

**CROCKERY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES
HELD ON FEBRUARY 11, 2025**

1. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Erhorn at 6:32 p.m.
Roll call: Present: Erik Erhorn, Kathy Buchanan, Judy VanBemmelen, Ryan Kelly, Kathy Buchanan.
Others present: Attorney Ron Redick and Fire Chief Bill Mastenbrook.
2. Motion by Buchanan seconded by VanBemmelen to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Suchecki, seconded by Kelly to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
4. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Kelly to approve disbursements as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. Public comments were offered. No comments were heard.
6. Supervisor's comments/correspondence was offered. See attached Supervisor Meeting Notes. Supervisor Erhorn also reported on two additional items. The water department can continue to estimate water billings when necessary. Supervisor Erhorn would like the Board to implement the use of the podium for public comments.
7. Clerk's report was offered. Clerk Buchanan is still working on the cost involved with implementing early voting as a single municipality.
8. Treasurer's report was offered. Treasurer VanBemmelen requested approval to sign an agreement for a light pole at 112th and Leonard Road. The Treasurer will be in the office Friday from 10-2 for tax payments.
9. Fire Chief's report was offered. Chief Mastenbrook reported that the department responded to 43 calls in January. Chief Mastenbrook is proposing a payroll change for the paid-on call firefighters. This is due to the increase in minimum wage and the existing bonus paid to new recruits during training being greater than additional training paid to trained firefighters.
Chief Mastenbrook is asking the Board to consider a future plan for the installation of 4 reverse gables over each of the service doors at the fire station. There is some water damage visible to the doors and frame at this time. The Chief also spoke about enhancing the exterior look of the station sometime in the future. Chief presented some ideas and cost estimates for both projects.
The fire department is looking to move forward on creating a training facility in the former sewer plant building. This use was previously approved by the Board and they are requesting funds for the build out. Estimates for the lumber for this project came in at \$3,315.49.
10. Attorney's report was offered. Attorney Redick reported that the reimbursement for the demolition and cleanup of the Taft Street house has moved forward with the sale of the property. Treasurer VanBemmelen reported that the township has received full payment.
11. Board Member report was offered. No report was heard.

12. Motion by Kelly, seconded Suchecki to authorize the treasurer to sign a lighting agreement with Consumers Energy for a light pole at 112th and Leonard Rd. at a cost of \$100.00. All in favor. Motion carried.
13. Motion by Kelly, seconded by Buchanan to accept the proposed wage sheet as presented by Fire Chief Mastenbrook. All in favor. Motion carried.
14. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Kelly to approve up to \$4,500 for materials to build a firefighter training facility in the former sewer plant. All in favor. Motion carried.
15. Discussion was held regarding the full-time firefighter retirement plan. Information was received from four financial companies and the recommendation is to place retirement funds into MERS (Municipal Employees Retirement System).
16. Motion by Kelly, seconded by Suchecki to adopt Resolution 2025-02, Resolution Adopting the MERS Defined Contribution Plan. Yes-4, Supervisor Erhorn abstained. Motion carried.
17. Motion by Kelly seconded by Suchecki to adopt Resolution 2025-03, Resolution Establishing Authorized Signatories for MERS Contracts and Service Credit Purchasing Approvals. Yes -4, Supervisor Erhorn abstained. Motion carried.
18. Motion by Kelly, seconded by Suchecki to adopt Resolution 2025-04, MERS Uniform 457 Supplemental Retirement Program Resolution. Yes – 4, Supervisor abstained. Motion carried.
19. Discussion was held on the easement needed for the new lift station that will be built on Leonard as part of the water expansion project.
20. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Kelly to adopt Resolution 2025-05, Resolution To Approve Easement Agreement. All in favor. Motion carried.
21. Motion by Suchecki, seconded by VanBemmelen to approve the Agreement For Property Assessment Administrative Services and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign. (This is a renewal of an existing agreement). All in favor. Motion carried.
22. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Kelly to enter closed session pursuant to Sections 8(1) and 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consult with the Township attorney concerning the Mink junkyard litigation and to consider a privileged communication from the Township attorney concerning the Mink junkyard litigation. Roll call: Yes- Suchecki, Buchanan, Erhorn, Kelly, VanBemmelen. Motion carried. Entered into closed session at 8:37 p.m.
23. Motion by Kelly, seconded by Erhorn to come out of closed session. All in favor. Motion carried. The Board came out of closed session at 9:02 p.m.
24. Public comments were offered. A resident asked for information on the Hathaway Lakes expansion.
25. Supervisor Erhorn reported there was a water service break at Cleveland and 130th, south of the intersection. Spring clean- up will be May 3, 2025.
26. Motion by Kelly, seconded by VanBemmelen to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Submitted by

Kathy Buchanan
Crockery Township Clerk