

**APPROVED MINUTES
COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024 5:00 P.M.**

Trustee Delaney called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board members present at roll call were, Clerk Gentelia, Trustee Phillips, Trustee Delaney, Trustee Moses, Supervisor Hoffman joined remotely due to health reasons. Five (5) members of the public were present, including Deputy Farrier from the Kalkaska County Sheriff's Office.

Adoption of the Agenda: Motion by Delaney, **second** by Gentelia, to adopt the agenda as presented. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Establish any conflict of interest of items that are on the agenda: None

Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2024 Budget Hearing and the March 18, 2024 Special Board Meeting: **Motion** by Hoffman, **second** by Delaney, to approve the minutes from March 12, 2024 Budget Hearing and the March 18, 2024 Special Board Meeting as presented. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Presentation: None

Correspondence:

(A) BS&A Update

(B) EGLE – Jenkins Family Farm

(C) KMHC Community Open Forum Flyer

- a. All Forums will be held in the Education Rooms on the second floor of the new Acute Care Pavilion (Green Entrance)
- b. April 16 – 5pm
- c. April 17 – 12pm
- d. April 19 – 10am
- e. Important for all Kalkaska County residents to attend open forums

Assessors Report:

Memorandum

April 4, 2024

To: Coldsprings Township Board

From: Sally Murray, MAAO

810 Cottageview Dr, Suite 301, Traverse City, MI 49684

231.499.7682

SallyAnnMurray8120@gmail.com

Subject: Assessor Report-December-23

AS A REMINDER: The 2024 March Board of Review meetings were held on:

Monday March 11th: 3pm-9pm

Thursday March 14th 3pm-9pm

The Ad Valorem & Special Act Valuations, as finalized by the Board of Review are as follows:

2024 Assessed Value \$ 191,864,800

2024 Capped Value \$ 121,052,598

2024 Taxable Value \$ 123,049,513

There were 23 total appeals (comprising 17 unique property owners).

All of the necessary reports have been filed with state and local agencies.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns!

Sally

Committee Reports:

(A) County Commissioners:

- a. Kaliseum
 - i. Walk through on April 16, 2024
 - ii. May have some minor things to complete, such as flooring
- b. County
 - i. Five (5) Millages on the August Ballot
 - ii. KCRC renewal
 - iii. Library renewal
 - iv. Kaliseum renewal
 - v. KCD renewal
 - vi. 911 Dispatch – increase to 0.6 mill
- c. Recreation Manager
 - i. Marina Friend
 - ii. Lots of ideas
 - iii. Working with groups who are using the grounds
- d. County Administrator
 - i. David Schaeffer
 - ii. Transitioning and will be full time April 15
 - iii. Meeting with Kalkaska Groups
- e. Reviewed Ax MI Tax
 - i. Needs 450,000 signatures
 - ii. Eliminate property tax for Townships
 - iii. No explanation on where revenue will come from to take the place of property tax
- f. Bob Baldwin is running for a 4-year term

(B) Planning & Maintenance:

TOWNSHIP HALL:

o No new activity to report. Jose' is working on spring startup and maintenance of power equipment.

CEMETERY:

o Jose continues with spring cleanup of leaves and winter leftover debris.

SANDS PARK:

o I have abandoned my recommendation to hire a cleaning contractor to maintain the restroom facilities. These buildings have become a nuisance in terms of misuse, fecal disposal, trash and vandalism, in addition to presenting a health risk. Jose' and I opened and inspected the vaults and discovered they are filled with garbage bags, diapers, bottles, rags and trash. I talked with former trustee Lowell, and he advised that several pumping companies have declined to clean these toilet buildings anymore. Likewise, my counterpart who oversees the DNR Pickerel Lake campground reported their contractor has quit servicing their vault restrooms. Upon completion of the final pumping, I recommend that the restroom buildings be permanently locked, and Porta Johns be contracted for and placed near the parking area. I have talked to another township that has done this with their parks, and they were effusive with their praise for this solution. I am hoping to present quotes at Monday's meeting.

