

Edenville Township Board Monthly Meeting

Board Packet

Month Day, Year

March 12h 2024

* Agenda

5:30 pm

* Proposed Minutes

Feb 13th 2024

Swanton Memorial Center

6422 N. Water Rd

Edenville MI

* Correspondence

AGENDA

Edenville Township Board Meeting

March 12th 2024, 5:30 p.m.

Swanton Memorial Center

- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll call
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of the minutes from Feb 13th 2024 Special Meeting
- Treasurers Report
- Clerks Report
 - Township bills \$15788.04
 - Fire Dept bills \$5153.49
 - Parks and Rec \$19.85
 - Swanton Bills \$3061.01
- Correspondence
- Public Comment
- Old Business
 - Fema grant for fire department update- has been applied for.
 - Motion to purchase 24 niche Columbarium
 - Cemetery improvements update
 - Trying to book a presentation from TriMedia for various services for each cemetery; so we can understand why we need to spend this money. This must be done before walkway paths are installed as designed to assure correct placement.
 - Porta johns
 - Drywall repair Swanton Hall
 - Fire dept electrician Boch electric bid \$595
- New Business.
 - Support letter for FLTF to seek additional funding

- Support letter for Santa to seek grant funding
 - Discussion regarding Audit
 - Bridge detour maps
- Schedule a budget review meeting for this March 19th 5:30 Swanton Hall.

- Motion to Adjourn

Terrance Hall

Edenville Township Supervisor

Minutes

Edenville Township Board Meeting

February 13th 2024, 5:30 p.m.

Swanton Memorial Center

- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll call Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal verify quorum
- Approval of agenda moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Approval of the minutes from Feb 13th 2024 Special Meeting Moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Treasurers Report pay Republic bill
Moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Clerks Report
 - Township bills \$15788.04
 - Fire Dept bills \$5153.49
 - Parks and Rec \$19.85
 - Swanton Bills \$3061.01 to pay the billsMoved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Correspondence
- Public Comment
- Old Business
 - Fema grant for fire department update Crystal
- Motion to purchase 24 niche Columbarium Moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Cemetery improvements update
 - Trying to book a presentation from TriMedia for various services for each cemetery; so we can fully understand why we need to

spend this money. This must be done before walkway paths are installed as designed to assure correct placement.

- Porta johns 3 all ada for Harper, Gransden and Swanton Hall Moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Drywall repair Swanton Hall Moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Fire dept electrician Boch electric bid \$595 Moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- New Business.
 - Support letter for FLTF to seek additional funding
 - Support letter for Santa to seek grant funding
 - Discussion regarding Audit
 - Bridge detour maps
- Schedule a budget review meeting for this March 19th 5:30 Swanton Hall.
- Moved by 2nd by Jim, Karen ,Terry , Anedra , Crystal
- Motion to Adjorn

Terrance Hall

Edenville Township Supervisor

Minutes
Edenville Township Board Meeting

February 13th 2024, 5:30 p.m.

Swanton Memorial Center

- Invocation 5:30
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll call
- Jim here, Karen here ,Terry here , Anedra here , Crystal here
- Approval of agenda with additions
- Motion by Jim 2nd by Karen Jim yes Karen yes Terry yes Anedra yes
Crystal yes
- Approval of the non minutes from Jan 23rd 2024
Motion by Jim 2nd by Karen Jim yes Karen yes Terry yes Anedra yes
Crystal yes
- Approval of the minutes from Jan 26th 2024 Special Meeting
- Motion by Jim 2nd by Karen Jim yes Karen yes Terry yes Anedra yes
Crystal yes
- Treasurers Report special bills
- Motion by Karen 2nd by Jim, Jim yes Karen yes Terry yes Anedra yes
Crystal yes
- Clerks Report
 - Township bills totalling \$47157.60
 - Fire Dept bills totalling \$19055.53
 - Parks and Rec bills totalling \$1162.40
 - Swanton Bills totalling \$1821.42
- Motion to approve the bills by Anedra 2nd by Jim Kim yes Karen yes
Terry yes Anedra yes Crystal yes
- Public Comments Public comments open 5:40, closed @ 5:47
- motion = Bid for extra lawncare at Harper park Hall Lawncare motion
Motion to approve Hall lawncare for the extra work at Harper Park brush

- Motion to accept L & T Bid for \$17105. Moved by Karen 2nd by Anedra Crystal no, Terry yes, Karen yes, Jim no, Anedra yes passed 3/2
 - 10 minutes recess 7:25
 - Resume meeting 7:35
 - Bid for New Office Server from VC3 currently having connectivity and backup issues with BSA program, server connection issues Moved by Terry 2nd by Anedra Jim yes Crystal no, Karen yes, Anedra yes, Terry yes. Motion passes 4/1
 - New Auditor motion to accept bid from Hammercacher & Co PC to be the Twp auditor for the next 3 years not to exceed \$ 8385 for 23/24, \$8485 for 24/25, \$8585 for 25/26 moved by Anedra 2nd by Karen Jim yes, Crystal yes, Karen yes, Anedra yes, Terry yes. Passed 5/0
 - Bid from Wooden Compass for broken tree limb removal in the old cemetery \$500.00 motioned by Jim, 2nd by Karen Crystal no, Jim yes, Karen yes, Terry yes, Anedra yes, passed 4/1
- Jim moved Anedra 2nd to establish Trustee 1 for Fema.gov grants All aye vote passes 5/0
- Old Business
 - Old Business Berthume cleanup? Partial no fully cleaned up.
 - New Business
 - Township Improvements/parking
 - Board directed supervisor to move forward with township office parking repairs/expansion
 - Cemetery improvements
 - Proposal from TriMedia for various services for each cemetery must be done before walkway paths as designed. Moved to next month
 - Walkway paths next month
 - Township Property combinations
 - 'Scoops' 010-001-300-206-00 +010-001-300-207-00
 - South of Office parcel. 010-001-300-210-00 + 010-001-300-201-00

