

**Convis Township Board Regular Meeting
Tuesday February 8, 2022, 7:00 PM
Convis Township Hall
19500 15 Mile Road, Marshall, MI 49068
Minutes**

Call To Order: Supervisor Harvey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the pledge to the flag.

Board Members present: Supervisor Ryan Harvey, Clerk Kim Collins, Treasurer Kristy Kipp, Trustee Elyse Bibbings and Trustee John Swartz.

Agenda: Agenda accepted as presented.

Minutes: Motion made by Kipp, seconded by Swartz to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2022, Regular Township Board meeting as presented. In favor: 5 Ayes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Sheriff Deputy Report: Deputy Diepenhorst reported on activity for January 2022.

Public Comment: Randy Boehmer inquired why P Drive North is now closed to through traffic. Supervisor Harvey responded that was a decision made between the Calhoun County Road Department and C & C Landfill, and the township was not involved in that decision.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Audit – Siegfried Crandall, June 27, 2022: For informational purposes it was announced that the annual audit conducted by Siegfried Crandall will take place June 27, 2022.

Zoning Administrator Appointment: Motion made by Harvey, seconded by Kipp to appoint Carl Fowler as Convis Township Zoning Administrator and Permit Coordinator. Roll call vote: Ayes: Bibbings, Collins, Harvey, Kipp, Swartz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

\$30/Month Phone Stipend for Additional Zoning Administrator: Motion made by Collins, seconded by Kipp to approve \$30 per month phone stipend for Carl Fowler, with both Carl Fowler and John Swartz receiving the monthly stipend during the transition period. Roll call vote: Ayes: Collins, Harvey, Kipp, Swartz, Bibbings. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Transition Bank Accounts to Southern Michigan Bank & Trust: Motion made by Collins, seconded by Harvey to approve Treasurer Kipp transitioning the township's general fund checking, current tax checking, and Trust & Agency checking to Southern Michigan Bank & Trust. Roll call vote: Ayes: Harvey, Kipp, Swartz, Bibbings, Collins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Zoning Board of Appeals Fees Review: Motion made by Harvey, seconded by Kipp to raise ZBA fees from \$300.00 to \$500.00 per appeal based on current expenses required to notice and conduct a hearing. Roll call vote: Ayes: Kipp, Swartz, Bibbings, Collins, Harvey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Invenergy – Calhoun Solar LLC Construction and Inspections Update: Convis Township Building Inspector Steve Buller reported that Invenergy's Calhoun Solar project has not released funds since December that are in escrow for permits and are challenging the authority of the township and its inspectors to conduct inspections, receive copies of certain tests and request certain test results, and charge fees for permits associated with the project. Calhoun Solar believes the project falls under the guidelines of works of heavy civil construction and the project should be exempt from fees being imposed by Convis Township.

Raquel Lopez of Calhoun Solar Project, expressed concern with losing control of the schedule and budget for the project which could adversely impact the project overall.

Supervisor Harvey stated that Convis Township is a member of Area Metropolitan Services Agency, and all fees are determined by the AMSA board, requiring Convis to charge fees set by AMSA.

Larry Opalewski of Dalton-Tomich Law Office, legal counsel representing Calhoun Solar, stated that while they believe under state law, that Calhoun Solar is not subject to building permits, they would like to work with the township in reaching an agreement between the township and the project to alleviate delays in construction. His client has given permission to make payment for the items listed on the escrow draw request dated January 9, 2022, with the understanding that no stop work order would be issued.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Collins, seconded by Harvey to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: Swartz, Bibbings, Collins, Harvey, Kipp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Pay Bills: Clerk Collins noted additions to the bills, Consumers Energy for gas and electric in the amounts of \$956.90 and \$591.26, and a draw for Building Inspector Steve Buller in the amount of \$21,040.00. Motion made by Harvey, seconded by Bibbings to pay all bills as amended in the amount of \$77,322.81. Roll call vote: Ayes: Bibbings, Collins, Harvey, Kipp, Swartz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Committee/Township Representative Reports

Zoning Administrator: No additional report

Bellevue Fire Control Board: The next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2022.

Calhoun County Road Department: Supervisor Harvey reported on a recent Supervisor's meeting he attended, where the road department provided details on a tentative proposal that will be presented to the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, which would restructure the way they do matching funds for local road work as well as the schedule for work on local roads.

Custodian: Ron Petty reported 10 rental days for the month of January.

Ambulance Authority: Margaret Harvey reported on the January meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2022.

Building/Park Committee: Treasurer Kipp noted furnace installation has been completed, a new office printer has been installed, and paperwork for the parks millage has been filed.

Cemetery Committee: No report

Marshall Township Fire: No report

Planning Commission: Trustee Bibbings reported on the January meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2022.

Board Member Comments: Treasurer Kipp noted winter tax payments are due by February 14 and can still be paid at the township until February 28.

Supervisor Harvey shared dates and times for the budget workshop and March Board of Review.

Final Public Comment: Margaret Harvey said a ZBA hearing will be scheduled soon for an appeal request that has been submitted.

Adjournment: Motion made by Harvey, seconded by Swartz to adjourn the meeting. In favor: 5 Ayes. Opposed: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Kimberly L. Collins
Convis Township Clerk

Approved as printed, at the March 8, 2022 regular meeting of the Convis Township Board of Trustees