

**Burr Oak Township Board Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Gould, G. Letts, T. Cronkhite, R. Baker ABSENT: M. Perry
VISITORS PRESENT: J. Lewton, D. Hutson, N. Barnes, K. Kane, M. Besser, D. Besser, R. Idriss,
S. Falkenstein, G. Persing, M. Craven, J. Geibe, K. Geibe

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Gould and supported by Baker to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Baker and supported by Gould to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Motion passed.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

- Kevin Kane introduced himself as a candidate for probate judge.
- Greg Persing spoke on behalf of several in attendance regarding Jonathan Yoder, who is putting up a commercial chicken barn for 50,000 chickens in their neighborhood. They are concerned with the potential smell and noise coming from a generator running 24 hrs. The Supervisor thanked them for their attendance but referenced the Right to Farm Act stating the Township can't stop his request as it goes directly to the State. The State has the authority to regulate his operation. Persing noted other issues the Township should consider like road restrictions and wear/tear and noise created by the generator which would be left to the Township's jurisdiction. The Assessor was present and addressed concerns regarding reduced property values.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A quarterly report was received. The following account balances were reported: Checking \$4,949.65, MM \$66,002.64, MM \$9,636.03. A motion was made by Cronkhite and supported by Letts to accept the report and place it on file. Motion passed.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Board of Review is scheduled for December.

LEAF PICK-UP: The Village will take care of leaf pick up at the cemetery for us.

SNOW PLOWING: A motion was made by Baker and supported by Gould to hire Matt Craven to take care of snow plowing at the cemetery at the same cost as last year. A role call vote was taken; all voted to approve. Motion passed.

AUDIT: The audit is complete and filed.

ROAD COMMISSION MEETING: The Road Commission asked the Township to respond with a meeting date for our annual meeting to review roads in the Township. The Board agreed November 1 at 8:30 am would be a good date/time.

EARLY VOTING CONTRACT: A motion was made by Baker and supported by Gould to approve the contract with the County for early voting for the 2024 election cycle. A role call vote was taken; all voted to approve. Motion passed.

FINDLEY ROAD SPEED LIMIT: The Road Commission may put the yellow speed sign from both ways to see if that helps control the speeding issue. Traffic counts will determine if changes made using the white signs.

CEMETERY: The fence at Tobey Cemetery has been repaired. Security cameras have been installed at the main cemetery.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The next meeting is October 16th. A new member or two may be needed in the near future.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Mike Perry declined the role of Fire Chief. No other replacement for Rich Ultz has been named. We are still waiting on bids for the new hydrant. A grant for \$10,000 was received for gear that needs submitted by the end of December.

AMBULANCE COMMITTEE: The next meeting is October 27th.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: A motion was made by Baker and supported by Cronkhite to pay bills amounting to \$31,501.65. A roll call vote was taken; all voted to approve. Motion passed.

CONSUMERS ENERGY UPGRADES: A representative from Consumers was present and shared upgrades that have been done in the Township and County. This was done due to the number of storms and outages recently in our area. Consumers is committed to fewer than 100,000 outages for fewer than 24 hours.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Tina Cronkhite, Clerk