Edenville Township

Transactions by Account

As of February 29, 2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Amount
000-009 Township Checking 6945						
Check	02/07/2024	33690	First National Bank of Omaha	4168	-SPLT-	-597.71
Check	02/07/2024	33691	First National Bank of Omaha	4853 postage	-SPLT-	-575.56
Check	02/07/2024	33692	KONICA MINOLTA	1087355 01/31/2024	101-900 Township Board prin...	-74.76
Check	02/07/2024	33693	Howden's Landscaping	invoice #16901	-SPLT-	-700.00
Check	02/08/2024	33694	Midland County Treasurer	Refund on PRE	000-447 Tax Administration	-1,195.66
Check	02/15/2024	33695	The Wooden Compass LLC	TREE LIMB REMOVAL	276-825 Yard maintenance	-500.00
Check	02/15/2024	33696	Consumers Energy	425 Moore St	265-950 Utilities	-0.45
Check	02/15/2024	33697	Consumers Energy	467 Moore St 3077	265-950 Utilities	-87.38
Check	02/15/2024	33698	Consumers Energy	7712 Jan 31	455-920 - Street Light Expense	-288.62
Check	02/15/2024	33699	Consumers Energy	8425	455-920 - Street Light Expense	-447.83
Paycheck	02/20/2024	33700	Carey, Karen		-SPLT-	-1,824.15
Paycheck	02/20/2024	33701	Hall Jr, Terrance A		-SPLT-	-1,166.25
Paycheck	02/20/2024	33702	Lewis, Anedra M		-SPLT-	-1,764.65
Paycheck	02/20/2024	33703	Sperling, James		-SPLT-	-371.48
Check	02/24/2024	33704	Starkey, Crystal J.		-SPLT-	-383.00
Check	02/24/2024	33705	Water District #1 of Midland	01/31/2024 467 W. Moore st	265-950 Utilities	-24.05
Check	02/24/2024	33706	Midland Daily News	00057665 01/31/2024	101-900 Township Board prin...	-394.00
Check	02/24/2024	33707	Spectrum/Charter Communica...	223409301	265-921 Telephone Internet	-139.96
Check	02/24/2024	33708	VC3	Office 365 invoice 137667/137668	101-709 Computer Maintena...	-116.00
Check	02/24/2024	33710	MCTOA	2024 dues midland county twp associ...	101-990 Miscellaneous expe...	-100.00
Check	02/24/2024	33711	QRP	design for postcards est 2158010	Misc	-92.50
Check	02/24/2024	33712	First National Bank of Omaha	4168 bill arrived 3 days before due date	Misc	-47.40
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33713	Burgess, Caroline M		-SPLT-	-47.40
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33714	Crawford, Bobbie Jo		-SPLT-	-218.04
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33715	Drummond, Judy E		-SPLT-	-184.70
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33716	Dufresne, Roger		-SPLT-	-218.04
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33717	Murphy, James E		-SPLT-	-531.24
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33718	Snyder, Jeanette M		-SPLT-	-218.04
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33719	Southcott, Audrey B		-SPLT-	-191.61
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33720	Southcott, Jeffrey		-SPLT-	-786.31
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33721	Starkey, Crystal J.		-SPLT-	-218.04
Paycheck	02/29/2024	33722	Ripley, Kayla M		-SPLT-	-211.44

Total 000-009 Township Checking 6945

TOTAL

-15,788.04

-15,788.04

2:40 PM
03/06/24
Accrual Basis

Fire Department
for board meetings
February 2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Amount
Feb 24						
Check	02/07/202.	3576	First National Bank of O...	LATE FEE AND INTEREST	206-956 Misc Exp	36.75
Check	02/07/202.	3577	Blue Water Fuel Manag...	13924	206-728 Gas	123.59
Check	02/07/202.	3578	TDS TELCOM	9896877753.	206-920 Utility	0.01
Check	02/07/202.	3579	Howdens	16901	206-801 Lawn sn...	1,800.00
Check	02/24/202.	3580	First National Bank of O...	late fee for last month?	206-956 Misc Exp	38.50
Check	02/24/202.	3581	Spectrum	221578401	206-920 Utility	109.97
Check	02/24/202.	3582	ULINE	INVOICE #174466717 8 CHAIRS ...	206-935 New equi...	0.00
Check	02/24/202.	3583	CONSUMERS ENERGY	6643 fire station #2	206-920 Utility	280.77
Check	02/24/202.	3584	CONSUMERS ENERGY	3325 fire station #1	206-920 Utility	706.86
Check	02/24/202.	3585	Water District #1	fire barn #2 01/31/2024	206-920 Utility	19.85
Check	02/24/202.	3586	Water District #1	Fire Barn #1 01/31/2024	206-920 Utility	31.99
Check	02/24/202.	3587	SANFORD HARDWARE	acct 116	206-956 Misc Exp	531.22
Gene...	02/24/202.	CPA r...	ULINE	For CHK 3582 voided on 02/24/20...	206-935 New equi...	1,573.98
Gene...	02/24/202.	CPA r...	ULINE	Reverse of GJE CPA rev 39 -- For...	206-935 New equi...	-1,573.98
Check	02/24/202.	3588	ULINE	inc #174466717	206-935 New equi...	1,473.98
Feb 24						5,153.49

2:42 PM
03/06/24

508 Parks and Recreation Fund
Check Detail
February 2024

Type	Num	Date	Name	Account	Paid Amount
Check	582	02/24/2024	Water Dist #1	000-001 General Checking	-19.85
				508-970 Utilities	-19.85
TOTAL					-19.85

Swanton Fund (102) Journal February 2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Debit
Check	02/06/2024	22004	Edenville Township	reimburse the twp for swanton payroll J...	806-723 Payroll Expenses	382.16
Check	02/07/2024	22005	Sanford Hardware	JAN 31ST STATEMENT	806-933 Maintance	382.16
Check	02/07/2024	22006	Howden's Landscaping	plowing and salt	806-801 Lawn / Plowing	82.44
Check	02/24/2024	22007	Terminix	inv #442868768	806-934 Pest Control	82.44
Check	02/24/2024	22008	Spectrum Charter C... Spectrum Charter C...		806-921 Telephone 806-922 Internet	925.00 105.00
Check	02/24/2024	22009	Water District #1	wat-006422-000-00 1/31/2024	806-953 Water Bill	105.00
Check	02/24/2024	22010	Consumers Energy	7567 02/08/2024	806-950 Utility	79.98
Check	02/28/2024	22011	Tile'n Boys LLC	Inv#07 Siding Removal for Bee	806-933 Maintance	49.25
TOTAL						546.18
						891.00
						891.00
						3,061.01



Greetings, we hope this letter finds you well.

As a leading utility company dedicated to advancing sustainable energy solutions and ensuring a reliable energy supply for Michigan residents, our objective at DTE Electric Company (DTE) is to foster collaborative initiatives with municipalities to explore viable opportunities for utility-scale solar development.

This remains true with the recent enactment of Public Act 233 of 2023, which grants the Michigan Public Services Commission (MPSC) authority over the siting of solar energy facilities with a nameplate capacity of 50 MWs or greater under certain circumstances. The Act mandates local permitting only if the affected local unit of government has adopted a compatible renewable energy ordinance (CREO). The Act defines a CREO as an ordinance that facilitates the development of energy facilities within the local unit of government, with requirements no more restrictive than the provisions of Section 226(8) of the Act.

