

MINUTES OF THE ALBERT TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

Supervisor Michael Szukhent called the Albert Township Special Board Meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. with Clerk Sandy Raffin, Trustee Marsha McDonald, Treasurer John Righi, Fire Chief Doug Baum were in attendance as well Zoning Administrator Jeff McDonald and Laura Schrader.

Zoning Administrator, Jeff McDonald, presented a ticket that has been delivered to the Redwood Motor Lodge. A Hearing date has not been set yet, waiting upon the court. Legal fees for this issue could be up to \$7,000-\$9,000. Citations impose a \$50.00 fine/each, up to \$500.00. A special use permit could be issued. Further discussion centered around our current attorney group; Young, Graham and Wendling. We need to stand by and enforce our ordinances, we expect our attorneys to represent the Townships best interest or we will need to look elsewhere for representation. The Township may have to dip into savings to cover legal expenses.

McDonald made a **motion** to give authorization, not to exceed \$12,000, in legal fees; seconded by Raffin. Motion carried with 4 yea votes. Roll call vote taken.

Fire and Ambulance Special Assessment: Righi reviewed the spread sheet he gave from last meeting which range from 4.5-5.0 mills. The Board need to decided the rate they would like to assess for the next millage year. Righi reported that in 2023 just over one million dollars were collected through Special Assessment, operating costs are approximately \$800,000.00/annually. The Department is replacing an ambulance this year, at a cost of \$250,000-\$300,000. Two Fire Engines are also going to be replaced with one new truck at a cost of \$600,000-\$700,000. The new Engine will be ordered this year for delivery in 2-3 years, however prices do not "hold" when ordered. Otherwise, maintenance is all up to date on the vehicles and the building, with new flooring to be installed at the Fire Hall this year.

McDonald made a **motion** to fund the Fire/Ambulance Department through a Special Assessment at the rate of 5.1 mills to be placed on the winter property tax bill, seconded by Raffin. Motion carried with 4 yea votes, roll call vote taken. A public hearing needs to be held by October so the County can be provided with information.

Righi made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Raffin.

Szukhent adjourned the meeting at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully,

Julie Marcotte
Township Secretary