

MINUTES OF THE ALBERT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD JUNE 18, 2024

Board Members: Supervisor Michael Szukhent, Clerk Sandy Raffin, Trustee Marsha McDonald, Trustee Richard Deska, Treasurer John Righi. Also in attendance were Fire Chief Doug Baum, Zoning Administrator Jeff McDonald, Recording Secretary Julie Marcotte, 11 residents were present.

Meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m., Mike Szukhent led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance was taken.

Supervisor Szukhent stated that he would like to make an amendment to the agenda to have Mark Bowser sworn in as a new DDA member. Marsha McDonald made a **motion** to add Mark Bowser to the agenda, seconded by John Righi. Motion carried with 5 yeas votes.

Sandy Raffin made a **motion** to approve Tuesday June 18th agenda as amended, seconded by Marsha McDonald. Motion carried with 5 yeas votes.

Brandy Riopelle, Program Manager with the Otsego County Economic Alliance, gave a brief presentation outlining a new program called **MI Tri-Share Child Care Program**. This is a program designed to assist in making child care more affordable. Brandy intends to speak at a future Business after Hours meeting in Lewiston and post program information on social media. Brandy left informational brochures and flyers which are filed and received.

T.J. Holzhausen from Vet Helping Vets, provided a brief update regarding placement of flags downtown and that is going well. T.J. reported that he will only be placing U.S. flags going forward as some of the flags he had hung, as requested, created some controversy. T.J. is working on designing a "LEWISTON" flag and will contact Jodi from the Chamber of Commerce for assistance on that project. T.J. would also like to create HOMETOWN HERO flags and he will work with the Board on that project as those flags may be placed on Township property.

Mark Bowser was sworn into Office, as a new DDA Board Member, by Clerk Sandy Raffin.

Marsha McDonald made a **motion** to approve the Board meeting Minutes from 5/21/24, seconded by Sandy Raffin. Motion carried with 5 yeas votes. Sandy Raffin made a **motion** to approve Minutes from June 5, 2024, seconded by Marsha McDonald. Motion carried with 5 yeas votes.

Marsha McDonald made a **motion** to approve list of bills in the amount of \$59,874.86 and payroll in the amount of \$48,112.84, seconded by Dick Deska. Motion carried with 5 yeas votes.

Bonnie Page from the Lewiston Pickle Ball Club presented a donation in the amount of \$10,000, to the Township Board, in keeping with the agreement to fundraise for Court resurfacing. Bonnie spoke of the increasing popularity of Pickle Ball and the large number of players brought to Lewiston from surrounding areas and the benefit to local business.

Freeman Hopkins, representative from Bent Wheels Competition Club, spoke to address the rental and use of Butles Rd. Park September 26-29, 2024. Mr. Hopkins described the Clubs involvement in trail maintenance and involvement throughout the State. Bent Wheels acknowledges that there were some resident complaints, following last years event, and wishes to assure the Board that attendees at this year's event will be reminded of Park rules and resident consideration. Mr. Hopkins invited the Montmorency County Sherriff, who was in attendance, to stop by and remind participants of safety, road, and speed laws. The Sherriff states that they also have an ORV unit, that is funded by grant money, and could maybe assist if funds are still available. Mr. Hopkins reported that in the past there have been riders that appear to be a part of the group but in fact on not, he made a commitment to patrol members and place speed limit signs.

Sandy Raffin made a **motion** to allow the Bent Wheels, use of the Butles Park from 9-25 through 9-29, seconded by Marsha McDonald. Motion carried with 5 yea votes.

Fire Chief report, received and filed. Doug reported that on July 3rd, 2024 they will schedule additional staff and have presence on East Twin Lk. in anticipation of the annual fireworks.

Zoning Administrator report, received and filed.

Marsha McDonald mentioned the Community Input Survey that has been launched and reminded people to please take a moment to complete the survey and take some to distribute.

John Righi made a **motion** to remove Julie Marcotte as a signer on all Albert Township bank accounts at Nicolet National Bank and Community Financial Credit Union as she is no longer Deputy to John Righi. Mike Szukhent clarified that this is a result of a change in duties which John Righi confirmed. Seconded by Sandy Raffin, motion carried with 4 yea and one nay vote.

John Righi reported that there will be a link included on our tax bill this year, that will allow taxpayers to go directly to Allpay to make credit or debit card payments. This will include the historical 3.5% fee assessed by Allpay, this money does not come to the Township.

Sandy Raffin announced a reminder regarding the FREE clean up on Saturday and reported that the Tire disposal day will be scheduled in September.

Marsha McDonald made a motion to adjourn, seconded by John Righi.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully,

Julie Marcotte
Recording Secretary