number two; Why can't the ball field behind the Civic Center be used for ballgames? Answer; The ball field behind the Civic Center can be used for ball games. There is no organized league that has asked for the use of the field since the last league pulled out of Mikado. Any organized group can use

the field if they fill out an agreement for its use and have the proper insurance coverage for the purpose of its use. Mowing of the ball field was discussed. The mowing would come out of our General Fund Budget. In the past and expected for the future, we have had a limited amount of money to be used for the mowing so we budgeted what we felt was enough for a reasonable amount of mowing. If the field is used on a regular basis, the township would need to budget more money for this mowing. With our budget being tight for several years now, we would accept any money donated to the township designated for the mowing of the ball field.

Question number three. If a committee was to raise money and they used an organization with a 501c3 status, would the funds need to go through the township funds. A committee to run Mikado Days for three years was surprised to learn that all money raised would need to go through the township so the group needs to hear what the procedure is before they start. Clerk Sands asked to respond to this. She said that this group, run by Nicki, organized Mikado Days for two years only, 2018 and 2019. Right from the start, Clerk Sands contacted the township auditor for guidance. This response was that all income and expense would need to go through the township General Fund for a paper trail. The township has a special line item to place all revenue and expense in the budget. Clerk Sands contacted Nicki and she agreed to this procedure. It is not the township's fault if the committee members did not know this procedure because none of the board was on the committee. Another reason to have the township involved is liability insurance and rental of properties.

Question number four; Why did the Township stop the Legion from doing the Cemetery Clean-up? Answer; Mikado Township did not stop the Mikado Sons of the American Legion from cleaning the Cemetery. Mikado Township always called them prior to the clean-up season to sign the contracts. We were informed by Bill Miller, representative of the Sons, that they would not be cleaning the cemetery (date unknown at this time) and by policy of the board, we advertised for this cleaning in the Alcona County Review. This group of citizens present thought that they would like to get a group together to clean-up the cemetery before the mowing. The time frame for a clean-up would be after May 1st but prior to mowing time. If this group decides to follow through with this clean-up, we would need to know because the contracts would need to be changed for the contractor agreements. The township would also need to know the date of the event and possibly waivers signed to release the township from any harm.

Question number five; If a group of citizens got together to up-keep the ballpark like painting, repairs, pick up trash, does the money have to go through the township. Answer; If the money is used for township property, yes it would go through the township accounting. If the money is used for personal items as shirts for the ball team, etc. this would be an organization purchase. They were informed that if they raise money for an effort like this, they would need to file for a 501c3 or find a non-profit organization that would support them, but monies for township property upgrades would still go through the township accounting.

District 3 County Commissioner: Commissioner Carolyn Brummund of District #3 was present and made comments on what is happening at the County level.

Assessor: Nancy Schwickert was not present

Planning Commission: Trustee Odell mentioned that the next Planning Commission meeting will be held on March 11, 2020 at 6:00.

Roads & Bridges: Supervisor Yruegas gave an update on the Pine River Bridge work and the completion of F-41 as being done in 2022. He further mentioned that he and Jesse Campbell, Manager of the County Road Commission, will travel the roads in Mikado Township in late March or early April to plan

for the 2020 road repairs. A resident asked that Andrews Road, east of F-41 be checked because it is now being used by heavier traffic. The sign on Forsythe Drive, off of E. F-30, has the name of Forsythe Road. After investigating, Supervisor Yruegas found out that the Road Commission mistakenly named it road. We can ask the residents that live on the road if they would like it changed. If they do want it changed to Drive, the township would not need to pay for the change because it was the Road Commissions mistake.

Fire Chief: Fire Chief Regina Waszkiewicz was present and gave her report. She mentioned that the Fire Department responded to eight (8) incidents in January. She further mentioned that the Department has received the replacement sets of gear with the exception of some pairs of boots.

Gustin Township will not be using their extra funds to purchase an item for the Lincoln and Mikado Departments.

Chief Waszkiewicz received the signed copy of the DNR Fire Assistance Grant.

At the Fire Association Meeting on January 22, Mikado Fire Department received sixteen handheld 800MHz radios that came from Genesee County. The Fire Chief is still checking the condition of these radios received.

Robert Travis, who has not been responding for health reasons, is cleared to return to work. A resignation letter from the Fire Department was received from TJ Griffin. Motion by Yruegas/Travis is to regretfully accept this letter of resignation from Tim Griffin. Motion carried.

The Fire Departments SCBA's are due to be replaced. We have grants coming up from CFNEM, Par Plan and the F. E. Fehsenfield Family Foundation that we could possibly use for these SCBA's.

