

**CROCKERY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
HELD ON APRIL 11, 2023**

1. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Erhorn at 7:02 p.m.
2. Roll call: Present: Erik Erhorn, Kathy Buchanan, Judy VanBemmelen, Rich Suchecki.  
Absent: Ryan Kelly  
Others present: Fire Chief John Kriger.
3. Motion by Buchanan seconded by Suchecki to approve the agenda with addition of item D, water system update. All in favor. Motion carried
4. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Suchecki, seconded by VanBemmelen to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023 Special Meeting (joint meeting with the Planning Commission) as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. Motion by Suchecki, seconded by Buchanan to approve the disbursements as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. Public comment was opened at 7:14 and closed at 7:17. One comment was offered.
8. Supervisor's comments/correspondence was offered. See attached list.
9. Clerk's report was offered. Clerk Buchanan reported that Ottawa County is working on a proposal for the County to run the nine days of early voting that is now required due to the passage of Proposal 2. The County would essentially contract with each municipality interested in taking advantage of this partnership. Clerk Buchanan discussed the proposed options involved in Crockery doing the 9 days independently, partnering with nearby municipalities, or contracting with Ottawa County for them to host. The Clerk also went over the projected costs involved for each of the three options. Clerk Buchanan also expressed concern about being able to find enough election workers for the nine early voting days and then the regular election day. The Clerk asked for approval to proceed with the option of contracting with the County. The consensus of the Board was to proceed with the County option. The costs for the three options vary from a possible \$92,000 to \$8,500. The County option will cost the township less.
10. Treasurer's report was offered. Treasurer VanBemmelen reported that she would like approval to pay off a water debt to Spring Lake Township.
11. Fire Chief's report was offered. Chief Kriger stated that the department responded to 28 calls last month and that they are working on getting the new brush truck in service. The department has received an application from a resident who is an EMS. Chief Kriger is asking the board to consider the hire.
12. Attorney's report was not heard due to the absence of Attorney Redick.
13. Board member report was not heard due to the absence of Trustee Kelly who serves on the Planning Commission.

14. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Erhorn to close the town hall on Fridays beginning the week of May 22, 2023, and to be re-evaluated in October. All in favor. Motion carried.
15. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Suchecki to approve the Treasurer to pay off the water debt to Spring Lake Township. The amount is \$172,618.05. All in favor. Motion carried.
16. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Buchanan to approve the hire of Jenna Boerman as an EMS for the Crockery Township Fire Department pending a medical physical. All in favor. Motion carried.
17. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Buchanan to set the pay rate for the position of Crockery Fire Department EMS at \$18.00 an hour. All in favor. Motion carried.
18. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Suchecki to accept the quote from Precision Edge Lawn Care LLC for the 2023 mowing for the township. All in favor. Motion carried.
19. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by VanBemmelen to hire Bill Mastenbrook as the Zoning Enforcement Officer beginning May1, 2023. He will be replacing Ed Rusticus who is retiring on April 30,2023. All in favor. Motion carried.
20. Motion by Suchecki, seconded by Erhorn to adopt Ordinance 2023-04, An Ordinance To Amend The Zoning Ordinance Of The Township Of Crockery [Shipping Containers]. All in favor. Motion carried.
21. Supervisor Erhorn updated the board on the latest update concerning the proposed water project. We will have to build a building for an altitude valve and metering pit. We will need to purchase about a quarter acre, but we could also seek an easement. Consensus of the board was for Supervisor Erhorn to try to locate the property needed and bring information back to the board.
22. Public comment was offered and 2 comments from the public were heard.
23. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Buchanan to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Submitted by

Kathy Buchanan  
Crockery Township Clerk