

# VOLINIA TOWNSHIP

CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Monday, January 20, 2025  
7:00pm

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Chris Brooks at 7:00pm.

Prayer was given by Denny Grice.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chris Brooks.

Annette Peters requested roll call: Trustee Grice – Present, Clerk Peters – Present, Supervisor Brooks – Present, Treasurer Williams – Present, Trustee Seelye - Present.

Others present: None

## **Agenda**

Alex Williams made a motion to approve the agenda; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion passed.

## **Supervisor**

Camp Matziv– Township Attorney Seth had sent emails to Chris. The Camp is upset about being put on the tax roll. Nick Seelye asked if Camp Matziv and MMW are 2 separate entities. Annette Peters said that she understood from the email that it's an assumed name or DBA. Nick asked if the DBA's have split taxes, since MMW is still operating outside of the township's ordinances and needs to be held compliant. Chris said that he's reached out to the LFL Board and asked them to direct concerns to him. Denny Grice said that last spring/summer when Seth attended our meeting, we stated we wanted them to be compliant and follow the ordinances instead of being put on the tax roll and we've been getting the run around. Alex Williams said if the camp is not following zoning the zoning admin is supposed to send notice, and asked if that's happened, if so, the next step would be to file in court to make comply. Nick said that when he voted to have the camp put on the tax roll, he didn't know that MMW was a separate entity, only that Camp Matziv was a 501c3. Alex said if we leave them on the tax roll it will be a real thorn in the township and cost a lot of money in court costs, but we could ask for court costs to be reimbursed, if we win. Denny asked if we could have the 501c3 revoked. Alex said no. Nick said that the November 13, 2024, Facebook post was for a Black Friday Mega Sale valid through December 31, 2024. Chris said we could ask Kevin and Seth if we could split taxes on the property. Nick said that Kevin should be here tonight. Alex suggested talking to Seth, letting him know that we want the camp compliant, it's not fair to everyone else the camp gets to do what they want, and the rest can't. Nick said that a resident on Gards Prairie went to the Planning Commission 20 years ago to have a venue and was told no, but the camp's been doing it for years. If the camp wants to do, they should have to apply for a special use permit. The camp is already booked for this year, now it's going to be harder to make them stop and get complaint. Chris said that the camp never submitted a special use permit. They claim to have and also claimed to be grandfathered in. Nick said that the camp was sold twice, the special

use permit was 2 owners ago. Chris said that Jake Weiss wants to meet and discuss. Nick said this has been a board issue for 1-½ years, he should attend a board meeting and discuss either during public comment or request to be on the agenda. Denny said that we can't be lenient, because then it would open up to everyone, and how can we enforce on the lake. Chris said that he will reach out to Beth and Seth for a report from the previous visit. Chris tabled the discussion until we get more information.

Budget – Annette Peters said that the submitted budget sheets have the most recent totals including checks that were issued January 13, 2025. Nick Seelye said that there's approximately 60 more days left of this budget. Discussion on current budget expenses. Annette Peters made a motion to adjust the 2024/2025 budget by making the following adjustments: increase the Legal Expense to \$50,000, increase Tax on Drains to \$2,500, Increase Planning Commission Wages to \$2,500, Increase Contract (under Planning Commission) to \$2,000, Increase Cemetery Supplies to \$5,200, Increase Cemetery Maintenance to \$24,000, Increase Telephone/Communication to \$2,700 and Increase Zoning Administrator to \$10,000; Nick Seelye seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes  
Peters – Yes  
Brooks – Yes  
Seelye – Yes  
Williams – Yes

The board approved adjusting the 2024/2025 Budget.

**Board**

None

**Public**

None.

**Adjournment**

Alex Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Annette seconded the motion; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette Peters  
Volinia Township Clerk