The section 226(8) siting requirements for solar energy facilities include:

- A 300-foot setback from occupied community buildings/non-participant dwellings, as measured from the nearest edge of the fencing to the nearest wall.
- 50-foot setback from a public right-of-way, as measured from the nearest edge of the public right-of-way.
- 50-foot setback from side and rear non-participating property lines.
- National Electric Code-compliant fencing (currently 7 feet in height).
- Maximum height of 25 feet for solar panel components when the array is at full tilt.
- Maximum sound level of 55 average hourly decibels at the outer wall of the nearest dwelling on a non-participating property.
- Dark sky-friendly lighting solutions.

Importantly, all local units in which a project is proposed, including the county, must have a CREO in place in order for local project review and permitting to be mandatory.

DTE recognizes the importance of local engagement in the siting process and in partnering to determine the feasibility of utility-scale solar projects. We are committed to conducting thorough engineering studies to assess the viability of utility-scale solar projects while prioritizing positive contributions to the community. We are also committed to working with local units of governments that have ordinances in place that include workable setbacks, sound limitations, and landscaping requirements, even if not completely consistent with a CREO.

DTE would greatly appreciate the opportunity to engage with you to discuss potential collaboration, address any concerns, and work together to establish a solar ordinance (or should we say "project requirements") that meet the community's needs and align with our commitment to sustainable energy development. We are open to sharing our expertise and resources to ensure a mutually beneficial partnership.

Someone from our team will be reaching out to discuss partnership opportunities. If you would like to reach out to us, please contact me at jason.hannath@dteenergy.com or 248.425.4667.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jason Hannath'.

Jason Hannath
DTE | Site Manager
Land Development CE & Permitting

EDENVILLE TOWNSHIP

MIDLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN
P.O. BOX 24
467 MOORE STREET
EDENVILLE, MICHIGAN 48620

Established
1873

Land Owners and Citizens of Edenville,

28 February 2024

You are receiving this letter because you signed the notepad in the township office expressing interest in changing/discussing the current Township Set-Back zoning ordinance.

The current Set-back for "every lot on which a building or structure is erected shall have a front yard not less than 50 ft in depth from the right-of-way. . ." [Article 15 Section 15.04]

ROW for all roads public and private is 66 feet. "A road or street shall have at least sixty-six (66) feet of right-of-way width." (Edenville Ordinance 182, Article 15 section 15.07 paragraph 1)

These two ordinances when applied means that no lot can build withing 83ft of the center of the road.

The Planning Commission has set the date of **March 7, 2024** to hold a public hearing on the issue. The hearing will take place at the **Swanton Memorial Center beginning at 6:15**. This meeting was noticed in the Midland Daily News on January 12, 2024.

There are many and varying views on the setback issue. The Township Board supports this discussion and is open to amending the Ordinance. Your participation is key. America is a place where the laws are made by the people for the people. Taking part in these types of hearings is how you ensure that the laws you are forced to live by actually reflect the desires of the community.

I have personally advocated for a reduction in the set-back. I have advocated for a person to have as much use of the property they are paying taxes on as is legally appropriate. I am proud and thankful that the Chair of the Planning Commission, Mark Haydenek will be leading this hearing.

You also may send "official correspondence" regarding your stance to the Township Board at clerk@edenvilletwp.org or by mail Attention to Planning Commission P.O. Box 24 Edenville, MI 48620.

Sincerely,

Terrance Hall
Supervisor, Edenville Township

EDENVILLE TOWNSHIP

MIDLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN

P.O. BOX 24

467 MOORE STREET

EDENVILLE, MICHIGAN 48620

Established

1873

To Whom it May Concern,

28 February 2024

I, Terrance Hall, Supervisor of Edenville Township, write this letter in full support of the FEMA grant our fire department is submitting. We are requesting funding to both equip our new (used) pumper fire truck so it can be operational as well as new style SCBA breathing apparatuses. The new SCBA apparatuses significantly enhance our firefighter's ability to stay in the fight. Frugal measures have kept us utilizing older equipment. While our current equipment is operational our equipment is fast wearing and becoming outdated. We are coming to you because we are in dire need of for our fire fighters. The cost of outfitting our newly purchased fire truck with appropriate and code compliant firefighting and standard lifesaving equipment as well as the SCBA breathing apparatuses would severely affect our budgeting with out your assistance.

As you will see in our grant application, the breathing apparatus, cylinders, face pieces, and bags needed to outfit each of our fire fighters equates to a rather expensive purchase for our Township. Further, the supplies required to fully equip the pumper truck such as hoses, wrenches, hydrant tools, etc. are an additional cost that we are seeking assistance in funding.

The Edenville Fire Department is a municipal fire protection organization providing firefighting, rescue, and EMT services primarily in Edenville Township, with a population of 2,493. There are two stations that provide services to residents on both sides of the Tittabawassee River. Because there is only one bridge in our township that connects both sides of the river that splits us in half, prudent safety, and prevention measures demand that we have a fully functional and equipped second pumper truck. The department consists of approximately 16 members and maintains mutual aid agreements with a number of the neighboring townships.

I hope you will see that this project is worthy of FEMA support. I welcome any questions you may have regarding my strong support for this endeavor. With your support you can ensure that we have the westside pumper truck fully operational significantly faster than we can do on our own within our current budget constraints. Also, you will enable our transition to the new lighter and more functional SCBA's. Our position to save lives and reduce fire damage will be greatly enhanced by your approval and support. Thank you for your consideration in these life saving measures.

Sincerely,



Terrance Hall
Supervisor, Edenville Township

P.O. Box 24, 467 Moore St., Edenville MI 48620

Letterhead design adapted from an Edenville Township letter dated 1905

Tamie Luty
1176 W. Shearer Rd
Sanford, MI 48657

January 23, 2024

Edenville Township
Township Board
467 Moore St, P.O. Box 24
Edenville, MI 48620

Dear Members of Edenville Township Board;

I am requesting a retraction of false statements regarding the audit of the Edenville Financial Statements Year Ended June 30, 2023, made during the regular township board meeting on January 9, 2024. In addition, I request that the audit be added to the next regular Township Board meeting agenda, so that the Board can disclose the true Schedule of Findings and Responses and outline a corrective action plan.

At the township board meeting of Jan. 9, 2024, the Edenville Township financial audit, FYE June 30, 2023, was presented by Clerk Andera Lewis. She stated the audit was a "Customary annual audit, it was concluded with no problems, with the standard thing that they write on every townships stuff if you don't have a full time CPA on staff. There were no abnormalities, or anything detected..." Lewis went on to say that she didn't agree with the amount paid for the audit, saying, "They didn't ask for any other paperwork, they didn't find any problems."

Trustee Crystal Starkey began discussion, saying, "The term material misstatements strike me as..." She was cut off by Lewis, who raised her hand to block Starkey, and exclaimed, "You're going to have to talk to them!" Township Treasurer Karen Carey was laughing at this exchange.

Township Supervisor, Terry Hall asked if the audit book was present. Lewis answered twice that the auditors had not sent her the book, that she only had major pages.

Starkey continued her inquiry, reading from the auditor report, "Personnel responsible for financial reporting do not possess the skills necessary to monitor and report financial activity..." Lewis cut her off again, saying, "You have to be a licensed CPA to do the financial reports that the state wants. It's exactly the same as last year." Lewis further added, "We've had the same comments probably as long as we've been in existence."

- Contrary to board statements, this was not an audit with no abnormalities and no problems. The audit clearly and succinctly identified deficiencies in internal control that are considered to be material weaknesses. There were numerous material misstatements found in our Township financial records. The audit clearly and succinctly stated that Edenville Township staff lack the ability to know when this is happening and lack the ability to prevent it from happening. The auditors state that additional material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.
- To put this into perspective, material weaknesses are the highest level of deficiency. They allow for material misstatements to occur and go undetected. These mistakes can impact the economic decisions of anyone relying on those statements to make decisions. And that is what our audit has repeatedly been telling us. As to Lewis's claim that there was nothing out of order to warrant additional costs for the audit, in fact the report clearly states that it was necessary for auditors to make corrections to our financial reports.

Halls claims that these are, "little blurbs," "templates," and "just the way it is," are nonsensical and false. This kind of smoke and mirror response to something as critical as a true and accurate understanding of Edenville Township's financial situation is alarming. There are numerous laws in place to protect from this kind of ineptness. Please accept this citizen request with the following attachments.

Attachments:

Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC, Ethical Considerations for Township Officials.

MCL 41.65 Sec. 65 Custody of Records, books, and papers; preservation; delivery to successor in office; accounts; accounting records; journals and ledgers.

MCL 750.423 Perjury; penalty; "record" and "signed" defined. 15-year Felony.

MCL 750.478 Willful neglect of duty; public officer or person holding public trust or employment; penalty. One year Misdemeanor, \$1,000 fine.

MCL 750.489 False statement of public finances and transfer of same. Misdemeanor.



WEINLANDER FITZHUGH

Certified Public Accountants & Advisors

Our consideration of the internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2023-001 and 2023-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Edenville Township's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Edenville Township's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Edenville Township's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. Edenville Township's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Weinlander Fitzhugh

EDENVILLE TOWNSHIP
Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

2023-002

Criteria

During the course of the audit, we identified several misstatements, some of which were material to the Township's financial statements and provided audit entries to correct these misstatements.

Condition

Auditor identified material misstatements.

Context

The finding is a result of observation, inquiry with Township administration and testing of the accounts.

Effect

Budget variances and violations could occur due to inaccurate recorded amounts. Material misstatements of the Township's financial statements could go undetected.

Recommendation

The Township personnel should review the audit entries, understand the necessities of the entries and implement controls to ensure that the accounts and transactions affected are reviewed and corrected during the year and at year end.

Views of the Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Action

Procedures will be implemented to ensure that all transactions are recorded on a timely basis.

EDENVILLE TOWNSHIP

MIDLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN

P.O. BOX 24

467 MOORE STREET

EDENVILLE, MICHIGAN 48620

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

For the year ending June 30, 2023

Fiscal Year	Finding number	Finding and corrective Action Plan	
		Condition:	Response
2022	001	Personnel responsible for financial reporting do not possess the skills necessary to monitor and report financial activity without auditor involvement.	The Township will continue to seek funding and re-evaluate on an annual basis the additional education and monitoring needed.

EDENVILLE TOWNSHIP

MIDLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN
P.O. BOX 24
467 MOORE STREET
EDENVILLE, MICHIGAN 48620

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

June 30, 2023

Finding	Planned Corrective Action	Anticipated Completion Date	Responsible Contact Person
The Township audit resulted in numerous material misstatements identified.	The Township personnel will review the audit entries, understand the entries and implement controls to ensure that the accounts and transactions affected are reviewed and corrected during the year.	June 30, 2024	Anedra Lewis, Clerk
The Township lacks that ability to prepare a complete set of financial statements with footnotes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.	The Township is evaluating this deficiency and will remedy once funds become available to hire an experienced employee or contract with a CPA firm for assistance with this process.	June 30, 2024	Anedra Lewis, Clerk

**Fahey Schultz
Burzych Rhodes**

Ethical Considerations for Township Officials

Michigan law imposes some clear standards and other less-defined standards of conduct for township officials. Violations of these standards of conduct may have civil or criminal consequences. Adhering to these standards of conduct can avoid political turmoil, legal proceedings and civil or criminal liability.

Newspaper headlines sometimes highlight public board members doing wrong, injuring the public or creating the appearance of impropriety. Consider these real-life scenarios:

- A citizen involved in litigation with the township wins election as a township trustee, and then votes in favor of stopping the litigation, instead of abstaining from the vote.
- A trustee's husband is being considered by the board as a township employee, and the trustee votes on his appointment instead of abstaining.

In some instances, an action of a board member constitutes a conflict of interest and breach of an ethical obligation; not many people would disagree with the position that a board member should not be voting on decisions relating to litigation to which he or she is an adverse party. Other situations, such as participating in a vote related to the hiring of a family member, may have the appearance of impropriety, but are not necessarily a legal conflict of interest.

Township Officials' Fiduciary Duties

Michigan's ethics code is reflected in our state constitution's oath of office, which requires all township board members to swear under oath to faithfully discharge the duties of their office. This is a "fiduciary duty" owed to "all members of the public." Similar to an agent for a corporation or a trustee of an estate, a township board member's fiduciary duties require "fair dealings and disinterested conduct." But what exactly is a township board member's fiduciary duty? At the most basic level, it includes a duty of loyalty and a duty of care.

Duty of Loyalty

The duty of loyalty is inherent in administering township governance. This duty requires members to avoid conflicts of interest, self-dealing, and exploiting township information or transactions for personal gain. The duty is codified in various statutes.

A 1975 attorney general opinion explains that a conflict of interest arises when the "personal interest of a public official places him in a position where he cannot execute his public duties without affecting his private interests, thus denying the public the fair, impartial and objective judgment to which it is entitled." MCL 15.183 prohibits an officer from holding two public offices when that would cause a breach of duty such that the "dual holding of two public positions prevents a person from protecting, advancing or promoting the interests of either position." For example, since a township board member's principal loyalty lies with the township, a conflict occurs when the township board must establish employee compensation for a local court where one board member works.

- Purchase of goods with township funds for any use other than official township business. MCL 750.490a.
- Failure to furnish township records for at least four hours per day during normal business hours. MCL 750.492.

Some of these violations are punishable by up to 1 year imprisonment and a \$1,000 fine.

