

Columbia Township Meeting Minutes
Columbia Township Library
Community Meeting Room
March 19, 2024

Supervisor called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Board Members Present: Kathy Trischler, Christina Parmenter, Dara Hood, Chris Creguer, Christine Kolar

Absent:

Others Present: John Katnick, (Village President), Nick Sakon (ACW Fire Chief)

Motion by Trischler, 2nd by Hood to approve the Minutes of February 20, 2024, as presented.

Ayes: 5 Nays: None, Motion carried

BUDGET HEARING

Motion by Kolar, 2nd by Creguer to suspend the regular meeting in order to conduct the Budget Hearing for the 2024-25 budget. Ayes: 5 Nays: None, Motion carried.

The Budget Hearing commenced at 8:45 am.

Board members present: Trischler, Hood, Parmenter, Kolar, Creguer

No public comment

After finalization of the budget, Motion by Creguer, 2nd by Hood to close the budget hearing and resume the regular session. Ayes: 5 Nays: None Motion carried

2024/25 BUDGET APPROVAL

Motion by Creguer 2nd by Parmenter to accept the budget as determined for the 2024-2025 budget year as presented.

Roll Call Ayes: Trischler, Parmenter, Hood, Kolar, Creguer Nays: None. Motion carried.

2023/24 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Motion by Kolar, 2nd by Parmenter to approve the following amendments to be made to the 2023-24 budget:

ACCOUNT	AMT	TOTAL BUDGET	EXPLANATION
271-738-700	\$10,000	\$170,000	adj line item within budget – library
206-336-700	\$1,000	\$131,000	adj line item within budget – fire & ambulance

Ayes: 5 Nays: None, Motion carried

LIBRARY

- The Village of Unionville has approved the proposed Story Walk project on the walking trail in the park and grants have been submitted for funds to support the project.
- Parent Reader Workshop scheduled from March 19th at 5:30 pm
- Estate Planning Essentials: Wills, Trust, and More April 9th
- Chucky Blanket class April 20th

ROADS

A Resolution of Support was offered by Creguer, 2nd by Hood to support the Tuscola County Road Commission for the replacement of Structure #10524, Loomis Rd over the Wiscoggin Drain between Sheridan & M-25.

Roll Call Vote: Trischler, Parmenter, Kolar, Hood, Creguer Nays: None Motion Carried.

DRAIN MAINTENANCE – GRAF DRAIN

WHEREAS, the Tuscola County Drain Commissioner has advised the Columbia Township Board that certain maintenance and repair is necessary to be performed on the Graf Drain; and

WHEREAS, the Tuscola County Drain Commissioner has authority to expend up to Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars per mile of fraction thereof of drain in any one year of \$5,000 per mile or fraction thereof of drain are necessary, those amounts may not be expended until approved by Resolution of the governing body of each

township city and village affected by more than 20% of the cost when combining the at-large apportionment and the total apportionment for private lands within Columbia Township pursuant to MCL 280.296(5); and

WHEREAS, the Tuscola County Drain Commissioner has advised the Columbia Township Board that it will be necessary to expend funds in excess of \$5,000 per mile of fraction thereof of drain for the maintenance of the Graf

Drain during 2024 and 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Columbia Township Board, that pursuant to Section 196 of the Drain Code, the Tuscola County Drain Commissioner is authorized to expend money for the maintenance and repair of the Graf Drain Code, the Tuscola County Drain Commissioner is authorized to expend money for the maintenance and repair of the Graf Drain in excess of \$5,000 per mile or fraction thereof and, to the extent that the drain fund for the Drain contains insufficient funds for the payment of costs incurred for the maintenance and repair of the Graf Drain, then the Tuscola County Drain Commissioner is authorized to levy a special assessment, as allowed by law.

Motion by Creuer, 2nd by Kolar to approve the Graf Drain resolution as stated.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Trischler, Parmenter, Kolar, Creguer Nays: None Abstained: Hood Motion Carried.

BLIGHT, NOXIOUS WEED AND LITTER PREVENTION ORDINANCE

Due to delay in the township lawyer providing the synopsis for publication, the following ordinance needs to be adopted again.

Motion by Creguer, 2nd by Hood to approve the Blight, Noxious Weed and Litter Prevention Ordinance as presented, an ordinance to protect the public health, safety and general welfare by preventing, reducing, or eliminating blight within the Township of Columbia; to define and prohibit blight; to define and prohibit tall grass and noxious weeds; to define and prohibit littering; to assess costs for blight removal; and to provide penalties for violations.

Roll Call Vote: Trischler, Parmenter, Hood, Kolar, Creguer Nays: None Motion Carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire department bills were presented for approval. Motion by Kolar, 2nd by Hood to approve the bills presented in the amount of \$1,759.03 Ayes: 5 Nays: None, Motion carried.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Monthly bills

Motion by Creguer, 2nd by Hood to pay the following bills as presented:

Payroll \$14,203.62 and Accounts Payable \$51,121.59. Ayes: 5 Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Hood, 2nd by Kolar to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 pm. Ayes :4 Nays: None Motion carried.

Christine Kolar, Columbia Township Clerk

Next regularly scheduled meeting and budget hearing is Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 8:30 AM.