



Ovid Township Hall  
Branch County, Michigan  
December 14, 2020  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
(Zoom Meeting due to State imposed restrictions)

Greg Gemmill called meeting to order at 7 PM, and proceeded to take roll call attendance.

Members present: Greg Gemmill, Supervisor; Amy Havasy, Clerk; Jim Snivley, Trustee; Larry Omo, Trustee.

Members absent: Shelly AcMoody, Treasurer

Others present: Robert Hawley - Zoning Administrator, Matt Drennan - ESA Solar, Michael Mihuc - Director of Hillsdale Compliance, Bill Benjamin, Greg Brown, 5 others

**Approval of agenda** – Larry Omo made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions: New Business Item H – Land-split 409 W Russell Dr, Iames and Item H - MTA New Officials Training, supported by Jim Snivley. MOTION CARRIED

**Approval of minutes from the November 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting** – Jim Snivley made a motion to accept the minutes from the November 9, 2020 regular board meeting, supported by Amy Havasy. MOTION CARRIED

**Treasurers Report** – Amy Havasy made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report, with additional payments to: Consumers Energy for \$44.75 and McKenna Associates for \$2,330. Supported by Larry Omo. MOTION CARRIED

**PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTE LIMIT)**

Michael Mihuc, Hillsdale Compliance, expressed thanks for the Townships expediency putting together the new marihuana ordinances.

Matt Drennan, ESA Solar, spoke to let everyone know that he is available for any questions regarding Solar projects and ordinances.

Greg Brown, an investor out of Fort Wayne, IN, stated that he is part of a group of investors interested in opening a dispensary, possibly in the Sportsman's location.

### **Reports:**

1. Sheriff – No Report
2. County Commissioner – Greg Gemmill read the report submitted by Tom Matthews
3. Assessing – Greg Gemmill read the report submitted by Melissa Lane
4. Cemetery Sexton – Greg Gemmill read the report submitted by Lucas Chronkhite
5. DPW – No Report
6. Lakeland Fire Dept. – No Report
7. Zoning Administrator – Robert Hawley presented the Zoning report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. JUNK VIOLATION REPORT  
None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. BRANCH COUNTY DESIGNATED ASSESSOR REPORT  
Greg Gemmill presented paperwork received in regards to the Township designating as Assessor. Greg proposed the Board designate Melissa Lane – SM Assessing, and asked that the Board Approve the Branch County Interlocal Agreement for County Designated Assessor, which stipulates in the event our assessor cannot perform the necessary duties, the Township will use an appointed assessor. Larry Omo supported. MOTION CARRIED
- B. OUTSIDE LARGER MESSAGE BOARD DISCUSSION  
Greg Gemmill presented 3 options for an outdoor bulletin board, with LED lighting, to be placed on the east side of the doorway. The 2 smaller display cases will remain on the building, the one on the far side of the parking lot will be removed. Larry Omo made a motion to approve purchase of the 96x48 bulletin board, supported by Amy Havasy. MOTION CARRIED
- C. OUTSIDE LIGHTING ISSUE  
Greg Gemmill requested Board approval to speak with Joe Jepson to discuss building and parking lot lights, which will be placed on a dusk to dawn timer. Greg will get a quote from Joe and present it at the January 2021 meeting.
- D. BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULE  
Scheduled for December 22, 2020 at 5PM. Larry Omo will bring pizza.
- E. RESOLUTION 2020-12-4A TO POSTPONE THE COUNTY E-911 AMENDMENT  
Greg Gemmill made a motion to approve the resolution, which requests the Branch County Board of Commissioners postpone adoption of the draft 911 Central Dispatch Service Plan. Jim Snivley Supported. By roll call vote: Amy Havasy – yes, Greg Gemmill – yes, Larry Omo – yes, Jim Snivley – yes. RESOLUTION PASSED
- F. ORDINANCE #29 – TOWNSHIP OF OVID ADULT-USE MARIHUANA ESTABLISHMENTS  
ORDINANCE

Greg Gemmill made a motion to pass the ordinance as written by Attorney, Joe Haas. Larry Omo supported. MOTION PASSED

G. ORDINANCE #30 – TOWNSHIP OF OVID REGULATIONS OF ADULT-USE MARIHUANA ESTABLISHMENT ORDINANCE

Greg Gemmill made a motion to pass the ordinance as written by Attorney, Joe Haas. Amy Havasy supported. MOTION PASSED

H. LAND-SPLIT – 409 W RUSSELL DR – JAMES AND JOYCE IIAMES

Greg Gemmill made a motion to approve the land-split, with the stipulation that the ½ lot with the home and carport be combined with Lot 17, and the lot with the barn, shed and garage be combined with the lot across the street. Jim Snivley supported. MOTION CARRIED

I. MTA – NEW TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL TRAINING

Greg Gemmill made a motion that the Board approve the cost of MTA training for new officials. The cost for the Clerk to take the training and the receive Township Essentials package (books relating to the position) is \$323 plus shipping for the materials. The cost for the Trustee to take the training (with books for the position) is \$193 plus shipping. Supported by Larry Omo. MOTION CARRIED

**Public Comment (3-minute limit)**

Bill Benjamin expressed concern regarding the screening surrounding the solar field at Angola/Carr, as the plantings do not block any of the facility.

Larry Omo stated that the same situation be addressed with the solar field at Angola/Pearl.

Michael Mihuc reiterated his appreciation of Shelly AcMoody's focus on the residents of Ovid Township, and the customer service that the Township provides. He also thanked the Board for passing Ordinances 29 and 30.

Matt Drennan expressed his concern over the requirements of buffers around Solar projects. Stating that the prison has no such buffer, and no other business has this requirement. He did not like hearing, and does not understand, this type of comment.

**Correspondence:**

Greg Gemmill stated that he had no correspondence.

Amy Havasy stated that she had 3 correspondence.

Motion to Adjourn made by Larry Omo, supported by Jim Snivley. MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Havasy, Clerk