

**ARTHUR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 5, 2019 7:00 PM**

**Township Hall 3031 S. Athey Ave, Clare, MI 48617**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Schunk with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Erma Kleinhardt, Lee Schunk, Lamar Gunden, Anna Sharp, Andrew Verhage.

**AGENDA:** Accepted as written.

**PUBLIC COMMENT / GUEST SPEAKERS:** Mark Fitzpatrick gave an update on County Commissioners meeting and budget challenges. Clare County Road Commissioner Tim Haskin updated the Township on a change in the Road Commissions priorities, to focus more on maintaining all township roads and less on special projects. He solicited the Township Boards input on what we consider our top priorities. Karl Hauser, Director of Clare County Veterans Service gave a presentation on plans for Vietnam Veterans activities.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** July 1, 2019 regular meeting minutes and special meeting minutes from July 15, 2019 public hearing approved with spelling correction to regular meeting minutes.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Monthly report on all bank account activity and projected general fund balance with current encumbrances. Expected fund balance still too low to pay full July payroll. A Profit & Loss statement was presented with the journal entries for July.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:** \$1,916.08 in general fund payables were presented: Verhage key reimbursement, BS&A Tax/Assessing software renewal, Apex Sketching Software renewal, Board of Review and Assessor's July payroll. Supervisor still has not received a reply to our inquiry on the law mowing invoice. There are still insufficient general funds to pay the July Board payroll. Verhage motioned for approval for payment of the General Fund payables and to contact Duggan Propane for a tank fill, and also the \$14,020.64 Michigan Chloride Sales invoice from the Road Fund. Sharp seconded. Roll Call: Kleinhardt -yes, Schunk -yes, Gunden -yes, Sharp -yes, Verhage -yes. Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE – 2019 Tax Rate Request form L-4029.** Schunk motioned to approve and submit the form as completed. Gunden seconded. Roll Call: Kleinhardt -yes, Schunk -yes, Gunden -yes, Sharp -yes, Verhage -yes. Carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- **Website update** – Deputy Clerk LaRose reported that the site is up and running and needs to have content uploaded. Contact information, meeting dates, recent minutes and other information will be put in as PDF's.
- **Recovery of IRS loss by township** – Ken Lind spoke about his expectations that a case can be made for claim on the bond and is willing to submit it on behalf of the board. Supervisor is going to speak with former clerk before a firm decision is made.
- **Sexton and cemetery policies** – Tabled.
- **Need signed copy of contract with Foster-Swift** - Township will need to ask Laura Genovich to forward a copy
- **Fire District Contract with Harrison:** Genovich will contact Harrison to finalize the contract for Board approval soon.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Need for new policy on rental of hall or use of chairs/tables was discussed.** Board will consider new policy and rental rates for the hall. Schunk motioned that the Township stop allowing the use of township chairs and tables off-site separately from hall rental, subject to

**ARTHUR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES JULY 1, 2019 continued**

- **Township discretion. Verhage seconded.** Roll Call: Kleinhardt –yes, Schunk –yes, Gunden –yes, Sharp –yes, Verhage –yes. Carried.
- **It was noted that new garbage contract bids need to be solicited from Republic, American and Waste Management**
- **Need for additional general fund operating revenue was discussed.** The Clerk noted that the general fund has no way to recover addition funds to provide proper cash flow for bills and payrolls to be fully paid on a timely basis with current revenue sources. There is also not sufficient revenue in the current budget to properly cover needed officer training, software purchases and upgrades, election funding for 2020 season, sexton salary and complete season mowing and snow removal. The township ended the last fiscal year with about \$5,000 in open general fund and it should have had \$30,000 - \$50,000 available at the start of the fiscal year.

**The Board believes the only way available to put the township on sound financial footing and secure needed cash flow throughout the fiscal year is to ask the electors to approve additional general fund millage for a limited time. Therefore Verhage motioned for the Board to adopt Resolution 19-20 -128, whereby the Township wishes to levy 1.5 mills for two years beginning with the winter 2019 taxes, to be put before the voters on the November 5<sup>th</sup> election ballot.**

**Motion was seconded by Schunk. Roll Call: : Kleinhardt –yes, Schunk –yes, Gunden –yes, Sharp –yes, Verhage –yes. Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Opportunity was given for public comment.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:30 p.m.**

**Submitted by Andrew Verhage, Clerk**

Arthur Township, Clare County

Resolution Number 19-20 – 128

Whereas , the Township Board of Arthur Township wishes to provide additional general operating funds;  
and

Whereas, townships may provide general operating funds, as authorized by Public Act 62 of 1933, MCL -  
211.203; and

Whereas, townships may impose and levy ad valorem property taxes to finance lawful public services, as  
authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other laws; and

Whereas, the Township Board of Arthur Township wishes to levy 1.5 mills to provide additional general  
operating funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board of Arthur Township, Clare County,  
approves the following millage ballot question language and directs the Clerk to submit it to be placed  
on the November 5, 2019 election ballot:

Shall Arthur Township impose an increase of up to 1.5 mills (\$1.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value)  
in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it for  
two years, 2019 through 2020 inclusive, for additional general operating funds, which 1.5 mills  
increase will raise an estimated \$38,552 in the first year the millage is levied.

[ ] Yes

[ ] No

Motion made by Andrew Verhage. Seconded by Lee Schunk.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

“Aye”: Erma Kleinhardt, Lee Schunk, Lamar Gunden, Anna Sharp, Andrew Verhage

“No”

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

  
Andrew Verhage, Clerk

I, Andrew Verhage, the duly appointed and acting Clerk of Arthur Township, hereby certify that the  
foregoing resolution was adopted by the Township Board by a roll call vote at a regular meeting of the  
Board held on August 5, 2019, at which meeting a quorum was present; and that this resolution was  
ordered to take immediate effect.