

**APPROVED MINUTES
COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571
MONDAY, September 9th, 2024 5:00 P.M.**

APPROVED
*approved 10/14/2024
gt*

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 Delaney and Trustee Eavey and Supervisor Hoffman, Treasurer Moses is absent. Seven (7) members of the public were present, including Deputy from the Kalkaska County Sheriff's Office.

Adoption of the Agenda: Add under New Business (H) Consider Approval of increase in budget for Deputy Farrier. **Motion** by Delaney, **second** by Hoffman, to adopt the agenda as amended. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

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

Approval of Minutes from August 12th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting: **Motion** by Delaney, **second** by Hoffman, to approve the minutes from August 12th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting as presented. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Presentation: Taylor Tree Service

(A) Tim and Laurie presented their findings on Oak Wilt in the Park. They expressed concern that trees are not being treated before cutting. Drawing up proposal for treating the park up to three times. Taylor Tree Service currently works with the Village of Fife Lake. They also work with arborists from Michigan State University

Correspondence:

(A) Letter concerning the long term range of the shoulders on Twin Lake Rd.

Assessors Report:

Memorandum

September 5, 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-September-2024

All certified assessing officers must complete and log all continuing education hours prior to October 31, 2024 in order to recertify for 2025. In order to recertify for 2025, all assessors must complete sixteen (16) hours of continuing education between November 1, 2023 and October 31, 2024. In addition to the 16 hours of continuing education, assessing officers also need to complete the mandatory 2024 State Tax Commission Updates course.

I have achieved and logged all of the continuing educational requirements in order to recertify for 2025. At this time, I am perusing the educational offerings for the upcoming 2026 renewal certification (to be

completed between November 1, 2024 and October 31, 2025).

Coldsprings Township requires an assessor certification of MCAO ("Level 1"). I maintain a certification level of MAAO ("Level 3").

The State Tax Commission (STC) regularly audits townships on a 5-year schedule. In the past, the process was referred to as "AMAR" (Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements). Now, it is referred to as "Assessing Reform", per Public Act 660 of 2018. The audit is a review of both assessment administration IN ADDITION TO local township board/trustee responsibilities.

If the STC determines that an assessing district is in substantial compliance, the audit process for that five-year cycle is complete and the assessing district is not required to take any additional action.

If the STC determines that the assessing district is NOT in substantial compliance, a corrective action plan must be developed outlining how and when the non-compliance will be remedied. The ramifications of non-compliance can be significant. A designated assessor may be appointed or the STC may assume jurisdiction over the assessment roll.

I have been involved in several "PA 660" audits over the years with success. Kalkaska County is scheduled to be reviewed again in 2026. I will continue to issue annual reminders to this important issue. As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns!

Sally

Coldsprings Branch Library – No Report

Committee Reports:

(A) Planning and Maintenance

9/09/2024

A. Township Hall

I called Anderson Design and Construction about the drip edge on the SE corner of the hall roof that needs repair. They were to meet with Gayenell on Thursday 8-29. The roof is approximately 20 years old.

B. Cemetery

Jose has been picking up plastic flowers at many grave sites to trim underneath and then replacing the flowers on the headstone. This is very tedious and takes a very long time to do.

Do we want to keep this practice.

I have looked into a metal grave vase flower holder available on amazon for \$19/ each (\$20.13 w/ tax) at each headstone, It has a hole in the bottom to allow for drainage.

It pushes flush into the ground and can be trimmed right up to the edge with the weed trimmer without having to remove it. I have one for a sample to look at. This would keep us from having to stop the weed trimmer, bend down, pick up the flowers, trim, place the flowers back down and do it over and over many times.

C. Sands Park

Tree removal took place on Wednesday 8/28, and finished on Thursday 8/29. One extra tree was added as it had died since the bid was placed. It was an extra \$600 to remove the additional tree. Gayenelle approved. We had them grind one extra stump that was on our beach front behind the north bench. Rick approved. That will be added to the bill by Eric Helsel. There was a total of 10 oak, 1 birch and 3 maple trees The birch and maple trees were mulched up and left on the grounds for future use. All oak trees were cut into 8 foot lengths and removed. All tree tops were mulched and removed. 8 of the 10 oaks had the stumps ground and the other two stumps were painted and sealed with pruning paint.

