

## **Hanover Township Advisory Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 6, 2023**

Meeting of the Hanover Township Advisory Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance recited by all in attendance and a prayer from Charlie Kortokrax.

Roll call as follows: Board members present were Richard Niemeyer, President; Charlie Kortokrax, Vice President; and, Marilyn Kaper, Secretary. A quorum was established.

Also in attendance were Kevin Toth, Trustee; Terri, office staff as well as Deputy Fire Chief, Nick Mager.

It was moved by Charlie and seconded by Marilyn that the minutes of the August 9, 2023 meeting be approved with the correction of striking the sentence on the second page relating to the opportunity to ask for additional tax levy funds next year, but no guarantee it would be granted. Charlie thought it was purely speculation. The vote in favor was unanimous with the correction as stated.

Old Business was next of the agenda: Kevin updated the Board on the Fire Contract, saying that there are no changes yet, discussions are still taking place with the contract regarding Emerald Crossing. Deputy Mager noted that whatever is in the best interest for the citizens is important. Ultimately, the decision is up to St. John as well. Charlie would like to sit down with the Town to discuss the possibility of a satellite on the other side of the tracks in an effort to do something for the response time in the Township area.

Cedar Lake Fire Department request for the portable radios was next item on the agenda. Marilyn questioned Deputy Chief Mager who will receive the 10 radios? Deputy Mager received a fire page and needed to respond therefore leaving the meeting. Terri mentioned that she would need to withdraw \$6,366.00 from the Cumulative Fire Fund to pay the remaining balance due for the Fire Contract. Leaving an approximate balance in that account of \$40,879.00 to spend for 2023 for any necessary maintenance needed on the fire trucks. Rich asked if this was the only fund money could be withdrawn from. Terri said that we could use the Rainy Day fund. Marilyn asked if it is appropriate to withdraw money from the Rainy Day fund for this type of spend. Terri said that that was a Board decision.

Discussion followed regarding the request for the 10 radios. Marilyn said that at this time she felt she did not have enough information to make a decision. Charlie made a motion to table the purchase of the radios at this time for further discussion and information. Seconded by Marilyn. Rich said that perhaps someone could attend our next meeting to discuss the radios. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Next item of the agenda is the Resolution for the Rainy Day Fund. The Resolution was read by Rich. Marilyn made a motion to approve Resolution 9-6-23. Seconded by Charlie. The vote in favor was unanimous.

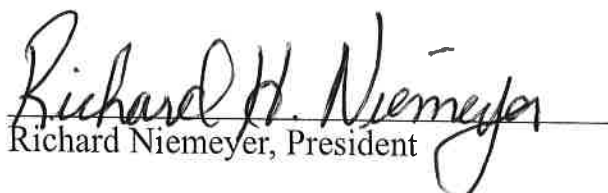
2024 budget public hearing is next item of the agenda. Rich asked Terri to highlight any significant changes to the budget. The first increase was for the Trustee, then Health Insurance, PERF, Social Security, Printing, Stationery and Office Supplies, Telephone, Community Services, Dues and Subscriptions. Additional increases were made respectively. The budget is available for review by public request. The budget will be published as required. Final budget approval will be October 4, 2023 for the 2024 budget year.

It was moved by Marilyn and seconded by Charlie that a 5% increase be approved for the staff. The elected officials chose not to receive an increase. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Under Any and All – Marilyn said that the CL/HT Republican organization will be hosting a Meet & Greet, Thursday, October 5, 2023 at Harry O's from 6p.m. to 9p.m. There will be appetizers as well as raffle baskets and 50/50. \$40.00 per person and ALL proceeds will be donated to the 3 food pantries in Cedar Lake. Rich mentioned that Zion will be hosting a fish fry at the church on Friday, October 6, 2023. The need is for air conditioning in the church. Rich also mentioned that there are political fundraisers around the area at the same time.

Charlie motioned to adjourn, seconded by Marilyn, the vote in favor was unanimous.

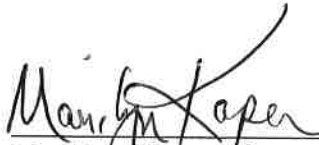
Respectfully submitted,

  
Richard Niemeyer, President



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Charlie Kortokrax, Vice President



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Marilyn Kaper, Secretary