o The dead branches and large infected trees that posed a safety issue identified by the local forester were removed on Monday, March 25, under the emergency purchase authorized last month. Helsel Tree Service then brought in topsoil where needed, raked and restored the area so it is ready for tree planting and seeding later this spring. This is a very large area of open soil vulnerable to erosion. I suggest the board consider having professionally applied hydro seeding applied instead of maintenance staff seeding this large and labor intensive project. I would like to pursue getting a quote for this project.

o Motorbike trespass. In the past month, a motorbike rider has been violating Sands Park Ordinance #1 of 2012 which prohibits motorized vehicles on any area of the park property other than paved parking lots and roadways. Our township deputy has identified and spoken with the individual, and hopefully this has been resolved.

o We have a persistent erosion and trenching problem at our beach. The township has done beach sand replenishment in past years to try to mitigate this erosion. A budget allowance estimate has been requested because the sand has not been refreshed or replenished for several years. This project will require a soil erosion permit from the county, to be obtained by the successful bidder on the township's behalf. Hopefully this can be remedied and abated in the near future. I would like to pursue getting a quote for this asap.

o As previously reported, a vehicle damaged the drain and barricade near the boat launch exit. This will be repaired and restored in the near future by TWS which was awarded the contract last month. Updated signage will also be installed by TWS and Jose'.

o The playground mulch has deteriorated significantly and needs to be refreshed with an organic, chemical free, soft and safe-for-kids product. At last month's meeting, Supervisor Hoffman asked me to check on play-safe rubberized mulch. The area is 40' x 70' and the guideline for municipal playgrounds safety is 4" depth. The quote I received is approximately \$8,100, includes delivery but not installation that would entail spreading 600 bags weighing 40 pounds (verbal local estimate of an additional \$2,000). It also does not include purchasing of a recommended underlay fabric for weed barrier and product containment. My recommendation is to pursue a natural, chemical free organic cedar mulch. I estimate it would end up being about half the cost vs rubberized — delivered and installed for approximately \$6,000. I would like to pursue getting a quote for the cedar mulch project asap.

o Asphalt has deteriorated severely at the boat launch ramp and needs to be excavated and corrected with concrete, as historically, asphalt patching does not hold in that area. I would like to pursue getting a quote for this.

o Severe Potholes and pavement degradation at the park entrance needs to be repaired and repaved. Are there any road or right of way type funds that could be used for this area? I will report back on this at a future meeting. I would like to pursue getting a quote for this.

o Jose' has cleaned up the buoys and acquired new connectors as recommended to us last autumn. The swim buoys will be installed by TWS prior to Trout Festival/season opener in late April.

o The park has become very popular for dog walkers. Unfortunately, many are violating Sands Park Ordinance #1 of 2012 which requires that pets must be kept under immediate control on a leash not exceeding 6 foot in length. Owners are also required to clean up after their pets. Several poo bag and disposal stations are staged throughout the park. Some dog owners are turning their dogs loose to run freely throughout the park.

(A) Fireboard:

COLDSPRINGS- EXCELSIOR FIRE & RESCUE
MINUTES
April 3, 2024

Call to order @ 5:03 p.m.

Roll Call: Dawn Moses, Norman Groner, Dick Paternoster, Annie Wallace, Gayenell Gentelia. Also present, Chief Rusty Headley, Lt Kevin Julian, Captain Steve Guidebeck.

Agenda: Motion by Wallace, 2nd by Paternoster to approve agenda as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes: Minutes of the March 6, and of the Budget Hearing/Special meeting March 20, 2024 were presented. Motion Moses, 2nd by Paternoster to approve. All ayes, motion carried.

Old business: *Garden Lane- Bill is in collection.

Run Report for February: Fire-16, Medical-15.

Frederic Runs: Grayling-3, Kalkaska Memorial-5, Munson-7, Cancelled-2, Refusal 4, DOA-0, Other-1

Chief's Report: *Wildland Gear has been ordered. * DeVor's Creamery – Chief Headley has arranged for the department on a training day to tour the farm, getting acquainted with the layout in case of a fire.

Motion by Wallace, 2nd by Gentelia to amend the new budget by adding \$12,000 from the General Bank account to PPE, making a total of \$24,000. Roll: Wallace-yes, Gentelia-yes, Paternoster-yes, Moses-yes, Groner-yes. Motion carried.

Bills and Wages: Motion by Gentelia, 2nd by Paternoster to pay bills and wages for April in the amount of \$65,049.84. Roll call: Gentelia-yes, Paternoster-yes, Groner-yes, Wallace-yes, Moses-yes. Motion carried. Check #s 10761-10778 were used for payment.

Old Business: * Ballot language for the Millage Renewal to be put on the August 6,2024 was approved by both Coldsprings and Excelsior Townships. *Generator- Waiting on the weather.

New Business: An email sent by Albert Brown regarding a bill from Fire Recovery for a fire on property located at 2038 Hagni Rd. that he owns. He wanted to appeal the bill. After discussion with some of the firefighter that were at the scene, the Board has denied the appeal. Motion by Gentelia, 2nd by Wallace to deny the appeal. Roll: Gentelia-yes, Wallace-yes, Groner-yes, Moses-yes, Paternoster-yes. Motion carried. Fire Clerk Wallace will send an email to Mr. Brown notifying him of the denial.

Public comment: None

Upon proper motion, meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Annie Wallace, Clerk

(B) Road Commission:

**Road Committee Report
Coldsprings Township Board Meeting
April 8, 2024**

There has not been a Kalkaska County Road Commission board meeting since our last township board meeting. The next KCRC board meeting is Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

After the Township's budget meeting on March 18, 2024, I informed John Rogers of the KCRC that our Township was committed to spending approximately \$250,000 on our roads in 2024. As previously discussed with John, our Board would like to have John and Jeff Root give us recommendations of how to spend that money based on need and traffic. I also informed John that reconstruction of East Shore Drive is on hold while we do more research on how to fund this complicated and expensive fix.

Finally, in my purely anecdotal, unscientific surveys of township residents that I have approached with the issue, people were strongly in favor of raising the road millage from 1 mill to 2 mills if it means a net tax increase of zero. This could be accomplished by lowering the refuse millage from 1.75 mills to .75 mills as discussed at our Township budget meeting.

Rick Delaney
Coldsprings Township Trustee

(B) Sheriff Department:

- a. Discussed March Sheriff's Report
- b. Mini-bike
 - i. Incident at park on March 23, gave warning
 - ii. Multiple incidents afterwards
 - iii. Issued Citation

(C) Hospital

- New Geriatric Mental Health Program
- CEO retiring at some point in the next couple of years
- Community Forums for Act 47 vs. Not-For-Profit will be held in April, see flyer
- All Kalkaska County Residents should attend

(D) Drain Commissioner/Manistee Lake Improvement

- a. Final report from Fishery was all positive
- b. No date yet for Annual Sucker Harvest

Treasurers Report:

General Fund:	495,371.89
Tax Account:	78,231.91
Road Millage:	19,992.38
Cash on Hand:	200.00

Michigan CLASS

All Accounts: 996,631.74

Corporate: 286,479.09
Road Millage: 103,793.17
Building Fund: 65,454.26
Improvement: 468,606.51
Metro: 44,266.09
LCSA: 28,032.62

Motion by Gentelia, second by Delaney, to approve Treasurers Report. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Phillips, Delaney, Moses, Gentelia, Hoffman; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion Carried.

Deputy Treasurer has been an immense help and is an asset to the township.

PUBLIC INPUT ON BUSINESS ITEM (as listed on the agenda): 6:11PM – None

OLD BUSINESS:

(A) ARPA Funds Update

- a. No update other than annual report needs to be submitted by April 30

(B) Branch Library

- a. Branch Library is now open Thursdays, 9am – 6pm
- b. Seed Exchange went well
- c. Will be doing more programming

(C) Blight – Have a meeting with Legal on Tuesday to discuss options

NEW BUSINESS:

(A) Consider Adoption of Millage Renewal Ballot Wording Resolutions #01 of 2024 – Refuse Millage and #04 of 2024 – Road Millage