Conclusion

Township board members must observe their fiduciary duties to the Township and the public, including the duty of loyalty and the duty of care. But the breadth and depth of these duties are much greater than many officials know or assume, and are comprised of multiple statutes, Attorney General Opinions and court cases.

Effective township governance requires adherence to the ethical requirements provided by law and the faithful exercise of each board member's duty to manage township business. Townships are well-advised to invest in training their officials and preparing comprehensive ethics policies. The Michigan Township Association's model ethics policies and board member code of conduct are great resources for starting the discussion.

By: Bill Fahey, Chris Patterson and Steve Koski

[Click here for a PDF version of this publication.](#)

Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC, Your Township Attorneys, is a Michigan law firm specializing in the representation of Michigan townships. Our lawyers have more than 150 years of experience in township law, and have represented more than 150 townships across the state of Michigan. This publication is intended for our clients and friends. This communication highlights specific areas of law, and is not legal advice. The reader should consult an attorney to determine how the information applies to any specific situation.

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CONTACT

4151 Okemos Road
Okemos, MI 48864

PHONE:
FAX:

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THE MICHIGAN PENAL CODE (EXCERPT)

Act 328 of 1931

750.423 Perjury; penalty; "record" and "signed" defined.

Sec. 423. (1) Any person authorized by a statute of this state to take an oath, or any person of whom an oath is required by law, who willfully swears falsely in regard to any matter or thing respecting which the oath is authorized or required is guilty of perjury, a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15 years.

(2) Subsection (1) applies to a person who willfully makes a false declaration in a record that is signed by the person and given under penalty of perjury. As used in this subsection:

(a) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(b) "Signed" means the person did either of the following to authenticate or adopt the record:

(i) Executed or adopted a tangible symbol.

(ii) Attached to or logically associated with the record an electronic symbol, sound, or process.

History: 1931, Act 328, Eff. Sept. 18, 1931;—CL 1948, 750.423;—Am. 2012, Act 360, Eff. Apr. 1, 2013.

Former law: See section 2 of Ch. 156 of R.S. 1846, being CL 1857, § 5821; CL 1871, § 7654; How., § 9236; CL 1897, § 11307; CL 1915, § 14974; and CL 1929, § 16565.

THE MICHIGAN PENAL CODE (EXCERPT)

Act 328 of 1931

750.489 False statement of public finances and transfer of same.

Sec. 489. False statement of public finances and transfer of same—Any officer, agent, servant or employe of the state of Michigan, or of any county, township, city, village or school district of this state, and any member, agent or employe of any board or commission of the state of Michigan or of any of the municipalities above named, who shall knowingly deliver, publish or give out for publication any false statement relating to the finances, funds, moneys or balances in any fund of said state, county, township, city, village or school district, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any officer, agent, servant or employe of the state of Michigan, or of any county, township, city, village or school district of this state, and any member, agent or employe of any board or commission of the state of Michigan or of any of the municipalities above named, who shall transfer or juggle the funds of the state or other municipal division thereof, or issue false checks, drafts, warrants, vouchers or other evidences of credit, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

History: 1931, Act 328, Eff. Sept. 18, 1931;—CL 1948, 750.489.

Former law: See sections 1 to 3 of Act 291 of 1927, being CL 1929, §§ 381 to 383.

RE: audit results

Shelly R Browning <shelly.browning@wf.cpa>

Tue 2/27/2024 1:29 PM

To: Clerk <Clerk@edenvilletwp.org>

Hi Anedra-

First, let's start with the financial reporting finding. This finding is something that you will see with most local units of government in Michigan. The state specifically asks me when I submit 1) do you have any findings? 2) are there any findings other than segregation of duties and financial reporting? They know with the complexity of local governments this is a common finding and they only want to know if there are any additional findings. The Township has had this finding for many years.

Second, material adjustments were required for a number of reasons, none of which were fraud or illegal acts. We recorded adjustments for the prior year not being made, making the books on the accrual basis (common with local units of government), recording the revenue that was deferred in prior years for ARPA and the Special assessments, to record transfers between funds and to correct a couple of errors for bank transfers that were recorded as revenue and expenses that should have been neither.

The Township could always hire an outside accountant to clean up the books for the audit. The Board would need to determine what the cost vs. the benefit is for that.

Hope this helps.

Shelly Browning, CPA
Weinlander Fitzhugh

From: Clerk <Clerk@edenvilletwp.org>

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 2:42 PM

To: Shelly R Browning <shelly.browning@wf.cpa>

Subject: audit results

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Shelly,

We have a couple of people (one is a trustee) that are taking exception to the wording in both the findings and the corrective action plan.

They are under the impression that the township NEEDS to hire a CPA because we don't have the skills to not have auditor involvement.

and the finding that the Township audit resulted in numerous material misstatements. They are saying that we have committed both misdemeanors and felony's.

I have tried telling them that the purpose of the audit is to correct any mistakes; but they are " haters" and expect that the audit should have been perfect with nothing to correct, and that we are committing a crime if there is a mistake.

Now other than the general journal entry that hadn't been done because it wasn't formatted for quickbooks; I don't know of any material misstatements.

Can you elaborate, or give me something to tell them that they might understand?

--

Anedra Lewis
Edenville Township Clerk
office 989-689-3655
fax 989-689-6151
647 Moore St
PO Box 24
Edenville, Mi 48620

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Any advice or information in the body of this email is subject to, and limited by, the terms in the applicable engagement letter or statement of work, including provisions regarding tax advice.

Weinlander Fitzhugh is not responsible for, and no person should rely upon, any advice or information in the body of this email unless such advice or information relates to services contemplated by an engagement letter or statement of work in effect between such person and Weinlander Fitzhugh.



RE: Nelson Granite Columbariums

Kevin Young <kevin.young@nelsongranite.com>

Tue 3/5/2024 3:41 PM

To: Clerk <Clerk@edenvilletwp.org>

📎 4 attachments (7 MB)

2024 MTA SHOW SPECIAL.pdf; Nelson Granite Bronze Program 2024.pdf; 24 Morning Rose with Arctic Grey doors 3 wide 4 tall.jpg; 24greyrosewbronze.e.jpg;

Hi Anedra,

Just following up on our chat you can find a quote for a 24 Niche columbarium below.

24-Niche Columbarium #1

Morning Rose with Arctic Grey Doors

Pre-drilled for Nelson Granite Door Plaques and Memory Walls

\$9,480 + Freight

24-Niche Columbarium #2

Arctic Grey with Morning Rose Doors

Pre-drilled for Nelson Granite Door Plaques and Memory Walls

\$10,428 + Freight

Stainless steel inner doors available (+\$720)

0, 1, or 2 Memory Walls can be chosen

Customer responsible for crane and foundation, Nelson Granite can help organize crane.

