

**Banks Township Board Meeting**  
**Monday, March 18, 2024**

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Supervisor Alex Busman. Present were Supervisor Busman, Clerk Donna Heeres, Treasurer Katy Postmus, and Trustee Julie Waterman. Absent: Trustee David Rasmussen. Also present: Daryl Richards, Tom Richards, Undersheriff George Lasater, Tina Sundelius, Jarris Rubingh. arrived at 7:15 PM. Supervisor Alex Busman lead the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.
2. **Public Comment:** Tom Richards reported that the Antrim County Road Commission graded Lakeshore Drive last week after “desperate attempts to get that done since October.” Richardson Road has new signage on US 31 following his request to MDOT. Should make the intersection easier to find for travelers.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the February 19, 2024, regular meeting were presented for approval. **MOTION** by Waterman, seconded by Postmus, to approve the minutes with correction of a name in item #27. **MOTION CARRIED.** **MOTION** by Waterman, seconded by Postmus, to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2024, special meeting as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **Commissioner’s Report:** Jarris Rubingh reported building permits are up more than 70 for the first two months of 2024 over 2023. The NM Association of Counties (34 counties are members) reported Consumers Energy wants to sell 13 hydroelectric power plants in Michigan due to the cost of upkeep of the plants. Citizens for Local Choice has received endorsement from the Michigan Association of Counties for wind & solar energy sites. Proposal will potentially be on the November ballot.
5. **Sheriff’s Report:** Undersheriff George Lasater reported that Banks Township had 85 calls to 911 in February with 12 medical calls, 6 car-deer accidents and 28 traffic stops.
6. **Treasurer’s Report:** The Treasurer reported \$3.9 million was levied on 4000+ tax bills in Banks Township: \$2.3 million went for education, \$880k for the county services and the rest for township, village, fire, libraries, etc. The Treasurer’s report of incomes and balances was presented. General Fund Balance: \$475,616.08; Fire Fund Balance: \$341,111.39; Liquor Fund: \$849.45; Roads Fund: \$11,017.31; Vehicle Fund: \$65,462.19. Grand Total: \$894,056.42. **Bills** represented by the attached list were reviewed for approval for payment. **MOTION** by Postmus, seconded by Waterman to pay the bills as presented, and additional checks to be prepared for internet & phone reimbursement, Allied Fire for replacement parts for a damaged helmet, KCI/AD Assessing for assessment change notices and postage, and dive team equipment that was authorized last month. **MOTION CARRIED.**
7. **Zoning Administrator:** Supervisor presented the ZA’s report. Three new zoning permits have been issued: two new homes and one steel building. A court hearing on the citation on the Coeling Road violation yielded a judgement to be met within 60 days.
8. **Planning Commission:** Julie Waterman reported that the PC met and finalized the RV Amendment. It has been sent to the County Planning Commission for review. The Master Plan survey has been modified and is nearly ready to go. The Annual Report will be sent to the Township Board next month. A sub-committee has been appointed to work on the sand & gravel ordinance amendments needed.
9. **Fire Department:** Written report submitted by Chief Groenink reported the department responded to a small grass fire last week of February; unusual for this time of year. The repairs to the medical rescue truck (ambulance vehicle) are nearly complete along with some worn steering components that were discovered. The Heavy Rescue Vehicle repairs are progressing; it was discovered that the fuel injection pump is leaking and needs to be repaired for an additional \$6000. The new turnout gear arrived, and everything fits correctly. Five firemen attended training on electric vehicle fires in East Jordan last week. Daryl reported he is getting quotes for air packs. He thanked the Board & public for the support of the dive team. He announced that the crime scene training scheduled for September will cost \$1500-1700 for the 4-day class. Winter/ice rescue training will be later.
10. **Ambulance Authority:** Julie Waterman reported that the Authority met February 21. Committees have been formed to address policies, job descriptions, hiring, and budgets. An audit of the employee files is underway to assure completeness and up to date. Boyne Valley Township is still considering joining the authority.

