

**Gourley Township
Menominee County Michigan
Minutes of March 8, 2021 Regular Meeting**

Supervisor, Steve Wery called the meeting to order at the Gourley Township Hall at 6:30 p.m. and then, asking all to stand, led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Stephen Wery, Supervisor
Stephanie Walechka, Treasurer
Ivy Netzel, Clerk
Dan Cordy, Trustee
Jesse Wery, Trustee

Absent: Fire Chief Brian Mack

Also Attending:

Agenda: Steve presented the agenda and after review, Dan made a motion to accept the agenda with Jesse supporting the motion; it was carried.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 8, 2021, Regular Board Meeting were presented and after review, Jesse made a motion to accept the minutes. Stephanie supported the motion and it was carried.

Treasurer & Clerk Report:

NOTE: The clerk checks the tax fund check book monthly.

- The Financial Report for February 2021 was reviewed and there was \$344,522.72 in the General Fund and \$277,010.82 in the Fire Fund. Steve made a motion to accept the Financial Report and place it on file. Ivy supported the motion, and it carried.
- Budget Amendments needed for current budget (attachments)

Stephanie made a motion to accept the Budget Amendments for 2020-2021. Steve supported the motion, and it carried.

Fire Chief Report:

The fire report was presented by the Fire Chief, Brian Mack

- There were 3 runs for the month of February, 2 to Elders Complex (false alarms) and 1 to assist EMS in Hannahville.
- New air compressor overhead piping completed on Saturday.
- Fire Chief and Isabella cleaned flies out of light fixtures on Sunday.

- Need to pick up hose reels and electric reels this week and install while Berger and Kings lift is here.
- Still waiting to hear on feed America as I have volunteers to advise on times.
- On the 16th the Fire Chief spoke with Bryon Gunnerson from the company doing our county radio study. On the 26th the Fire Chief spoke with Andy Primeaux the 911 Director on our radio tower equipment. We've decided to move the Gourley tower equipment to the new cell tower being put up next to the Hannahville School. This will happen tentatively in April.
- Next meeting of the Gourley Township Volunteer Fire Department for training will be next Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at the fire house at 7:00 p.m. CST.

Supervisor's Report:

- Steven worked on the stairway to the mezzanine
- Three quotes for the township hall flooring
- New poverty exemption form to addend to the Poverty Tax Exemption Resolution 2019-3

Steve made a motion to adopt the new poverty exemption forms, Jesse supported the motion, and it carried.

New Business:

- Salary and wage increase resolution (attached). Resolution 2021-1 to increase officials (board members), fire chief, and custodian by 2% every year effective April 1st was adopted. 5 years and 0 days.
- Gourley Township Historical Society has offered to re-create the veteran's memorial for the township. It will consist of several "perpetual" plaques with each veteran's name (and any other information the township would like to have) engraved on the specific plaque for a specific war. The historical society would make sure that all township veterans are identified. The township would be responsible for purchasing the plaques, paying for the engraving and mounting the plaques in the township hall once they are finished.
- Bids for the new flooring for the Hall were as follows: Eric Gelbert Flooring \$2930; The Carpet and Drapery Shop \$2879.59; ISI \$2704.60 Scott Wienckowski.

Steve made a motion to accept the bid from ISI for \$2704.60. Dan supported the motion.

Roll Call:

Steve Wery	Yes
Stephanie Walechka	Yes
Ivy Netzel	Yes

Dan Cordy	Yes
Jesse Wery	Yes

The motion passed 5 yeas, 0 nays.

- General Appropriations Act and Budget for 2021-22. Steve made a motion to accept the General Appropriations Act and the Budget for 2021-22 as presented. Stephanie supported the motion.

Roll Call:

Steve Wery	Yes
Stephanie Walechka	Yes
Ivy Netzel	Yes
Dan Cordy	Yes
Jesse Wery	Yes

The motion passed 5 yeas, 0 nays. The General Appropriations Act and Budget for 2021-22 is adopted.

Old Business:

- Allowing alcohol at hall rentals.
Steve made a motion to open up the floor on a vote to allow or disallow alcohol for hall rental. Stephanie supported the motion. The motion carried.

Ivy made a motion for a roll call vote to allow alcohol at the township hall for hall rental. Steve supported the motion.

Roll Call:

Steve Wery	No
Stephanie Walechka	No
Ivy Netzel	Yes
Dan Cordy	Yes
Jesse Wery	No

The motion failed with 2 yeas, 3 nays.

- Public WiFi Update: The public WiFi equipment was installed by Michigan Broadband on Friday, March 5th at no cost to the township. If the township decides to increase the speed from the existing 4MB Bus DSL to 10/1, the cost per month would increase from \$59.95 to \$69.95. If the township decides to increase the speed to 25/3 (which is recommended), the cost would be \$89.95 per month. If we upgrade to 25/3, the Menominee County Library has agreed to supply \$30 per month toward

the cost of WiFi until their grant expires at the end of September 2022. After that, the Head Librarian has indicated that the library would continue to supply \$30 per month indefinitely.

Ivy made a motion to increase the township hall internet capability to 25/3 and bill the Menominee County Library \$30 per month (billed quarterly) to pay for the net increase. Dan supported the motion. The motion carried.

Public Comment

- None

Correspondence:

- None

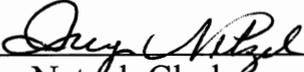
Pay the Bills:

- Steve made a motion to pay the bills. The motion was supported by Stephanie and the motion carried.

Adjourn:

- Jesse moved to adjourn. Steve supported the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm CST. The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on April 12, 2021 at 6:00 CST.

Respectfully submitted,


Ivy Netzel, Clerk


Date Approved

I voted NO to allowing alcohol on township premises because it is my duty as treasurer to look out for the taxpayers of this township. My decision was based on listening to our insurance company say they don't recommend allowing alcohol, it increases our risk of liability, and other townships are trying to get away from alcohol on their properties. If there is a higher chance for liability to go up, then there is a higher chance of taxpayers getting an imposed tax on their tax bill due to a large claim against the township. I felt that I shouldn't support that type of risk.

Stephen Wery Supervisor.

why I voted No on alcohol on Township Grounds. After The insurance provider was at our last meeting in February, I asked Him the question. if There was a major claim Do To alcohol on Township Grounds, and if The claim awarded was Greater Than were insured For, where would The Difference come From. He said The Township Tax Roll would Be Factored and Each parcel and Tax Payer would Have To make up The Difference. He also said our insurance was sure To go up Do to Taking on more liability. We Built This whole Facility with out going For any special milage From the Tax Payer, and Brought our Fund Balance Down To operational Expenses, so were watching Every Tax Dollar we Have To Better serve you the people.