Chief Waszkiewicz asked Yogi to attend the Fire Department Training Meeting on February 19 to take a picture of the FD Personnel wearing their new gear.

Motion by Odell/Yruegas to have Clerk Sands start the process of changing the telephone line carrier at the Fire Hall from Frontier to Allband as a fax line only. Motion carried.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: OEO Jesus Yruegas mentioned that nothing has been heard on complaints. A letter of interest has been received from resident Wayne Odell who is applying for the job of Ordinance Enforcement Officer and Zoning Administrator. Motion by Sands/Yruegas we hire Wayne Odell for the position of Ordinance Enforcement Officer and Zoning Administrator. Motion carried.

More Civic Center/Township Property Issues: Our Civic Center plowing contractor mentioned that while plowing, it was noticed that a hole is in the eave on the South end of the building and birds are getting in. Also, two potholes have been noticed in front of the Civic Center, one in front of the flower garden area and another at the southwest corner. Both issues were noted and will be dealt with. Supervisor Yruegas mentioned that the ADA sink in the ladies restroom has been separated from the wall again and the ADA sink in the men's restroom is cracked and starting to separate from the wall. He asked to replace these sinks with an updated model. Consensus of the board is to have this project done.

UPDATES:

The Election Commission had their meeting this evening at 6:40 p.m. to appoint the workers for the Presidential Primary on March 10. Those workers will be Chair-Claudia Schiller, inspector Kay Smith, both democrat and Christine White, Republican. At the end of the night, Claudia and Chris will tally the results and Kay and Jesus Yruegas, Republican will be the Receiving Board.

Three Board of Review members attended the training on February 5th in Alpena. Member Susan Barwick was sick in the hospital and could not attend. Her reservation has been changed to Mt. Pleasant on 20th. MTA has a \$25 fee they charge for reservation changes after the fact but has waived this fee for us because of Susan's illness.

The County MTA Chapter Meeting held on January 28th hosted by Hawes Township was attended by Supervisor Yruegas and Clerk Sands. Guest speaker was EMS Director Scott Rice. Our 2020-2021 Budget Work-Bee will be held on February 22 at 8:00 a.m.

PENDING BUSINESS:

Concerning the Township Web Site, STG did send a link to be passed out for different people to look at the site for input. It is looking very nice. The URL address is mikadotownship.org.

Motion by Sands/Yruegas to adopt Resolution #20.01 regarding the supervisor salary of \$7,326.00 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Roll call vote, Sands-yes, Yruegas-yes, Odell-yes, Griffin-yes, Travis-yes. The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

Motion by Yruegas/Travis to adopt Resolution #20.02 regarding the clerk salary of \$8,760.00 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Roll call vote, Yruegas-yes, Odell-yes, Sands-yes, Travis-yes, Griffin-yes. The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

Motion by Yruegas/Griffin to adopt Resolution #20.03 regarding the treasurer salary of \$8,760.00 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Roll call vote, Travis-yes, Griffin-yes, Yruegas-yes, Odell-yes, Sands-yes. The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

Motion by Yruegas/Travis to adopt Resolution #20.04 regarding the trustee pay of \$110.00 for each meeting attended for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Roll call vote, Travis-yes, Sands-yes, Odell-yes, Yruegas-yes, Griffin-yes. The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion was held on the balance of funds raised by the Mikado Days Committee. \$1,659.83 is the balance of unused funds that the committee raised and requested to go to the outside playground equipment at the pavilion. Mikado Area Development will need to order what items they wish to purchase for the area and the bill will go through the Mikado Township General Fund. The committee was advised that we had been using any leftover funds from Mikado Days as seed money for the next Mikado Days event. If or when another Mikado Days is planned, they will need to start from scratch for funds.

Supervisor Yruegas passed out the 2020 Poverty Exemption Guidelines for review. Consensus of the board was to continue following the Township of Mikado Poverty Exemption Standards as adopted with Resolution #17.11.

Motion by Sands/Odell to have all monthly meetings of the Mikado Township Board of Trustees be held on the Second Monday of each month for the ensuing fiscal year at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

The Annual MTA Conference is scheduled for the end of April. No one on the board wish to attend.

A member in the audience asked for the election process as a candidate for an elective position on the Township Board. Clerk Sands hopefully explained the process so each person would understand and she mentioned she would have all the paperwork needed for a candidate at the March meeting. She further mentioned that anyone can call the township office to ask additional questions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Travis/Griffin to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p. m. Motion carried.

Orders 20605 – 20630 were presented and paid.

Receipts 5172 – 5178 were received and recorded.

Jesus Yruegas, Supervisor

Rita D. Sands, Clerk

Motion to accept by: _____ Seconded by : _____ Date: _____