11. **Correspondence:** Letter from Antrim County EDC addressing their strategic plan and request for site identification and public education to promote economic development in the county.
12. **Lakeshore Drive:** Supervisor presented draft survey for the property owners on Lakeshore Drive. Discussion was held regarding the best way to distribute the survey.
13. **Board of Review:** Supervisor reported Jesse Anderson has resigned, effective April 1. He appoints Richard Friske Jr to the post, term ending December 31, 2024. Also, he appoints Brian Fleming as an alternate to fill a vacancy, term ending December 31, 2024. **MOTION** by Waterman, seconded by Postmus, to accept the resignation and approve the appointments to the Board of Review. **MOTION CARRIED.**
14. **Summer School Tax Collection Agreement:** Treasurer presents the proposed agreement for approval. **MOTION** by Postmus, seconded by Heeres, to approve the agreement and authorize the Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk to sign it. Roll Call vote: Waterman: Yes; Postmus: Yes; Heeres, Yes; Busman: Yes; Absent: Rasmussen. **MOTION CARRIED.**
15. **Early Voting Precincts:** Clerk reports 55 voters presented at Banks Township during the 9 days of early voting. This required early voting is an expensive endeavor. The Presidential Primary Election is to be funded through the State BOE; future elections are not expected to be fully funded. The clerks of Antrim County met last week to problem solve to reduce costs to taxpayers. Several precinct consolidations are proposed. Banks Township has offered to be a host site and has invited Central Lake Township, Torch Lake Township, Echo Township and Jordan Township to consolidate with us. Central Lake and Torch Lake have expressed interested; Echo and Jordan are still exploring options. Consolidation would be binding through 2025. An agreement would have to be worked out to cost share, etc. The deadline for agreement approval is April 15. **MOTION** by Heeres, seconded by Postmus, to enter into an agreement with Central Lake & Torch Lake Townships to hold combined early voting for the August and November 2024 elections (and any 2025 state/federal elections) in Banks Township. Regular Election Day voting will continue at the normal locations. **MOTION CARRIED.**
16. **Nominating Petitions:** Clerk reports packets are available with nominating petitions for township offices (partisan candidates and independents), village offices and school board offices. The deadline for filing for partisan candidates for township offices is April 23. Petitions for independent candidates for township office must be filed by July 18. Petitions for non-partisan village offices and school board offices must be filed by July 23. Candidates are encouraged to file early and make an appointment to file as the clerk & Deputy will be at the annual conference on April 23.
17. The meeting was recessed at 7:33 pm to hold the Public Hearings on the General, Liquor, Vehicle and Roads Budgets.
18. The **Budget Public Hearing** was called to order at 7:34 pm. The proposed Vehicle Fund budget was presented by the Supervisor; discussion and comments were heard. The proposed Liquor Fund budget was presented; discussion and comments were heard. The proposed Roads Fund budget was presented; it is based on an approval of the millage request for 2 mils for four years that will be on the August ballot; discussion and comments were heard. The proposed General Fund budget was presented; discussion, including dive team needs, and comments were heard. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 8:14 pm.
19. The **regular meeting** was **reconvened** at 8:15 pm. **MOTION** by Waterman, seconded by Postmus to approve the **General Fund Budget** as presented by the Supervisor. Roll Call Vote: Waterman: Yes; Busman: Yes; Postmus: Yes; Heeres: Yes. Absent: Rasmussen. **MOTION CARRIED.** **MOTION** by Heeres, seconded by Waterman, to approve the **Roads Fund Budget** as presented by the Supervisor. Roll Call Vote: Waterman: Yes; Busman: Yes; Postmus: Yes; Heeres: Yes. Absent: Rasmussen. **MOTION CARRIED.** **MOTION** by Heeres, seconded by Postmus to approve the **Liquor Fund Budget** as presented by the Supervisor. Roll Call Vote: Waterman: Yes; Busman: Yes; Postmus: Yes; Heeres: Yes. Absent: Rasmussen. **MOTION CARRIED.** **MOTION** by Heeres, seconded by Waterman, to approve the **Vehicle Fund Budget** as presented by the Supervisor. Roll Call Vote: Waterman: Yes; Busman: Yes; Postmus: Yes; Heeres: Yes. Absent: Rasmussen. **MOTION CARRIED.** **MOTION** by Waterman, seconded by Postmus to approve the **Fire Fund Budget** as presented by the Supervisor, with

a 1.1 mil special assessment levy. Roll Call Vote: Waterman: Yes; Busman: Yes; Postmus: Yes; Heeres: Yes. Absent: Rasmussen. **MOTION CARRIED.**

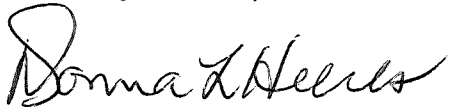
20. **Budget Amendments:** Supervisor and Clerk will prepare list of final budget amendments needed by fiscal year end.

21. **Board Comment:** there was none.

22. **Public Comment:** Jarris Rubingh reported that the Village of Ellsworth owns four lots on White Street that they would like to sell to the school to have student-built housing built. He voiced support for placing a millage question on the ballot to repair Essex Road. He reported the new Commissioners meeting room will hold 60 spectators instead of the 20 that the previous room held.

23. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm by the call of the Supervisor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna L. Heeres". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Donna L. Heeres, Banks Township Clerk

**BANKS TOWNSHIP**

03/20/24 4:28 PM

Page 1

**\*Check Summary Register©**

March 23-24

Name	Check Date	Check Amt	
<b>10100 CASH</b>			
279e CHARLEVOIX STATE BANK	3/17/2024	\$1,744.34	Grt Lakes/GFL/Spectrum/DTE/Election Meals
280e STATE OF MICHIGAN	3/17/2024	\$1,669.97	Michigan Income Tax W/H
281e EFTPS	3/17/2024	\$3,461.50	941 Payment March 2024
11791 Cary, Douglas W	4/18/2022	\$14.10	
11801 A D ASSESSING, INC	3/18/2024	\$2,150.00	Assessor Contract
11802 ALLIED FIRE SALES & SERVICE	3/18/2024	\$31,250.73	Ells Tanker Driver side wheel seal leak.
11803 ANTRIM COUNTY TREAS. OFFIC	3/18/2024	\$82.49	Data Processing
11804 ANTRIM REVIEW	3/18/2024	\$36.00	Subscription Renewal
11805 Applied Innovation	3/18/2024	\$83.56	Service Contract
11806 BECKETT & RAEDER INC	3/18/2024	\$3,117.50	Rec Vehicle Ord (Nov 2023)
11807 BETSY RANDALL	3/18/2024	\$436.62	Election Inspector EV 2/21, 2/24
11808 BRENDA POWERS	3/18/2024	\$459.12	Election Inspector EV 2/19,2/23
11809 CONSUMERS ENERGY	3/18/2024	\$742.79	Ells Fire Hall Elec Feb\$91.00 Mar91.00
11810 DEBORAH COOK	3/18/2024	\$454.12	Election Inspector EV 2/19, 2/21
11811 DONNA HEERES	3/18/2024	\$177.65	Elections supplies
11812 ELECTION SOURCE	3/18/2024	\$600.53	Secrecy Envelopes/Outgoing/Return Env
11813 GARY STRANGE	3/18/2024	\$370.10	Bd of Rev Training 3 hours
11814 HEALTH DEPT OF NW MICHIGAN	3/18/2024	\$320.00	Food Service License Renewal
11815 JESSE ANDERSON	3/18/2024	\$125.00	Bd of Review 1 Full Day
11816 JUDITH SMITH	3/18/2024	\$461.62	Election Inspector EV 2/18, 2/25
11817 JUDY BRADTKE	3/18/2024	\$288.75	Election Inspector EV 2/25
11818 JULIE WATERMAN	3/18/2024	\$281.25	Election Inspector EV 2/23
11819 LAURA REID EDWARDS	3/18/2024	\$196.62	Election Day Chair
11820 MARILYN FERWEDA	3/18/2024	\$168.75	Election Inspector EV 2/20
11821 Mary Bloxson	3/18/2024	\$112.50	Election Day Inspector 2/27
11822 MICHIGAN ASSN OF CEMETERIE	3/18/2024	\$0.00	Membership Dues MAMC
11823 N. IRENE SHOOKS	3/18/2024	\$339.75	Election Inspector EV 2/22
11824 NORTHWEST SCUBA	3/18/2024	\$10,599.00	Dive Team Gear/Dsanchez/hood/mask/gloves/
11825 HIGHSTREET PETERSON MCGR	3/18/2024	\$29,150.08	General Fund P&L 3/1/2024-25
11826 RICHARD DIEBOLD	3/18/2024	\$225.00	Bd of Review 1 full day, 1 half day, org mtg
11827 Samantha Sommer	3/18/2024	\$192.87	Election Inspector EV 2/22
11828 Sarah Dvoracek	3/18/2024	\$157.50	Election Inspector EV 2/17
11829 STRANGE SECURITY	3/18/2024	\$180.00	Computer Service Contract
11830 SUSAN HOLCOMBE	3/18/2024	\$292.50	Election Inspector EV 2/18, 2/20
11831 THELMA CHELLIS	3/18/2024	\$519.24	Election Inspector EV 2/17, 2/24
11832 TINA SUNDELIUS	3/18/2024	\$52.32	Election Postage
11833 WEST SHORE PUBLICATIONS LL	3/18/2024	\$291.75	Budget Hearing 4 funds
11834 YOUNG GRAHAM & WENDLING P	3/18/2024	\$659.24	Property transfers & sp assessment questions
11835 A D ASSESSING, INC	3/18/2024	\$1,676.63	Assessment Change Notices
11836 ALEXANDER BUSMAN	3/18/2024	\$600.00	Phone Reimbursement 12x25
11837 ALLIED FIRE SALES & SERVICE	3/18/2024	\$68.87	FD Repair Parts for Damaged Helmet
11838 ANITA HOEKSEMA	3/18/2024	\$225.00	Internet Reimbursement 9x25
11839 DAVID RASMUSSEN	3/18/2024	\$300.00	Internet Reimbursement 12x25
11840 DONNA HEERES	3/18/2024	\$600.00	Phone Reimbursement 12x25
11841 JULIE WATERMAN	3/18/2024	\$200.00	Internet Reimbursement 8x12
11842 KATY POSTMUS	3/18/2024	\$600.00	Phone Reimbursement 12x25
11843 RICHARD DIEBOLD	3/18/2024	\$75.00	Internet Reimbursement 3x25
11844 TINA SUNDELIUS	3/18/2024	\$300.00	Internet Reimbursement/Webmaster 12x25
11845 TOM COOPER	3/18/2024	\$100.00	Internet Reimbursement 4x25
<b>Total Checks</b>		<b>\$96,210.36</b>	