Freight estimated at \$750

For your interest, attached you can find our upcoming 2024 Michigan Township Association Conference Show Special.

Now, this is a 48 Niche columbarium but you do save over \$1,000.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Kevin

Kevin Young

Sales | Service | Support

14 Thrush Court

Elmira, ON N3B 3C6

C: 519-807-9198

Head Office: 807-227-2650

kevin.young@nelsongranite.com

F: 807-227-2722

Vermilion Bay, ON



From: Kevin Young

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 1:59 PM

To: Anedra Lewis <clerk@edenvilletwp.org>

Subject: RE: Nelson Granite Columbarium

Hi Anedra,



2024 MTA SHOW SPECIAL

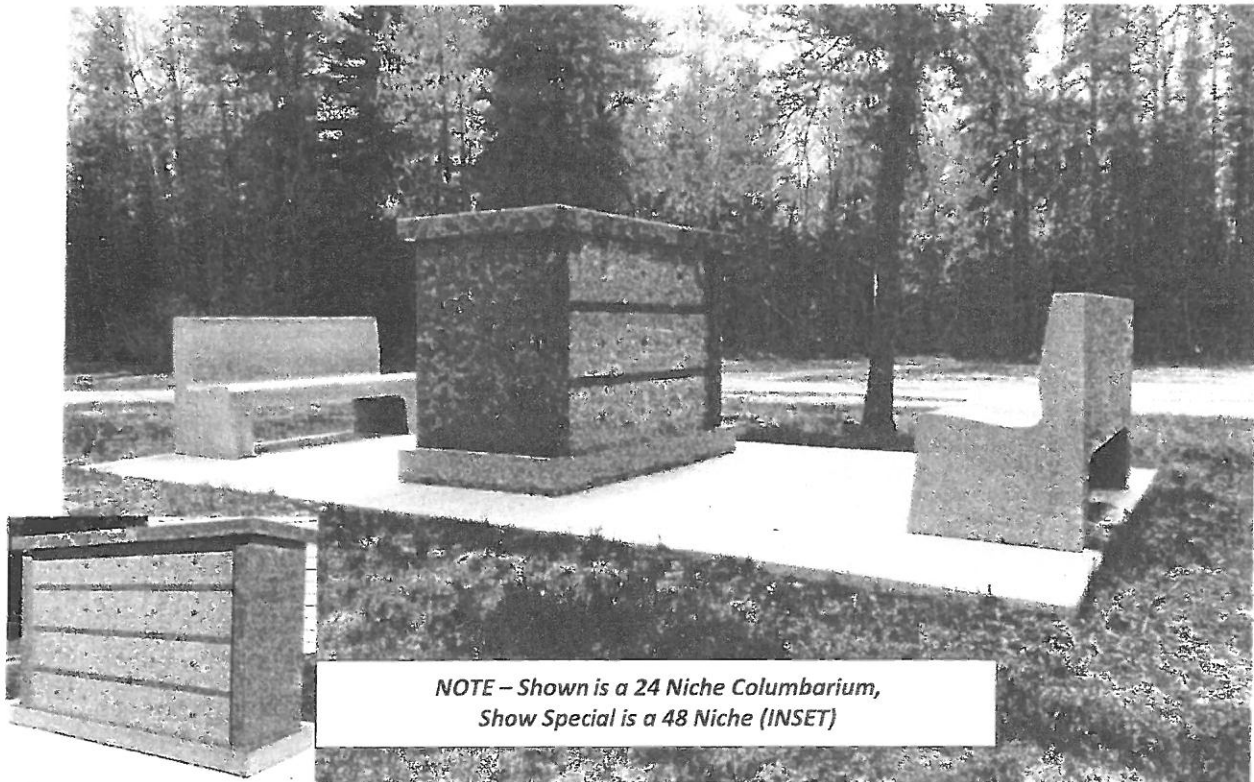
Nelson Granite is offering a show special to all Michigan Townships for the 2024 MTA Show, being held April 23-24th in Traverse City.

- One (1) 48 Niche Columbarium with a Morning Rose or Pine Green Exterior (your choice of door color)
- Two (2) One Piece benches in matching color
- Customer responsible for foundation and crane

Regular Price = \$18,960 + \$3,100 = \$22,060 + Freight (freight estimated at \$1,500)

Show Special → Save 5% or \$1,103 = \$20,957+ Freight

Valid until August 1st, 2024



*NOTE – Shown is a 24 Niche Columbarium,
Show Special is a 48 Niche (INSET)*

PLAQUE OPTION

- Niche doors are predrilled in-house at no charge to accept Nelson Granite plaques. Bronze agreement must be signed upon purchase.
- Plaques with year of birth and year of passing are \$545 plus freight (year of passing plaques are ordered as needed at a cost of \$50 plus freight).
- Plaques must be ordered when sold and not before as the names, and dates if all are known, are cast.
- Plaques with month/day/year of birth and month/day/year of passing, or an extra line of text, are \$595 plus freight (month/day/year of passing plaques are ordered as needed at a cost of \$50 plus freight).
- Plaques can be sold at a cost agreed upon by the municipality or cemetery committee.



MEMORY WALL OPTION

Many people ask for their ashes to be scattered at the lake or at the farm and the list goes on. This means that there is no record of the deceased in the cemetery or even a place to go visit and pay respects. One of the first places a historian starts looking for when studying a person, family or community is the local cemetery and without a physical memorial, the history of the community begins to disappear. Memory walls can help prevent this loss of history.

Nelson Granite has incorporated the idea of a memory wall into the existing columbariums. This means no additional space is required and there is no need for another foundation pad.

We offer bronze plaques that show the full name with years of birth and passing and they can be sold to family members wanting to leave a legacy of their loved ones. The sale of these plaques can also help offset the perpetual care cost of the cemetery while filling a growing request from your community.

