



**Birch Run Township Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

*June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

*11935 Silver Creek Drive, Birch Run, Michigan 48415*

**Call to Order of Regular Meeting:**

Ray Letterman called the June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Birch Run Township Board of Trustees to order at 19:01 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present for the Township Board of Trustees were Ray Letterman, Supervisor; Riley Kiessling, Clerk; Corey Trinklein, Treasurer; Fred Sheridan, Kurt Kiessling, Chris Watts & Dale Trinklein Jr., Trustees.

Others present were Brad Thomas, DPW/Water Supervisor; Gretchen Nielsen, Z.A & C.E.; Adam Flory & Tom Meagher, Attorneys.

Eighteen (18) people were in the audience.

**Agenda Approval:**

Motion by Sheridan seconded by D. Trinklein Jr. to approve the June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda as amended to update agenda item F to include a Closed Session, and to add Agenda Item G as "Closed Session to Discuss Attorney Client Privileged Information".

Yeas: Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling, Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

**Minutes Approval:**

Motion by K. Kiessling seconded by Watts to approve the May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Yeas: D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling, Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan,

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

**Invoice Approval:**

Motion by K. Kiessling seconded by D. Trinklein Jr. to approve Invoices through June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, totaling \$177,864.57 as presented.

Yeas: R. Kiessling, Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr.,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** 19:05 to 19:10

Public Comment was held.

**Budget Review:**

None

**Closed Session #1:**

Began at 19:40. Ended at 20:08.

**Closed Session #2:**

Began at 20:17. Ended at 20:23

**New Business:**

Motion by R. Kiessling seconded by Sheridan that, out of an abundance of caution, to approve raising the Fire Fighter wages as discussed during the 2023-24 Budget Meetings to a base \$13.00/hr., keeping the additional \$1.00/hr. increase for each Fire Fighter who acquires their medical license, and to be retroactively effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, to be in line with the intentions of the board at that time.

Yeas: Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by R. Kiessling seconded by K. Kiessling to approve the L-4029 2023 Millage Rates as presented.

Yeas: K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling, Watts,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by K. Kiessling seconded by Sheridan to approve the Library & Township Office HVAC Project, awarding the bid to Staley's Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning Inc., with costs not to exceed \$60,000.00, to be paid for with ARPA funding.

Yeas: Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling, K. Kiessling,

Nays: None

Abstentions: Watts (citing relationship by marriage)

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by R. Kiessling seconded by Sheridan to Enter into Closed Session to consider an attorney-client privileged written opinion, which is materially exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h).

Yeas: Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Letterman seconded by R. Kiessling to leave the Closed Session (#1) and resume the open meeting at 20:08.

Yeas: K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling, Watts,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Sheridan seconded by K. Kiessling to deny, without prejudice to refile if circumstances change, Stoneyard Inc.'s application for a Temporary Use Permit at 10888 Birch Run Rd due to the fact that there is not an MDOT approved and currently constructed driveway that is ready for customer use, and that the application does not comply with Section 20:18 § 2.

Yeas: Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling, Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by R. Kiessling seconded by Sheridan that, regarding the case of 1864 US-23, LLC v Township of Birch Run, now pending in Saginaw County Circuit Court Case NO. 23-000189-AS, I move to go into closed session to consult with the Township's attorneys regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation because an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the Township.

Yeas: R. Kiessling, Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein,

Nays:

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Letterman seconded by Sheridan to end the Closed Session (#2) and resume the open meeting at 20:23.

Yeas: Letterman, C. Trinklein, Sheridan, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling, Watts, K. Kiessling,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by R. Kiessling seconded by D. Trinklein Jr. to approve Resolution #2023-09 as presented.

Yeas: R. Kiessling, C. Trinklein, D. Trinklein Jr., Sheridan, Letterman, K. Kiessling, Watts,

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by R. Kiessling seconded by D. Trinklein Jr. to approve Ordinance #2023-05 as presented.

Yeas: Watts, K. Kiessling, Letterman, Sheridan, C. Trinklein, D. Trinklein Jr., R. Kiessling

Nays: None

Motion PASSED by unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** 20:27 to 20:31

Public Comment was held.

**Miscellaneous:**

Fourth of July parade coming up soon.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by R. Kiessling seconded by Sheridan to adjourn at 20:32.

Motion PASSED by unanimous voice vote.