

**DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**THE TOWNSHIP HALL**  
**DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 AT 7:00 PM**

Call to order- 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call- Tester, Bunting, Shick, Huff, Laper

Approval of Minutes- Novembers, 2023 - Motion Bunting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tester. Approved 5-0

Approval of Agenda- Motion Laper, 2<sup>nd</sup> Huff. Approved 5-0

Public Comments- No comments

Reports- Treasure- income \$11,546.69 expenses \$35,609.00. Motion Tester, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bunting.

Approved 5-0

Clerk- expenses- \$24,901.99. adjustments to be made, + \$200 for hall deposit returns for October. Cancel Copy machine contract for -\$501.19 adjusted total =\$24600.80

All pay bills with changes- Motion Laper, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tester. Approved 5-0

Tester- PC report- Changes in ordinances when you open public meeting, wondering if grouping the changes would be better. Possible Attorney to attend some meeting so it doesn't have to go to attorney and wait for it to return. Set guidelines for Dave Kelsey on how process is going, interested in going with 6 meeting a year instead of 4 so they could get caught up on ordinances. Will wait till April to see where budget is then.

Bunting- No fire meeting. ZBA meeting- raising pole barn roof, approved. ZBA meeting January 3, 2024 before board meeting- Judi Surba- rebuild shed

Kelsey- Zoning- 2 permits, 4 violations.

Supervisor Shick, Newsletter- Mistake on the clean up date. Clean up day is Saturday APRIL 27, 2024 from 9am-1pm. Office hours- Treasure goes to morning hours in November. Shick will meet with Drain Commission and someone from Stanton and Sydney Township on Weds AM. Road Commission meeting and meeting regarding township parking lot repairs. New furnace in hall.

Old business- Need new battery backup for computers-up to \$100. Motion Shick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Huff. Roll call- Yes- Laper, Bunting, Eric. Motion Passes. Need new vacuum for hall-under \$500. Motion Laper, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bunting- Roll call-Yes- Laper, Bunting, Huff, Tester, Shick Motion passed Huff mentioned for battery back-up motion we did not complete vote, Shick and Huff then voted yes so motion passed. Furnace duct cleaning, 3 bids- Brads Cleaners bid excepted- Motion Tester, 2<sup>nd</sup> Huff. Roll call-Yes- Tester, Huff, Laper, Shick, Bunting. Motion Passed. Budget- Laper and Shick looking at budget year to date, looking good for year. Looking at line items names per the Auditor recommendation. Minimum wage going up- need to update FOIA charges updated due to base on Minimum wage- Motion Bunting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Huff. Roll call-Yes- Bunting, Huff, Tester, Shick, Laper. Passed. Conferences coming up- Capital in January- Shick and Huff to attend- Cost \$85. Per person. Motion-Shick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tester. Roll call-Yes- Shick, Bunting, Tester, Laper, Huff- passed. 2024 Conference April 22-25, 2024. Shick is interested in going. Eric talks about State vs. Local control. Are we responsible to let people know that the area could end up being a utility production area. Worried about the bird and protected species against wind. Who will be watching what is living here. Laper suggested calling fish and wildlife. Need to track wildlife. Crop dusting concerns.

Meeting dates for 2024. Motion Tester, 2<sup>nd</sup> Shick, Bunting question if July 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting could be moved to July 10, 2024 due to July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday week. Yes -Tester, Shick, Bunting. Huff Laper. Passed.

Next meeting January 2, 2024

Clean up day April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Will be posted on sign and email info out.

Community Christmas gathering- December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Laper spoke on new upgrade for the Tax program cost is \$9395, ARPA money used. Cost of annual service fee is \$2525 for assessor and \$2120 tax, hosting fee \$500 each system \$4645 total. \$1750 once agreement signed. \$5145 due when activated and remained due once training is completed. Motion Laper, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bunting. Roll call Y- Tester, Huff, Shick, Laper, Bunting. Passed. Lakeview requested Treasure collected School summer taxed. They pay \$2.50 for Laper get extra ice guards on roof near furnace due to damage from falling ice.

Public comments:

revenue from wind turbines in Isabella County, Audit from Election in May. Cow and Pig farms allowed, communication towers flashing light. Shick requested Tester to talk to PC about changing lights on communication towers. Buoys for Clifford Lake for Airplane runway.

PC Tester commented he was never on board with Jeppesen. Public comment was made but never brought to the board.

Thanking board about going to conferences. Newsletter well received, drawing attention to state level rulings, resolution for walkway issue, AED with ARPA money. State timing on new legislation. Magistrate meeting in Feb for Citation from Kelsey.

Tax claw back from state for Wind Turbine depreciation.

Pole barn being built on property has question about property lines. Request to have Kelsey investigate.

Adjourn – Motion Tester, 2<sup>nd</sup> Huff- Approved 5-0 8:03PM