- a. Resolution 01 of 2024 – Refuse Millage
 - i. Discuss decreasing millage
 1. Currently have a surplus
 2. Current contract ends in 2025 and will go up a minimum of 10%
 3. GLF rates have increased more than 20% since our contract
 4. Decrease to 1 mill or 0.75 mill
 - a. Concern with the increase in cost in 2026 and deplete surplus
 - b. Don't want to have to request an increase in millage later
 - c. Concerns with decreasing to 0.75 mill
 - ii. Motion by Hoffman, second by Delaney, to adopt Resolution 01 – 2024 – Refuse Millage with a decrease to 0.75 Mill. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Delaney, Hoffman, Phillips; Nays – Moses, Gentelia; Absent – None. Motion Carried
- b. Resolution 04 of 2024 – Road Construction Millage
 - i. Discussion on increasing to 1.5 or 2 Mill
 - ii. We have a lot of roads that need maintenance and repair
 - iii. 1 mill will generate approx. \$123,000
 - iv. Need to increase to get more roads repaired
 - v. Motion by Delaney, second by Hoffman, to adopt Resolution 04 of 2024 – Road Millage with an increase to 2 Mill. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Moses, Hoffman, Phillips, Delaney; Nays – Gentelia; Absent – None. Motion Carried.

(B) Consider Approval of W-Fi Router at CETA Hall

- a. Charter router that was installed does not allow for an open public access, only secured network
- b. A router similar to the one at the township hall will allow for an open public access network
- c. The router will also have a stronger signal to reach the far ends of the driveway/parking area
- d. Will provide another broadband access location for our residents who do not have access to broadband at their residence.
- e. Motion by Phillips, second by Moses, to install a router at CETA Hall for a cost of \$594. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes –Gentelia, Hoffman, Phillips, Delaney, Moses; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion Carried

(C) Consider Approval to Close Sands Park Restrooms

- a. Trustee and Maintenance opened vault to restrooms to prepare to contact vendors to pump out the vaults at Sands Park
- b. Found lots of garbage, plastic and other non-human waste materials
- c. Current vendors will not pump out vault because they have no way of separating garbage from human waste
- d. The cost for vendor to dispose of all materials pumped will be a significant increase and/or the vendor will not find a location that would accept the materials pumped
- e. Recommendation from Parks & Maintenance is to close park restrooms permanently
- f. Motion by Gentelia, second by Delaney, to close Sands Park Restrooms permanently. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Hoffman, Phillips, Delaney, Moses, Gentelia; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion Carried.

(D) Review Bids and Consider Approval of Portable Restrooms for Sands Park

- a. Two (2) bids were received for portable restrooms
 - i. One (1) handicap and two (2) regular
 - ii. Onsite from April – October
 - iii. Service 1x/week
- b. Security Sanitation - \$2,880 (\$480/month)
- c. At Your Service Plus - \$3,300 (\$550/month)
- d. Motion by Delaney, second by Phillips, to accept bid from Security Sanitation at a cost of \$2,880. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Phillips, Delaney, Moses, Gentelia, Hoffman; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion Carried.

(E) Consider Approval of Kankaska County Tax Allocation Form

- a. Form completed every year and sent to County Clerk
- b. Requesting 1 mill be distributed to township
- c. Motion by Gentelia, second by Moses, to approve Coldsprings Township Kankaska County Tax Allocation Form and submit to County Treasurer. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Delaney, Moses, Gentelia, Hoffman, Phillips; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion Carried

(F) Cemetery Discussion – completed in Maintenance and Planning Report

- a. Requesting quotes for cemetery expansion south of current cemetery
- b. Spoke with Dean Farrier and he wondered if the township considered expanding to the west (behind current cemetery) instead of south.
 - i. Property owned by township
 - ii. Less trees to remove
- c. Board recommends exploring the option to go west

Approval of Bills:

- Request by board to add payroll report to board packet
- A Motion by Moses, second by Delaney, to approve \$38,699.09 to pay April 2024 bills. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Moses, Gentelia, Hoffman, Phillips, Delaney; Nays – None; Absent – None. Motion Carried.

Public Comment: Started at – 7:26 PM

- M. Cole – Weekly paper, March 21, 2024
 - TAG Tower, LLC 304 ft communication tower on Covert Road
 - Is this the work that is being done across the street on 571 and Covert Road?
 - Township response is we are not aware of the TAG Tower and not sure what is going on at 571 and Covert Road
 - We do not have a Township Ordinance for Land Use, defaults to county, so resident should ask County Planning and Zoning

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. by Moses, **second** by Phillips. All Aye, Motion Carried.

Next meeting Monday, May 13, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Gayenell Gentelia, Clerk, Coldsprings Township