There is a DNR report found on the following link that sheds some light on the subject of tree removal.
<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/about/newsroom/releases/2024/04/01/keep-oak-trees-healthy-dont-prune-april-15-and-july-15>

We waited an additional month after July 15th to remove the trees during this open window of opportunity.

The Wisconsin department of Natural Resources has a very informative video that will help us understand what we are all up against to try and save our oak trees.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CLvSgKr5uY4>

Dr. Dave Roberts Michigan State University

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=cgOYO3eFYWU&si=83czvDqdUkgzldHj>

C. Sands Park Continued

Renee at the Kalkaska conservation told us about an Eco grass that is a potentially excellent grass for our park. It has a root system that grows from 4" to 8" deep which would hold dirt and sand to help prevent erosion. It requires less water, grows well in a sandy environment and may or may not be mowed depending on where you use it. On the side of a hill, it would grow to several inches, go to seed and it folds over making a very attractive landscape that does not require maintenance.

<https://www.prairiemoon.com/eco-grass> We ordered 10lbs to try in a small are of the park to see how we like it.

Gayenell said that the asphalt person has been in touch with her.

Todd's Welding to do drainage remediation and landscaping.

The 3 stairways on the hill leading to the lake. They are in need of either being torn down or replaced. Perhaps replacing just one and tearing out the other two. I have cost estimates. If we tear down the steps, a 10 yard dumpster from GFL for 5 business days will be \$593.75 paid in full ahead of time. One week lead time for delivery.

To replace:

Alden Hardware - \$1420.25 RR ties and treated lumber

Carter Lumber – \$1215.35 RR ties and treated lumber

Barden Lumber - \$1662.60 using all treated lumber

Trimmer - We would like to buy another weed trimmer so we can have one at both the cemetery and the park as we both have to trim and often at the same time. One of the two we currently have is over 15 years old and has been giving us trouble, it has a handlebar design that is very cumbersome and causes your back to hurt after a short time. A new trimmer is \$470.

Lawn tractor at the park

We recently discovered a hole on the top of the mower deck (about 4" in diameter). I took it into Ginop to see about a repair. They said it was do to us mowing in a sandy environment and it is actually causing the deck to be sandblasted. They discovered several other holes all over the deck. It is not repairable. A new deck will cost \$2500. The tractor has 150 hours of use on it. A new lawn tractor would cost approximately. \$2500 - \$3000.

Cub Cadet XT1 46" 22HP 2499.00

Husqvarna YTH21546 46" 21.5hp 2699.00

John Deere X330 22hp 42" 3187.00 Commercial grade

Zero Turn

Cub Cadet 42 in. 21.5 HP Gas-Powered Ultima Zero-Turn Mower, ZT1, Kawasaki \$3299.99

John Deere Z320M 42 in. 21.5 HP Dual Hydrostatic Gas V-Twin Zero Turn Lawn \$3499.00

John Deere Z315E ZTrak 42" 20 hp \$3263.04 Commercial Gradening & Maintenance:

(B) Fireboard:

COLDSPRINGS- EXCELSIOR FIRE & RESCUE
MINUTES
OCTOBER 2, 2024

Call to order @ 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Gayenell Gentelia, Norm Groner, Annie Wallace. Absent; Dawn Moses, and Dick Paternoster.

Also present, Chief Rusty Headley.

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

Minutes: Minutes of the August 7, 2024. Motion Gentelia, 2nd by Groner to approve. All ayes, motion carried.

Old business: None

Run Report for August:

Fire -3 , Medical - 22.

Frederic Runs: Grayling-0, Kalkaska Memorial-5, Munson 8, Cancelled-1, Refusal 9, DOA-1, Other-0

Chief's Report: *Generator still coming.

