

OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD
AUGUST 8, 2024

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on August 8, 2024 at the Township Hall. All board members were present - Jerry Counterman, Jerome Isaacs, Shari Pomranke, Susan Radka, and Pam Schaedig.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Counterman at 7:00 p.m. and began with the pledge to the flag. The agenda was distributed and approved with several additions. The minutes of the July meeting were read and accepted as presented.

Radka reported that the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center project for a floating dock and handicap accessible canoe/kayak launch, pathway and picnic pods, has made it to the final round. She will give a presentation with Mary Ann Heidemann before the DNR Grant Board on August 14 in East Bay Township. The grant would be for \$144,300, with 30% matching grants needed. Ocqueoc Township and Presque Isle County have pledged part of the matching grant funds, and volunteer hours can be used. Chairman of the Friends of the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center Pat Chappa has resigned and vice-chairman Kris Sorgenfrei will be acting president.

Schaedig gave a report on the July 31 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. Cheboygan County has approved wording for increasing the ambulance millage for Forest and Waverly Townships, to be put on the ballot. One truck needed an injector, and now needs a transmission. That is to be expected with the fleet of older vehicles, since we are still on a waiting list for a new ambulance. Currently the newest truck has the most mileage. There were 25 Advanced runs, 12 Basic, 28 No-Transports and 6 Other. 1,599.1 miles were logged, with 4 runs to Ocqueoc and 1 to Bearinger.

Radka will attend an upcoming Road Commission meeting regarding a sign on U.S. 23 near the intersection of Ocqueoc Road, and perhaps signs to warn motorists of Amish buggies in the area.

Discussion followed on moving the transfer site from the current location, which is leased from Todd Curtis, to M-68, on property the township owns. Radka suggested getting an opinion from our insurance company. Discussion will continue at the September meeting.

The township American Rescue Plan Act fund was discussed. Picnic tables and new tables for the township hall have been received. Mark and Jacob Pomranke were thanked for putting the picnic tables together. New chairs will be ordered, some with arms to make it easier to get in and out of. The new furnace has been installed. Discussion followed about finishing the air conditioning unit. Clerk Schaedig was concerned about the heat and humidity during the election period – 9 days of early voting and election day, both for the workers and machines. Treasurer Pomranke borrowed 2 air conditioning units for the hall for the time period this year, which helped immensely. Summers are getting warmer, and the cost wouldn't be any cheaper by waiting. In the event of more hot, humid stretches, the hall could also be used as a "cooling station" for residents not having air conditioning. A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Radka, to finish the air conditioning for the township hall. M.C. The suggestion was made to have the thermostat not available to the public, and Schaedig will check with John's Plumbing & Heating about doing that.

Large Item Day has been set for July 12, 2025, with P.A.C. taking care of the metal also.

Kari and Evan Burger sent paperwork to the clerk, asking for board approval to sell 30 feet of their lot to their neighbor. The assessor told them that their office does not have the

authority to approve divisions of platted lots. After reviewing the paperwork, a motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to approve the division and sale of the 30 feet of property to their adjoining neighbor, Tracie Golden. Motion Carried. A copy of these minutes will be sent to the assessor.

Jerry Counterman submitted a proposal to remodel the township hall kitchen. After board members looked at the proposal, a motion was made by Radka, supported by Pomranke, to accept the proposal from Counterman for the kitchen remodel, at a cost of \$5,800. Motion carried, with Counterman abstaining.

Clerk Schaedig gave a report on the August 6 Primary election. During the 9 days of early voting, the four townships participating (Bearinger, Moltke, North Allis, and Ocqueoc) had a total of 46 voters. On election day, Ocqueoc had 218 voters – 120 Absentees and 98 in-person, for 37%.

Clerk Schaedig distributed the expense report, and Treasurer Pomranke reported that taxes are coming in steadily.

Counterman is interested in attending an Emergency Services Seminar through MTA in Frankenmuth. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Radka, to pay the cost of Counterman to attend the seminar, as well as per diem and mileage. M.C.

Radka shared an article in the MTA magazine, that it is legal for the township board to hear from political candidates, but that they are not allowed to leave campaign materials on township property.

A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Radka, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk