AMBER TOWNSHIP BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Amber Township Hall, Regular Session

February 24, 2025 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE RECITED

ROLL CALL- Present: T. Alway, N. Van Dusen, J. Miller, T. Rohde, R. Copenhaver. Absent: None.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA-None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA- Motion to approve with right of chair to alter as necessary. Move: R. Copenhaver/Support: J. Miller. Ayes-5 /Nays-0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the January 27, 2025 meeting. Move: R. Copenhaver /Support: N. VanDusen. Ayes-5 /Nays-0.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY EXPENDITURES for $11,572.33.

Move: R. Copenhaver /Support: J. Miller. Ayes-5 /Nays-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT-Dan Quinn asked about Amber Township zoning status and electric signs. Deb DelZoppo representing WSCC Friends of the pool commented that the pool is not “saved”. It is estimated to cost $3.4 million for a new pool. An estimate just to fix the plumbing and filtration system was $700,000.

CORRESPONDENCE-CHILL fund information from the County, filed.

REPORTS

ASSESSOR- Completed standard paperwork processing. Personal Property Statements were due by 2/20/2025. Processed and started audit to determine if any statements are still pending. Second notices will be mailed out if necessary. Change notices were printed and mailed out by Mason County on 2/21/2025. March Board of review dates and times have been scheduled. Tuesday, March 4th organizational meeting at 12:30 p.m. (NO appeals heard), Monday, March 10th Appeal Meeting is 1-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m., Wednesday, March 12th Appeal Meeting is 9 a.m. until noon and 1-4 p.m. Friday, March 14th at 1 p.m. is a closed meeting (no appeals and will cancel if no business). Assessor received and approved a land division application for 786 N.Meyers Rd.

MASON COUNTY SHERIFF-None.

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONER- Next meeting is March 11th at 9 am. County approved forty-three resolutions and are still working on solar issues. More Townships are opting out of the County’s Zoning. A feasibility study is being done for the 40-acre parcel by the airport to provide affordable housing: a $5 million dollar project.The new County Administrator is moving back to the Courthouse. A large increase in Veteran’s needing assistance: from $13 million to $24 million. The Planning Commission has no business members on the board and Amber Township’s biggest issues are on the US-10 business corridor, mainly not allowing electronic signage. Solar planning was turned down 4 to 3 by the County, so now it gets turned over to the state. Mason County Sheriff Department is working the City of Scottville for law enforcement.

OTHER LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL OFFICIAL- None.

DPW- Meeting was on February 19th, lift station three needs to have larger pumps to increase capacity, getting an estimate for this. On call service will now get $25 per day per Diem. Approved purchase of new vehicles.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY- Received an 10-day extension from the AG office for the submitted FOIA request for full details of the investigation. Ten days is this Wednesday, February 26th.

PLANNING COMMISSION/ZBA- No Planning meetings in February.

RFA-Meet this Thursday, February 27th.

ROADS-Seven road agreements were handed out to review and will discuss at the budget workshop.

STREET LIGHTS- All good, no reports.

ELECTIONS- No May Election. Possibility of an August election for ESD school board and WSCC Millage.

HALL/GROUNDS- Discussion on adding a clause to the rental agreement to have a cancellation policy due to icy or blizzard conditions for winter rentals and that salting the parking lot is not included. The current cost is $105 to salt the parking lot. Discussed the Turf care-lawn service agreement. Trustee Copenhaver had someone contact her about cutting and removing the dead trees on the hall property. The Board agreed that it was best not to allow that and we will get some quotes in the spring to have it professionally done. Hall Rental Agent-Effective March 31, 2025 Clerk Rohde is stepping down as hall rental agent. Treasurer Miller is willing to be appointed as the hall rental agent effective April 1, 2025. Clerk Rohde has discusssed the job position with her. The rental agent gets paid $225 per month. Motion to appoint Treasurer Jeanne Miller as Hall rental agent, effective April 1, 2025. Move: Theresa Rohde/Support: T. Alway. Ayes:5/Nays-0..

CEMETERIES-Discussed the two 2025 quotes from Turf care.

TREASURER’S REPORT-Motion to accept as presented: Move: N. VanDusen/T. Rohde. Ayes-5/Nays-0.

SUPERVISOR REPORT-Attached. Discussed written reports and the property by the airport.

OLD BUSINESS-

1. Attorney General Investigation-Discussed under Attorney.

NEW BUSINESS-

* + - 1. Clarence Goodlein, Scottville City Manager-Discussed about sharing costs, such as: zoning, building code enforcement officer, building official and junk enforcement. Amber Township would need to create their own zoning ordinance first before creating our own zoning. Shared fire departments and locations were also discussed.
      2. Paul Kesson, LMTA-Presented the LMTA 2025 budget, bus runs and costs. Included in his packet was a cost breakdown for Amber Township to provide LMTA transporation on the US-10 corridor and three cost options.
      3. Review of the budget process-Having a budget worshop on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 6:00 PM.
      4. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program-Motion to pay $1200 for the cost of the 2025 HHW collection. Move: T. Alway /Support: R. Copenhaver. Ayes-5 /Nays-0.
      5. LASD $4 per parcel Summer Tax Collection- Motion to adopt the agreement with the Ludington Area School District to collect summer 2025 taxes with the included $4 per parcel cost. Move: R. Copenhaver/Support: J. Miller. Ayes-5/Nays-0.
      6. Amend the Treasurer budget line. Motion to amend the Treasurer 2024-2025 FY budget line, #253 from $29,550 to $ 38,500 and to amend the contingency fund, line #890 from $30,000 to $27,700. Move: T. Rohde/Support: J. Miller. Ayes-5/Nays-0.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT-Rural fire is working on 10-to-15-year plan to serve the area better. Have Attorney prepare a resolution to present to Mason County Zoning on the US-10 corridor signage issues.

FINAL BOARD COMMENTS: Trustee Copenhaver received two phishing e-mails from two board members.

ADJOURN: 7:49 p.m.

Submitted by,

Theresa Rohde

Theresa Rohde, Amber Township Clerk (Drafted 2/24/2025, Approved 3/24/2025)