

DECATUR TOWNSHIP
February 2023 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Decatur Township Board was called to order on Thursday, February 9th 2023 at 7 p.m. Present: Supervisor Kevin Kusmack, Treasurer Katelin Makay, Clerk Julie McKee, and Trustees Matt Kusmack and Tom Stull. There were 11 guests present.

Minutes from the January, regular meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve by Katelin Makay, second by Tom Stull. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

None

Public Comment:

Jason West-opposes the use of solar in Decatur. Voiced concerns about the possibility of solar company expansion in the area. A Facebook Group: Decatur-Hamilton Citizens Against Industrial Solar have retained a lawyer, Joshua Nolan, in order to possibly have the Solar Ordinance on a later Election Ballot.

Tom Motycka-favors the use of solar in Decatur. Stated there are only so many places the Solar Companies can build in the area.

Andy Pachay-Question to Savion about the total capacity of solar usage.

Garrett Ketchen-Savion employee said he does not have the complete data for total capacity/usage.

Lois Cole-Wayne TWP resident. Favors the use of solar in the area. Stated crops can be grown in the area under the solar panels.

Clerk

Current Bills were approved. Motion to approve: Tom Stull 2nd: Matt Kusmack

Treasurer

Office Hours Feb. 28th from 9am-5pm. Tax collection on track. Motion to approve: Kevin Kusmack 2nd: Julie McKee

Supervisor

Village Hall Meeting under consideration to extend the water and sewer on Lake Street.

Bergen Building being considered for office spaces for the township, village, and other businesses.

3/20/2023- Board of Review scheduled Meeting

Safebuilt-no answer back

Fire Board has 623 calls last year in 2022.

Zoning Administrator

No report

County Commissioner

New administrator is leaving to take a job in Kalamazoo County. IT Director has been appointed Deputy Administrator

Senior Services

No report

Van Buren Sheriff Department

Dispatch report for the previous month of January was submitted.

Cemetery Report

JC & Sons needs to check the trees at Lakeside in the VA section. Due to damages occurred at Harrison for unauthorized plowing, Hamilton Cemetery contacted by Katelin Makay to provide copy of their ordinance and fee schedule.

Old Business:

ORV Ordinance: #5 Resolution for 2023 sent to lawyer Catherine Kauffman to make sure Ordinance is accurate. On schedule for next month for approval.

New Business:

Zoning Ordinance and amendment adopted as is: Motion to approve: Matt Kusmack 2nd: Tom Stull
Motion approved by all.

Conditional Use for SW Solar Project to be approved with amendments Motion to approve: Kevin Kusmack 2nd: Tom Stull

PA116 Approval with amendments: Motion to approve: Katelin Makay 2nd: Julie McKee

New contracts for all subcontractors submitted for approval. Motion to approve: Julie McKee 2nd:
Kevin Kusmack

Public Comment:

Jason West-plans to file a petition to stop the solar project. Would like to see it on a ballot in the future.

Motion to adjourn by Katelin Makay, 2nd: Tom Stull. Unanimous vote, motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04.

Julie McKee, Township Clerk