Bills and Wages: Motion by Gentelia, 2nd by Groner to pay bills and wages for July in the amount of \$5,774.73. Roll: Gentelia-yes, Groner-yes, Wallace-yes. Motion carried. Check # 10835-10838 & # 10854-10863 were used for payments.

New Business: *September 16th insurance meeting. Fire class starts in October for 5 members.

Public comment: None

Upon proper motion, meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Annie Wallace, Clerk

(C) Road Commission:

Road Committee Report

Coldsprings Township Board Meeting
September 9, 2024

The last meeting of the Kalkaska County Road Commission board was held on Wednesday, August 14, 2024. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 11, 2024.

1. Sunset Trail - 2.12 miles of Chip & Seal (in 2025), wedging and shoulder work using Afton stone. John Rogers said wedging and shoulder work is being done in Blue Lake Township now, and then they will move to Sunset Trail. Contracts were recently signed with the KCRC, our 80% cost is \$206,179.46.

2. Shore Road – Repair of concrete driveways that cracked and pealed after repaving last year. John said this is still on KCRC's project list for 2024.

3. CR-571 – reconstruction of one mile from Hagni Road to CR-612; work is set to begin on September 3, 2024.

Old business

1. Nothing new to report - As requested by residents of East Shore Drive, we are looking into "radar speed limit signs". I previously researched this a couple years ago and discussed it with the board. I spoke with John Rogers on May 22nd, and he referred me to Clearwater Township who just last week installed 4 radar speed limit signs. I

spoke with the trustee who did the research, and he sent me all of their information. Clearwater Township paid about \$3,300 per sign, whereas our previous cost estimates were closer to \$4,500 per sign. Clearwater used their Metro Funds to pay for the signs. A resident and I will visit Clearwater's signs to see if they would work for us and I will report back to the board. Clearwater is saving the data collected by the signs to see how much of a difference the radar signs make and will forward a recap to me.

2. East Shore Drive reconstruction – Our Assessor is determining the boundaries of the potential Special Assessment District.

Rick Delaney
Coldsprings Township Trustee

(D) Sheriff Department:

- a. Review of Sheriff's Report
- b. Introduction to Deputy Kniss
- c. Sheriff's Report is available in the Clerk's office

(E) County Commissioner

- a. All millages except Kaliseum passed the August ballot will be on November ballot
- b. County trying to hire new recreation manager

(F) Hospital

(G) Drain Commissioner/Manistee Lake Improvement

- a. MLIB

Hi Rick. Due to a conflicting meeting, I will not be in attendance (zoom or otherwise) for tomorrow's township board meeting. Following is my Drain Commissioner/MLIB Report: Progressive AE did their second milfoil survey on 8/6 and found very little milfoil. Areas that were treated earlier this year did not have milfoil present.

MLIB met on 8/26 and decided not to treat the limited amount of milfoil seen in the survey. We will wait until next year's spring survey and then schedule a meeting to evaluate whether treatment is needed. Dr. David Jude did his annual fishery and water quality survey on 8/27-29. Night seining at our five sample locations provided significance volume and variety of species of young fish suggesting a healthy, productive fishery.

The overnight gill netting sampling produced very small catches for the third year in a row. We left the net in for a second night in hopes of better results but did not get much thatnight either. We are discussing with Dr. Jude the possibility of using a different approach to capturing adult fish for study next year.

Reports of both Progressive's and Dr. Jude's research and sampling results should be available during the winter.

I will wait until next year to report on our special assessment status and MLLIB plans for moving forward..
Seth

Treasurers Report: - none

PUBLIC INPUT ON BUSINESS ITEM (as listed on the agenda): 6:28 PM

- (A) Carole Phillips- Wondering if new website will have form or upload option for future bids. Cameras at the park need the lenses cleaned.

OLD BUSINESS:

(A) **ARPA Funds Update**

- a. No new update

(B) **Blight**

- a. 4886 County Road 571 NE
- i. Hearing was held on August 6
 - ii. Judgement in favor of township
 - iii. 30 days to cleanup
 - iv. Township will have authorization to cleanup at owners' expense after 30 days
- b. 4050 County Road 571 NE From Blighted Property List
- i. Dismissed with warning
- c. 4794 County Rd. 571 NE From Blighted Property List
- i. Hearing moved from September 4th to October

(C) **Website Update**

- a. Down to a few to do's
- b. Need Sally and Dawn's Input

(D) **BS& A Update:**

- a. Need confirmation if Accessor does not join the cloud if other entities can move forward.
 - i. Gayenell will schedule meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

(A) **Consider Approval of a Absent Voter Counting Board for the November 2024 General Election**

- a. Tabled to October meeting

(B) **Consider Approval of Anavon Estimate – WIFI Access Point**

- a. Motion by Gentelia for up to 668.38 for new router to provide router for public wifi
 - i. Seconded by Delaney. A roll call vote was taken: Delaney- Aye, Hoffman- Aye, Gentelia- Aye, Phillips- Aye; Nays – None; Absent – Moses. Motion Carried.

(C) **Township Apparel Discussion**

- a. Would help staff to be recognized at the park. Magnets or vinyl decals on the side of Township truck.
- b. Options will be priced to be brought back to Board.

(D) **Consider Approval to Re-seed Sands Park for an Estimated Cost of Up to \$1,000**

- a. Purchase will be made of up to ten pounds of seed for testing

(E) **Consider Approval to Repair and Replace Steps from Lake to Park or Remove Steps**

- a. Motion by Delany to remove stairs immediately for up to \$750, second by Hoffman, to adopt amended Ordinance 1 of 2012 – Sands Park. A roll call vote was taken: Gentelia- Aye, Phillips- Aye, Delaney- Aye, Hoffman- Aye; Nays – None; Absent – Moses. Motion Carried.

(F) **Consider Approval to Purchase a Weed Trimmer**

- a. New Weed Trimmer up to \$500
- b. Replacement old Trimmer that is hard to use.
- c. Motion by Gentelia, second by Delaney, to secure a \$500 limit debit card. A roll call vote was taken: Phillips- Aye, Delaney- Aye, Hoffman- Aye, Gentelia- Aye; Nays – None; Absent – Moses. Motion Carried.

(G) Consider Approval of New Lawn Tractor

- a. 2,500 to replace new deck
- b. Table for next meeting to look at price of new Kubota zero turn.

(H) Sherriff Updates

- a. Motion by Hoffman to accept new contract for extra services from the Sheriff, second by Delaney, to secure a \$500 limit debit card. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Phillips, Delaney, Hoffman, Gentelia; Nays – None; Absent – Moses. Motion Carried.

Approval of Bills:

- A Motion by Hoffman, second by Delany, to approve \$65,575.00 to pay September 2024 bills. A roll call vote was taken: Delaney- Aye, Hoffman- Aye, Gentelia- Aye, Phillips- Aye; Nays – None; Absent – Moses. Motion Carried.

Public Comment: Started at – 6:56 PM

- D. Smith
 - Transfers from credit to checking to pay online bills to avoid fees
- S. Hess
 - Property owner that has been dealing with Oak wilt since 2017
 - Wants the Township to be more proactive not happy with how park has been treated
 - Has a large bank down to the water where oak trees prevent erosion
 - Has treated her own property three times
 - Wants the township not to cut infected trees without treatment or without trenching
- B. Hess
 - Full time resident adjacent to park
 - Has spent \$7,000 to treat his trees in the last few years.
 - Has seen poor practice such as cutting trees in the summer
 - Wilt has already jumped the park and something different needs to be done
 - He has four or 5 dead trees that will cost another \$8,000 to take done
 - Wants to invite property owners to attend special meeting
- Kris
 - Wants to work with Rick to make sure our new logo is given to us in correct formats.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. by Delaney, **second** by Gentelia. All Aye, Motion Carried.

Next meeting Monday, October 14th, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Danielle Stein-Seabolt, Coldsprings Township