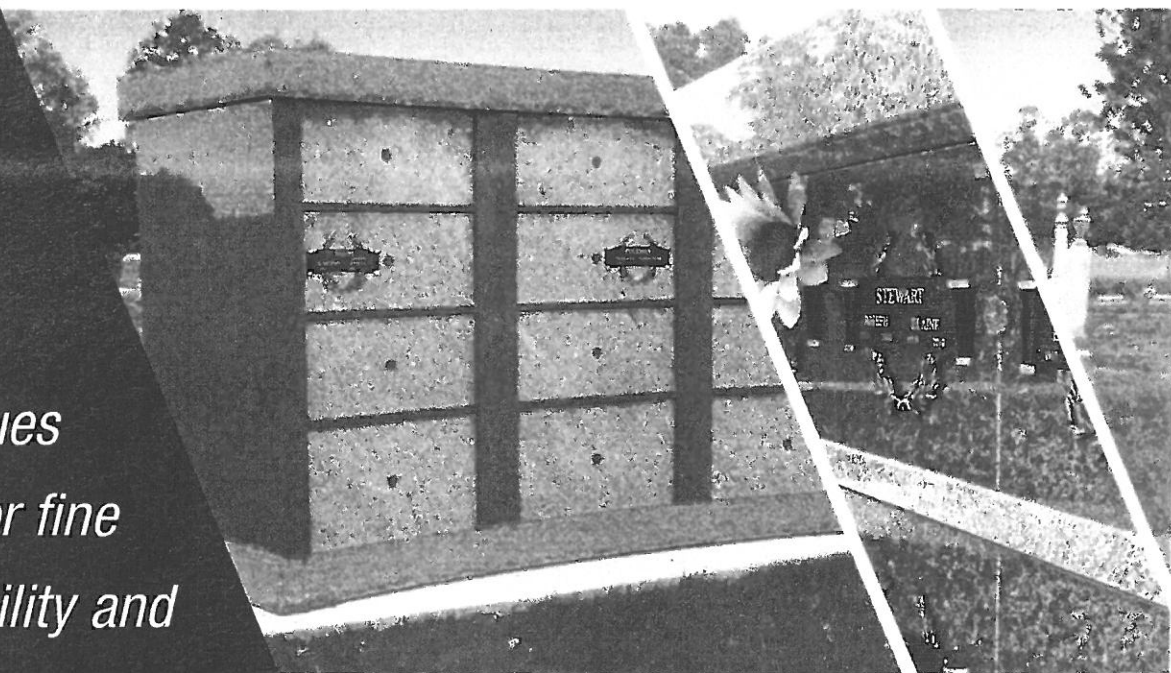
The cost of the memory wall plaques are \$285 plus freight and can be sold at a cost agreed upon by the municipality or cemetery committee. As the plaques are cast, they must be ordered when sold so there is no money out of pocket for the municipality. One or both end walls or panels on the columbarium will be predrilled in-house at no charge to accept Nelson Granite plaques.

BRONZE PLAQUES vs ENGRAVING

The participation in our bronze plaque program is growing very quickly for many reasons:

- Sandblasting is becoming harder to get done as cremation rates, and thus the use of columbariums, increase.
- Bronze plaques create a uniform look across the columbarium.
- Bronze plaques are ordered when purchased so there is NO upfront cost to the municipality
- Ordering plaques when niches are sold pre-need allows sold niches to be tracked easily for many years and eliminates the risk of double selling a niche.
- Any revenue from the bronze program stays in the municipality and helps to offset the cost of perpetual care and maintenance for the cemetery.
- Bronze plaques have the option of having flower cups to allow families to place small flower arrangements beside a loved one's name. This eliminates visitors from tying flowers and objects to the plaques or leaving larger flowers or objects on the ground, obstructing the names of those in the bottom row as well as leaving a mess for cemetery staff to clean up.
- If a family wishes to move their loved one, the plaque can be removed and given to the family and the niche can be resold and a new plaque ordered.
- No need to install spare doors and send the doors away to be sandblasted. If sold pre-need, the plaque is already installed with the names and dates of birth. Once a family member is interred, the smaller plaque marked with the date of passing can be ordered and installed. The design of the plaque is made to incorporate the smaller plaques seamlessly.
- The cost of the bronze plaque is comparable to, or less than, the cost of sandblasting. (Prices may be subject to change)

*"Bronze Plaques
offer superior fine
detail, durability and
a rich, lustre finish."*



**NELSON
GRANITE**

nelsongranite.com

MOTION on Columbarium at the
Regularly Scheduled Edenville Township Board Meeting to

To approve the purchase of a
24 niche Columbarium from
Nelson Granite to be placed in the
old cemetery by the Swanston section
approx cost installed \$12,140.

Motion proffered by : Anedra.

Supported by: _____

Discussion/notes: _____

Roll Call Vote:

Jim _____ Crystal: _____ Karen: _____ Anedra: _____
Terrance: _____

Put off til later.

Porta-John recommendations from P&R

Mary Beth Seasholtz <mbseasholtz@outlook.com>

Wed 2/7/2024 10:03 AM

To: Terrance Hall <Supervisor@edenvilletwp.org>; Clerk <Clerk@edenvilletwp.org>; Treasurer <Treasurer@edenvilletwp.org>; Trustee2 <Trustee2@edenvilletwp.org>; crystalstarkey@gmail.com <crystalstarkey@gmail.com>

Hello Board,

The Parks and Recreation Committee wants to make a recommendation regarding Porta-Johns.

- We know the one at Harper is ours and is getting fixed; presumably it will be back in place by spring?
- Gransden Park: We recommend putting an ADA accessible porta john there, not just a usual one.
- Swanton Hall: We recommend adding an ADA accessible porta john ... several locations were discussed ... either over by the museum or tucked in next to Swanton Hall. Once we like the location, the P&R Committee then wants to pour a concrete pad and build a windbreak/privacy fence around it.

Mary Beth on behalf of the P&R Committee

Mary Beth Seasholtz
mbseasholtz@outlook.com

MOTION on 3-12 at the
Regularly Scheduled Edenville Township Board Meeting to

To place an ADA accessible
Porta John at Grandin Park &
Sawantow Hall.

Buy or rent

Motion proffered by: Anedra

Supported by: _____

Discussion/notes: _____

Roll Call Vote:

Jim _____ Crystal: _____ Karen: _____ Anedra: _____

Terrance: _____

The Wooden Compass LLC

5160 N Water Rd
Sanford, MI 48657

989-488-7310
1nate.coston@gmail.com

Licensed and Insured
Michigan Builders License #2101200576
Expiration 5/31/2026

Estimate

2/16/2024

Edenville Township- Swanton Hall

Drywall repair in Hallway to the wall before entering the kitchen.

Prep work site.

Remove compromised drywall, float, finish, and paint.

