

Cross Village Township Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 08-13-2024

Present: Supervisor Stephen Keller, Treasurer Marie Garrett, Trustee Howard Wood, Trustee Maria Affhalter, Clerk John Keller

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Cross Village Board was called to order by Steve Keller at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

Agenda: Steve Keller moved to accept the agenda. Howard Wood seconded it. All were in favor and the agenda was approved.

Minutes (July 2024): Trustee Maria Affhalter moved to approve the July 2024 minutes. Clerk John Keller seconded. All were in favor and the July 2024 minutes were approved.

Financial Report: The Clerk's and Treasurer's reports were presented.

Total Bills Paid (June 2024): \$10496.19

Payment of Bills: Steve Keller moved to pay bills totaling \$5131.34. Howard Wood seconded. All were in favor.

Correspondence/Announcements:

- **Road Work:** Supervisor Keller reported the Weikamp Creek bridge work is nearly completed, but he hasn't had an official update from the County on when it might be done. He expects a few more weeks. The plan is to begin roadwork in September, at which point the road will be open to 1-lane traffic until the project is completed.
- **Potluck:** Cross Village Community Services will be hosting a community corn roast/potluck at the Town Hall on August 14 at 5:30 pm.
- Supervisor Keller summed up a letter from Mackinaw Library thanking Cross Village for funding support.

Election Report: Clerk John Keller gave a report on the August 6 Primary election.

Cross Village has a total of 271 registered voters.

A total of 111 voters cast ballots.

Proposals both were approved by voters.

Full results can be found at www.michigan.gov/elections

Public Comments:

- Linda Rosalik mentioned that the garbage containers behind the Town Hall are being filled rapidly, sometimes overflowing. Supervisor Keller stated the Township may consider getting a dumpster to replace those cans, depending on the costs.
- Rose Silvey asked if another basketball hoop will be put up, and Supervisor said it would be repaired within the next week.
- Linda Rosalik noted she'd picked up literature on the Tunnel of Trees from the recent meeting of the Tunnel of Trees group, which was August 13, 2024.

- Rose Silvey noted there was a lot of dog feces on the beach, and that people aren't picking up after their animals. A discussion was held regarding the locked dispenser for the dog bags, and Howard Wood stated he'd get it open and put some bags in it. If it's impossible to do so, the lock will be replaced.

Committee Reports:

- Linda Rosalik reported that the Planning Commission ordinance was published online, and Supervisor Keller added it was also published in the Petoskey News Review on July 31, 2024. Rosalik commented that 63 days after this publication the first meeting of the Commission could be held.
- Debbie Hindle spoke regarding the possibility of having the Town Hall declared a Historic Building. She and Linda Rosalik had been working with someone from Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) to pursue funding for renovations to the Town Hall, but unfortunately that person left her position at the tribe. They spoke with Eric Hemenway of LTBB, and he suggested the Historic Marker as a possible means toward securing grant funding for the renovations. Supervisor Keller tabled the discussion until later in the meeting, when it could be further discussed under the Second Round ARPA projects topic.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Public Restroom Signs: A short discussion was held to decide on specifics of the signs: 2 signs pointing left, and 2 signs pointing right. Trustee Wood will contact the Road Commission to order the 4 signs.
- b. Replacement of damaged sign at port: It was decided that Trustee Wood will take the original sign and get a duplicate made. Supervisor moved to have the County make a replacement sign. Clerk seconded the motion. All were in favor.

New Business:

- Hemlock: Discussion was held regarding poison hemlock being present on the property adjacent to the parking lot/bathrooms across from the Town Hall, and how to deal with it properly. Supervisor Keller stated he'd left a message with the owner but hadn't heard back, and had contacted two landscaping companies without success. Debbie Hindle has sent information to Clerk Keller and Supervisor Keller regarding the plant, and contact she's had with a member of the Little Traverse Conservancy who stated the Conservancy could deal with the removal. Clerk Keller stated he will contact Amy at the Conservancy regarding the issue.
- Cesario/Wallace variance request: Howard Wood moved to send a letter of support for approval to the County. Steve Keller seconded the motion. All were in favor, with the exception of Treasurer Garrett, who voted not in favor. The motion carried 4 to 1.
- Second Round ARPA projects: County will match our spending up to \$50,000. Treasurer Garret stated the Township has sufficient money in our rainy day fund for any projects.
 - More discussion of the possibility of having the Town Hall declared Historic was held. It was decided that more information is needed on the subject, particularly how the status would affect any future renovation plans for the building. Further, Supervisor Keller expressed doubt whether such a project as the Historic Marker would meet the County criteria for using ARPA funding.

- It was suggested a good project would be public bathrooms. Discussion was held regarding putting the bathrooms on the Community Center property, and using the existing well and septic. Possible site location was the southwest corner (just south of the basketball courts). Supervisor said he'd contacted a local builder, DWS Construction, for a quote on the bathroom. DWS told him they'd have a quote within the week.
- Marie Garret suggested updating the bathrooms in the Community Center. One idea was to remove the existing 2 bathrooms and build a single ADA-Compliant bathroom in the space. Supervisor stated he will contact DWS for a quote on that project.
- A suggestion of 2 AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) was made: one for the Community Center and one for the Town Hall. Clerk Keller will get costs for 2 AEDs as well as training in their use for any community members interested.
- The proposals to the County must be submitted online by September 1, 2024 to be considered. Therefore, a special meeting will be held Tuesday, August 27th, to present costs on the possible projects, and make decisions on what to submit. Notice of the special meeting will be posted as required by law, and it will be open to the public.
- Trustee Wood presented costs for renting a boom truck that could be used to clear growth from over the bluff in front of the cross lot: A 40' truck is \$800/day, while a 60' truck is \$900/day. This includes delivery and return of the truck. A cutting time in October was suggested, so Supervisor Keller will add the item to the September agenda.

Second Public Comment:

- Rose Silvey asked who was the insurer for the township buildings, and was told it is Municipal Underwriters of Michigan.
- Rose Silvey asked if there were plans to replace the totem pole that used to be outside the Town Hall.
- Debbie Hindle said she'd held 4 events on her property, with probably 200 people between all the events. She stated the property is only open during events.
- Rose Silvey said the lilac bushes at the corner of Wadsworth and Stone Church are hanging out too far, and Supervisor Keller said he'd contact the county regarding the issue.
- Debbie Hindle noted it is very busy at the dock, and she wonders if a sign to caution boaters regarding children being present should be erected. The Supervisor stated the dock is not in a good spot, and suggested it might be located farther west in future.

Adjourn Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

John F. Keller, Cross Village Township Clerk

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