

HAYES TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING
December 18TH, 2024 7:00 PM
HAYES TOWNSHIP HALL
09195 MAJOR DOUGLAS SLOAN RD
CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN 49720
ZOOM 849 2451 3210

The December 18th, 2024, special meeting of the Hayes Township Board was called to order by Supervisor William Conklin at 7:00 pm.

Board members present were Matt Cunningham (Trustee), Julie Collard (Treasurer), Doug Kuebler (Trustee), William Conklin (Supervisor) and Kristin Baranski (Clerk)

Audience Members signed in: Omar Feliciano, Ray Cunningham, Kevin Willis, Diane Conklin, Deb Narten, Paul Zardus, CT Martin, Mark Snyder, Dee Hutchinson, Ellis Boal, LuAnne Kozma, Tim Boyko, Jim Rudolph, Sherry Baker-McCary, Winnie Boal, Bob Fowler, Todd Millar, Betty Henne, David Kemme, Frank Shepherd, and Kyra Allen.

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor William Conklin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Ms. Collard, to approve the December 18th 2024 Special Meeting Agenda as presented.

Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, Doug Kuebler and Kristin Baranski.

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comment opened and closed at 7:09.

- Appreciates the new table for the public, would like to know the Board Township's response to the on going Lawsuit. Feels the Zoning Administrator should not handle legal matters.
- Would like to know who contacted Matt Cunningham to conduct a Special Meeting?
- Wished everyone a Happy Holiday. Stated he had an issue receiving a FOIA from the Clerk today.

Closed at 7:16.

- Todd Millar responded to the request for an update on the lawsuit, stating the Township Attorney received the amended complaint yesterday and will be submitting the new complaint to the insurance company the new deadline for a response by the defendants is January 10th 2025.

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DISCUSSION ON HOW TO HANDLE REQUESTS FOR TOWNSHIP LEGAL SERVICES BY TOWNSHIP

STAFF:

Public Comment:

- Stated they feel the board should be made aware of all request to the attorney.
- Stated interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance should go in front of the ZBA.
- Asked for clarification if this is a new process, what brought up this discussion.
- Suggest the board be aware of all money being spent on legal fees.
- Suggest to proceed with caution. Maybe consider going case by case for reaching out to a legal consultant. Suggest having a written policy regarding consulting legal counsel.

Mr. Conklin made a motion to grant the Zoning Administrator, the chair of ZBA and Planning Commission, all Board members and Assessor may make a request for an attorney opinion, until there is a written policy drafted and approved by the board, where in the response from the attorney is distributed to the whole board. The response shall include a summary of the request and the attorney's response.

NO Support, Motion was not carried.

REAPPOINT/APPOINT BOARD OF REVIEW MEMBERS (2 YEAR TERMS):

Ms. Baranski made a motion, supported by Mr. Kuebler to reappoint Jim Rudolph, Greg Denzinger and Richard Sculthorpe, Roy Griffiths as an alternate to the Board of Review Members for a two year term expiring 12/31/2026.

Yeas: William Conklin, Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, Doug Kuebler and Kristin Baranski.

Nays: None **Motion Carried**

BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMENT:

- Mr. Conklin stated ARPA funds need to be allocated. Mr. Baranski will pull the report for the next BOT Meeting.
- Ms. Collard stated nothing changed in policy for reaching Legal Services. There is no change or limit to staff member of whom can or can not contact the Township Legal Services. The Board will work on creating a written policy regarding contacting the Township Legal Services.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Collard made a motion, supported by Mr. Kuebler, to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.

Yeas: Matt Cunningham, Julie Collard, William Conklin, Doug Kuebler and Kristin Baranski.

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Nays: None

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted, April Hilton, Hayes Township Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary