

**SANDS TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING**  
**SANDS TOWNSHIP OFFICE COMPLEX**  
January 9, 2024

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** –D. Walch called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. **Roll Call** –Lee Yelle, David Kallio, Darlene Walch, and Carolyn Kerkela  
**Absent** – Justin Yelle  
**Employees in Attendance:** Randy Yelle, Tom Wahlstrom  
**Public in Attendance:** Rich VanderVeen and Sam Elder, and Bob Kallio (via Zoom)
3. **Public Comment:** Sam Elder expressed thoughts related to recent House & Senate bills regarding solar projects, and that he feels local governing units should have authority regarding such projects. Requirements for renewable energy being put on utilities like the BLP will have a major effect and increase energy rates.

Rich VanderVeen shared information on the solar project and its history of approval.

4. **Agenda:** L. Yelle moved, D. Kallio seconded, to approve the agenda with additions of 10j–Landfill Update. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
5. **Consent Agenda:** C. Kerkela moved, L Yelle seconded, to approve the Consent as presented. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
  - a. **Minutes:** December 12, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes and December 20, 2023 Special Meeting minutes approved as presented.
  - b. **Financial Reports**
    - i. **Treasurer’s Report**
    - ii. **Accounts Payable/General Ledger** – General Fund Checks #38377 - #38449, including the electronic liability checks, for \$95,836.59 and Tax Collection Checks #3906 - #3917 for \$220,781.19, approved as presented.
    - iii. **Budget Reports**
  - c. **Department/Committee Reports:** Accepted and placed on file.
    - i. **Fire Department**
    - ii. **Sanitation / MCSWMA –**
    - iii. **Zoning –**
    - iv. **Commission of Aging**
  - d. **Correspondence** – None
  - e. **Miscellaneous** – None

6. **Treasurer’s Report– Checking Account Balances (as of December 31, 2023):**  
**General Fund** \$85,030.62     **Trust & Agency** \$216.00     **Fire Fund** \$42,618.17  
**Ambulance Fund** \$12,559.41     **Parks/Rec** \$13,323.59  
**Sanitation** \$19,843.22     **Taxes** \$293,281.63     **Road Repair Fund** \$330,898.87

**CD Totals:**

**Ambulance** \$547,835.14     **Roads** \$275,804.07     **Fire Dept** \$45,407.19  
**General Fund** \$1,198,539.65     **Parks & Rec** \$311,601.74

**Money Markets:**

**Fire** \$48,663.82     **Cemetery Perpetual Care** \$3,746.37  
**Road Repair Fund** \$86,189.99     **General** \$171,598.49

**ICS Money Markets**

**Fire** \$80,140.22 **General** \$812,536.13

**Ambulance** \$95,606.19 **Parks & Rec** \$13,955.14

L. Yelle reported on the upcoming renewals of a few CDs.

**7. Clerk's Report –**

- a. **Ballot Drop Box Upgrade** – No Update
- b. **Election Expenses** – C. Kerkela gave an update; no action needed at this time.

**8. Supervisor's Report**

- a. **Electronics Recycling**- No report.
- b. **Savion Solar Project** – D. Walch gave an update; to be addressed with 10h.
- c. **425 Agreement with Marquette Township** – D. Walch gave an update.
- d. **Pelissier Lake Drainage** – No update.
- e. **FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps** – Discussion followed; No action taken at this time.

**9. Old Business –**

- a. **Street Light Request** – No update.
- b. **MCSWMA – Miller/Canfield Bond** – R. Yelle gave an update; No action at this time.

**10. New Business**

- a. **Guardian Pest Control Contract** – C. Kerkela moved, L. Yelle seconded, to approve the 2024 Guardian Pest Control contract at \$59/building for monthly service. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- b. **CUPPAD Membership Dues** – C. Kerkela moved, D. Walch seconded, to pay the 2024 CUPPAD dues for a total of \$462. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. **MTA Annual Conference** – C. Kerkela moved, L. Yelle seconded, to approve sending interested board members to the 2024 MTA Annual Conference, in person or virtual, and to pay for lodging and transportation if needed. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- d. **Medical Control Authority Representatives** – D. Walch moved, L. Yelle seconded, to re-appoint Randy Schwemin as primary and Lyn Nelson as an alternate representative to the Marquette-Alger Medical Control Authority. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- e. **Advanced Life Support Intercept Agreement** – D. Kallio moved, D. Walch seconded, to accept the updated Advanced Life Support Intercept Agreement and increased intercept fees, provided the language recommended from Lyn Nelson regarding cancelling ALS services is accepted by UP Health System-Marquette.. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- f. **Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection System** – Discussion followed; Additional information needed.
- g. **Winter Newsletter** – D. Walch moved, L. Yelle seconded, to approve mailing the 2024 winter newsletter with the noted corrections. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- h. **Savion Solar Project PILT Agreement** – D. Walch moved, C. Kerkela moved, to accept Resolution #01092024, Resolution Recommending a New Personal Property Exemption Application for Superior Solar Project, LLC. Roll call vote was unanimous. D. Walch moved, C. Kerkela seconded, to adopt revisions as proposed to the new Personal Property Agreement and PILT Agreement for the Superior Solar Project. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- i. **Road Commission Bill** – C. Kerkela moved, L. Yelle seconded, to approve the additional \$8,038.40 for the 2023 HMA Resurfacing projects, for a total of \$216,344.00. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

j. **Landfill Update** – R. Yelle gave an update on the multi-county Recycling Coalition, and possible Landfill gas reuse.

**11. Public Comment** – Rich VanderVeen thanked the board for their patience, and emphasized a completion goal date for the project as 2026.

**12. Adjournment** – D. Walch adjourned the meeting at 8:21 PM.

Carolyn Kerkela, Clerk

Darlene Walch, Supervisor