

TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIP  
ANTRIM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

DRAFT MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS  
MARCH 7, 2023  
COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING  
TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIP

Present: Cook, Schultz, Martel, Merchant and Windiate

Absent: None

Audience: +/- 13

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:20 PM.
2. Minutes of March 15, 2022: **Minutes** were read aloud with two corrections. In Item 3 line 5, correct spelling of "Burt Thompson". In Item 1, remove "(M/S B. Cook/K Windiate Motion". **Motion** to approve Minutes of March 15, 2022 Annual Meeting by Laura Andersen was seconded and passed with two corrections.
3. Testimony and Comments from Citizens related to the Township:
  - A. Jarris Rubingh gave an update on Antrim County: Because of re-districting, Antrim County has reduced the number of Commissioners from 9 to 5. Mr. Rubingh is now Commissioner for District 2; he has been added on a few more committees this year; regarding road update, it is true the Road Commission does not have any "plans" for the next 5 years, but they do allocate to each township funds to fix their roads. A credit is listed under the township's name and when the work is done the credit is applied; the County was severely effected by Covid, people didn't drive, so no income coming in.
  - B. Kathy Windiate addressed the audience as the public. She read a letter regarding her request to have her 2023-24 Salary reconsidered. She is asking for \$28,875, a 5% increase over last years original salary before declining the raise.
4. State of the Township: Mr. Cook addressed the audience. He thanked the Board as they continue to support Agenda items presented over the last year; He praised the work of the Planning Commission, with the input of Mr. Steve Langworthy, on the review of the re-write of the Zoning Ordinance, in an effort to bring it up to date; thanks given to Assessor Amy for keeping us updated and in compliance; to Linda Woodward for maintaining our Constant Contact; he thanks the Chairs of the Planning Commission, Andy Graves and Zoning Board of Appeals, Laura Andersen, the EMS director Mike Bertram and Fire Chief Kevin Lane, Assistant Chief Ted Schroeder and all of our Ambulance and Fire teams doing a great job for the Township; he thanks and compliments our Zoning Administrator Sara Kopriva and assistant ZA Jackie Petersen. Both are valuable members of the team; in addition, we have two zoning appeal cases going before the circuit court. They have done a great job preparing our attorneys for these cases and he feels confident that this team has positioned us to be successful in the upcoming court proceedings.

Mr. Cook reiterates his goals for the township for the last year and a half: finalizing a Capital Plan for consideration by future Boards; completing the Zoning Ordinance rewrite, implementing the Capital program at the Day Park, completing the renovation of the South Fire station, initiating a septic ordinance for our township and expanding our Grant application process. It will be a busy year for the Board!
5. Salary Resolutions 2023-24 Fiscal Year:
  - A. Treasurer: **Motion** by Rita Service to approve Resolution 2023-01, Treasurer salary, to be set at \$33,000 for fiscal year 2023-24 as proposed was seconded and passed unanimously.
  - B. Clerk: **Motion** by Martel to approve requested salary for Clerk of \$28,875 was seconded but failed 6 to 5. **Motion** by Rita Service proposing the salary for Clerk be \$27,300 per Resolution 2023-02 was seconded but failed 7 to 6. **Motion** by Laura Andersen to propose a compromise for Clerk's salary at \$28,000 was seconded and passed unanimously with 1 nay vote.
  - C. Trustees: **Motion** by Rita Service to approve Resolution 2023-03, Trustee salary, to be set at \$5800 was seconded and passed unanimously.

- D. Supervisor: **Motion** by Laura Andersen to approve Resolution 2023-04, Supervisor salary, to be set at \$31,500 was seconded and passed unanimously.
- 6. Public Comment: 1. Mr. Rubingh commented on salaries in Central Lake Township, with a 5% raise across the board and Banks Township with Supervisor at \$22,000, Clerk and Treasurer at \$33,700 and Trustees \$3,150.  
2. Sharon Schultz thanked Mr. Cook for his enormous amount of work on the Budget for this year.
- 7. With no further business the **Motion** by Cook to adjourn at 7: PM was seconded and passed unanimously.

These Minutes are respectfully submitted and are subject to approval at the **2024 Annual Meeting**.

Kathy S. Windiate  
Township Clerk