

Isabella Township Meeting September 5, 2023

The Isabella Township Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Rick Ervin at 7:00 p.m. at the Isabella Township Hall. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Rick Ervin.

Present: Linda Bechtel, Rick Ervin, Kristin Derby, Thomas Reihl, and Robert Walton.

Approval of Agenda: Thomas Reihl moved to approve the agenda; Robert Walton supported. Agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes were read and reviewed from the August 14, 2023, regular business meeting. Thomas Reihl made a motion, seconded by Robert Walton, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Robert Walton gave a re-cap of the Council of Government meeting. They discussed cyber security and using a “.gov” email instead of a personal email.

Terry asked the board’s opinion on changing the lights at the pavilion to LED. The board agreed that Terry can change out the lights in the pavilion to LED lights.

Guest Speaker: Mike Homier, our new lawyer, introduced himself to the board. He is with Foster and Swift and has been for almost 25 years. He is the chair of his municipal practice group with about 15 lawyers. The board asked Mr. Homier questions and he responded to them.

Financial Report: Linda Bechtel presented the Treasurer’s report. Thomas Reihl made a motion, seconded by Robert Walton, to accept the financial report with an ending balance of \$825,569.75. A roll call vote was taken. All board members in attendance approved. Motion passed.

Kristin Derby presented the bills. Rick Ervin made a motion, seconded by Thomas Reihl to pay checks #1475- #1495. Rick asked to add “and walking track” to the memo of Sod busters. A roll call vote was taken. All board members in attendance approved to pay vouchers as presented. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Rick talked to the road commission about getting flashing lights on the stop signs at Whiteville and Weidman because of all the accidents there have been. The road commission may split the bill with us. Thomas Reihl made a motion to put lights on the corner of Weidman and Whiteville, supported by Robert Walton. A roll call vote was taken. All board members in attendance approved. Motion passed.
- Rick would like to look into a 50 in by 50 in lighted sign to hang outside the township hall. It would have the ability for us to change the messages on it digitally.
- The State has finally come up with the logistics that come from the passage of Proposal 2 last November. We are now required to offer nine-days of in-person voting prior to election day. We must have a minimum of three election workers paid at \$15/hr each day and we must purchase all new election equipment that is made specifically for the early voting. For one election, it would be over \$4,000 in just election worker wages plus the equipment costs plus the postage etc. The county has offered to consolidate for \$2,500 in administrative fees each year and then a cost share for all participating townships which would come out to around \$1,200 per election. Robert Walton made a motion to consolidate with the county for \$2,500 and cost-share each election. Thomas Reihl supported. A roll call vote was taken. All board members in attendance approved. Motion passed.
- Kristin wants to attend the MTA Clerks Conference on Sept 23 & 24, 2023. Rick made a motion to allow Kristin to attend the MTA Clerks Conference, paid for by the township, along with a hotel room to

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stay there. Thomas Reihl supported. A roll call vote was taken. All board members in attendance approved, Motion passed.

- Rick is going to call Sod-busters to spray the outside edges and driveways at the cemetery and Terry will burn the brush pile in the winter.
- Rick talked about cemetery stones and/or plots that could get damaged that first it will be turned in to the owner's homeowner insurance company and second it will be turned into the township's insurance company. If the owner does not have homeowners, it would be turned into the township's insurance company, but it will always start with the owners' homeowners.
- Rick has a solar conference opportunity if someone wants to attend.
- Terry is going to take a big roller to the walking path to see if it can push the path and weeds down.
- Kristin is getting with John Goggin about cameras for the park and Linda is ordering the pickleball for \$1,344. Robert Walton made a motion to purchase the pickleball supported by Thomas Reihl. A roll call vote was taken. All board members in attendance approved. Motion passed.
- Linda will be in the office, Sept 14, 2023 from 9am-5pm to collect taxes.
- Sat, Sept 9, 2023, 8am-12pm is the electronic waste drive; Sat, Sept 30, 2023, 8am-12pm is the tire drive at the fairgrounds.

Public Comment: Fred Prout asked about any developments with solar. Terry asked about the phone number for the Pavilion Coordinator (989) 621-7484.

Adjournment: Rick Ervin moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Thomas Reihl.

Meeting declared adjourned.