

**Merrill Township
Board Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2022**

The meeting called to order by Mr. Morgan at 7:08 pm followed by pledge of allegiance by Mr. Morgan and prayer by Ms. Fisher.

Roll Call

Ms. Tabatha Glezman, Clerk
Ms. Debra Fisher, Treasurer
Ms. Venola Walton-Stanciel, Trustee
Mr. Peter Morgan, Supervisor
Mr. Harold Yancy, Trustee

Guest: 16 in public attendance
Jeff Wroblewski, Zoning Admin.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Glezman motioned to approve agenda, Ms. Walton-Stanciel seconded and the motion carried.

Approval of consent agenda

Approval of June 20, 2022 Board Minutes: Ms. Fisher motioned and Ms. Walton-Stanciel seconds, all in favor- motion passed.

Approval to pay bills: from 6/21/22-9/19/22 general account, total \$61,568.62
Transfer Station account, total \$29,582.23.

Public Comment:

Judy Morris wanted to thank the Board for allowing the memorial service of Josephine Carter-Toliver at the Township Hall. She was a well-respected part of our community for many years and the area residence appreciated the Board's support.

Stephen Cross is concerned about the bump at the railroad tracks on 11 Mile. He is requesting signage for the area. He was referred to the Railroad company to see if they may help.

Many concerns about camping and blight.
Several attendees asked if the board was considering regular office hours yet. Ms. Fisher, Treasurer, stated that she is in the Township Hall every Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm as listed on the website. All other Board members may be contacted for appointment at the phone number listed on the website.

Lilley Township Fire Department Report:

Mr. Morgan read the report by the Fire Department describing the type of calls received over the last three months.

Supervisor's report

Road improvements at the transfer station. There were two bids received for paving the transfer station.

Road commission from 12 Mile to the transfer station	\$8,374.
Road commission for the whole transfer station	\$154,000.
Road commission part of transfer station	\$93,200.
Mr. Morgan rents a trailer and lays down gravel	\$500.

Ms. Glezman motioned to pay the \$500 to upgrade the road surface through the transfer station and the \$8,374 for the Road Commission to fix and pave from 12 Mile to the transfer station gate. Ms. Walton-Stanciel seconded the \$500 and Ms. Fisher seconded the \$8,374, the motions carried.

Clerk's Report

Ms. Glezman advise she has a new Deputy to assist with the November 2022 election. She is one of her previous Deputies so there will be no training needed.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Fisher announced she has a new Deputy as well, who has already started assisting with the summer taxes.

She updated the Board on her research regarding adding a phone system that would allow the community to call one phone number and leave a message for any of the Board members.

- AT&T land line - would cost approximately \$110.00 per month + tax.
- Verizon is VoIP (1 line) that could support up to transferring to 5 lines but until the township has a reliable internet service, Verizon cannot install the system. The fee for the phone system, once reliable internet exist would be \$35-\$50 / month.
- Google Voice, same setup as Verizon

Mr. Morgan commented he attended a Senator's meeting where they advised they have a program that is working on bringing internet to rural areas, like ours. Mr. Morgan did update them on the issues our area has because of the lack of internet and they are working on it but it may be 2, 3 or 5 years out.

Zoning Admin.

Mr. Wroblewski addressed several questions from attendees regarding:

- Travel trailers
- Single mobile homes
- Lot size to build on
- Building on one lot.....taking it off line to talk to Jeff.

He gave out 12 permits during the last 3 months as well.

Master Plan:

Mr. Morgan sent the new Master Plan from Merrill Township Planning Commission to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Ms. Walton-Stanciel makes a motion and

Mr. Yancy seconds the motion. Role call vote: Mr. Yancy - yes, Mr. Morgan – yes, Ms. Walton-Stanciel – yes, Ms. Glezman – yes, Ms. Fisher - yes

New Business:

- Transfer Station contract: Renew with American Classic starting in January 2023-December 2025. Ms. Glezman motioned, Ms. Walton-Stanciel seconded, the Motion carried.
- Mr. Morgan advised the transfer station will be checking for ID cards randomly.
- Mr. Morgan advised that the Township will hold off on receiving bids to clean up the tree's around the parking lot because we have someone working for the township on community service. Once he/she is finished we'll see how much is left to be cleaned up.
Mr. Yancy motioned to place an ad in the paper for the 2023 snow plow bid. Ms. Glezman seconded and the motion carried. If it snows prior to the new contract Starts, Ms. Glezman motioned the township use the 2022 contractor temporarily, Ms. Walton-Stanciel seconded, the motion carried.
- Appointment of Board of Review, Ms. Redding was voted onto the BOR board and Ms. Pembroke and Ms. Boerson voted in as alternates. Ms. Glezman motioned, Ms. Fisher seconded, the motion carried.
- Appointment of Planning Commission Board member, Mr. Brian Bordewyk, Ms. Fisher motioned, Ms. Glezman seconded, the motion carried.
- Kitchen Inspection needed, Ms. Walton-Stanciel motioned, Mr. Yancy seconded, the motion carried.
- Great Lakes Franchise Ordinance: The Township Attorney reviewed the ordinance and recommended the township board to sign the document. Ms. Glezman motioned for a role call vote, Mr. Yancy - yes, Ms. Walton-Stanciel – yes, Mr. Morgan – yes, Ms. Glezman – yes, Ms. Fisher – yes
- Metro Franchised: The attorney recommended the board to sign this as is. Mr. Yancy motioned, Ms. Glezman seconded, the motion carried.
- Sunrise Gas: waiting for lock in rate but will need to accept prior to the next meeting. Ms. Glezman motioned to approve the new lock in rate, Mr. Yancy seconded, the motion carried.
- Boat Launch: Mr. Bates, President, Woodland Park Lake Association advised the Board he has the funds to remove the tree in the middle of the Blair St. boat launch with the Board's approval. Ms. Fisher motioned, Mr. Yancy seconded, the motion carried.
- Board of Public Works Recycling Program is asking for donations to help with the cost of the recycling program. Motioned by Ms. Glezman to table this until after the November election to see if the township millage passes. Motioned by Ms. Fisher and seconded by Ms. Walton-Stanciel, the motion passed.
- Compactor at the transfer station is 40+ years old and needs to be replaced or repaired. The cost to repair it is \$15,000 or the cost of a refurbished one is also \$15,000 but then the Township would have the old one for a back-up and repair it when there is more money available. This money comes from the transfer station fund. Ms. Fisher motioned to purchase the refurbished one and repair the old compactor as a backup, seconded by Ms. Walton-Stanciel, the motion carried.

Mr. Morgan adjourned the meeting at 9:08 pm.

Bonnie St. Amour