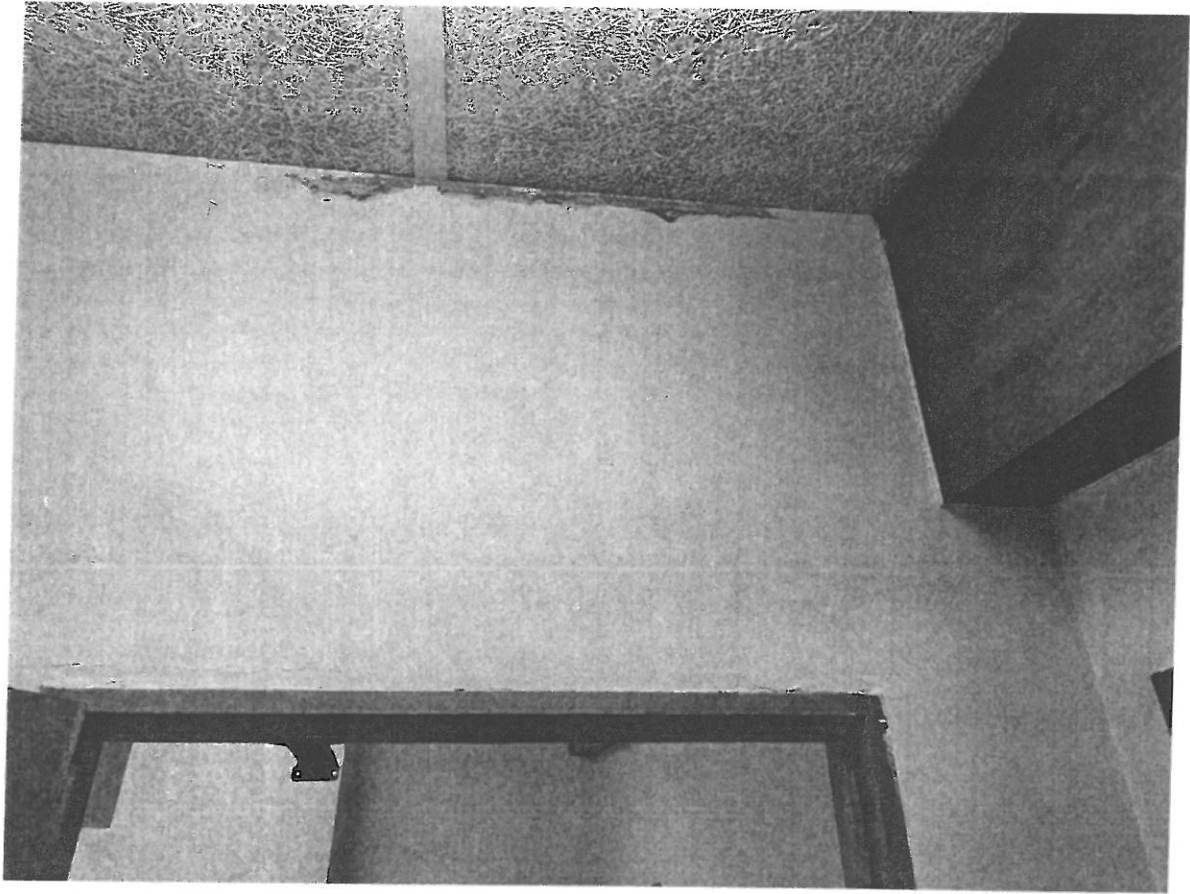
(work on the discoloration of the ceiling not included)

*see attached picture

Labor and Materials \$680

Deposit required before work begins (\$340)

Balance Due upon Completion (\$340)



MOTION on 3/2-24 at the
Regularly Scheduled Edenville Township Board Meeting to

to approve the bid for \$680.00 to
repair Drywall & paint small
damaged area at Swanton Hall
Bid by The Wooden Compass LLC

Motion proffered by: Anedra

Supported by: _____

Discussion/notes: _____

Roll Call Vote:

Jim _____ Crystal: _____ Karen: _____ Anedra: _____
Terrance: _____

3510 Rhodes Rd.
Rhodes, MI 48652
989-879-4256

Proposal

Date	Proposal No.
12/18/2023	1827

Customer Name
Edenville Township PO Box 24 Edenville MI 48620

[illegible]

Customer Signature:

MOTION on Back Electric at the
Regularly Scheduled Edenville Township Board Meeting to

For changing wall pack on fire barn
to LED

Motion proffered by : _____

Supported by: _____

Discussion/notes: _____

Roll Call Vote:

Jim _____ Crystal: _____ Karen: _____ Anedra: _____
Terrance: _____

Township and County Official's Letter of Support for seeking funding for Four Lakes Special Assessment District

We support the Four Lakes Task Force in its capacity under Part 307 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (MCL 324.30701 et seq) ("Part 307") as Midland and Gladwin Counties delegated authority to acquire, repair and operate the Secord, Smallwood, Wixom and Sanford dams.

We support the path forward and the plan of financing proposed by the Four Lakes Task Force and approved by the Gladwin and Midland County Commissioners on February 6, 2024. We further support FLTF in their efforts to continue to manage costs to the lowest level possible, seek additional funding and restore the lakes.

These lakes provide value and improve the quality of life to our communities. We support the return of the lakes and ask that you support Four Lakes Task Force in their funding request to help alleviate the cost burden to the local community.

Midland County Board of Commissioner's

Gladwin County Board of Commissioner's

Secord Township

Clement Township

Bourret Township

Hay Township

Billings Township

Tobacco Township

Village of Sanford

Jerome Township

Edenville Township

Hope Township

Dear neighbor,

My name is Louie Popovski, and our family owns a house on Sanford Lake. I'm a realtor and I'm reaching out to our community to introduce myself and to try and make some sort of positive impact on a situation that many view as not so positive. I, like many others who have been affected directly or indirectly by the floods, am not very happy with the latest news of the additional tax assessment that will be impacting many of us as a result of increased project costs for the dams.

If you managed to make it to the public hearing on January 15th in Beaverton, I'm sure you walked away that day perhaps more frustrated with the situation than you were when walking in. You probably also heard me speak as I voiced my objections, including:

- All who benefit from the lakes should have some financial responsibility for their return, meaning they also pay a special assessment or have to purchase a permit to use the lakes.
- The scales that determine each factor used within the tax formula are arbitrary, unclear, and objectively unfair. I have not seen an explanation on how those scales were determined.
- Some project management and related decisions have been questionable at best.

Following the meeting, I formally extended my objections to: Gladwin Board of Commissioners; Midland Board of Commissioners; State Representative Bill G. Schuette; State Senator Roger Hauck; and Governor Gretchen Whitmer. I received some responses, but nothing that will bring immediate and significant change. I do encourage you to do the same if you haven't done so already.

So, like many times before over the past few years, it seems we only have ourselves to rely on. I heard so many neighbors at that meeting sharing tragic stories about their land and homes – homes that needed to be rebuilt with little funds to spare after the dams gave way, homes that have been in their families for decades, and homes that people hoped to pass down to their children and grandkids. My heart especially breaks for those who are retired and on a fixed income with little to no options.

Please know that my intention in reaching out to you today is not to add any undue stress to your situation. As mentioned above, I think helping each other as a community is the best way to move forward. If you ever find yourself in need of guidance when it comes to real estate and navigating the challenges surrounding how the special assessment would affect the potential sale of your home or property, I'm here to help. You can reach out to me any time by texting, calling, or email. This is one of the ways I feel like I can contribute. If you do decide to sell, I'm here to help, but know that I'd rather have you stay. I love our neighbors and wouldn't change a thing about our community, except maybe add a little bit more water and take away a lot more taxes.

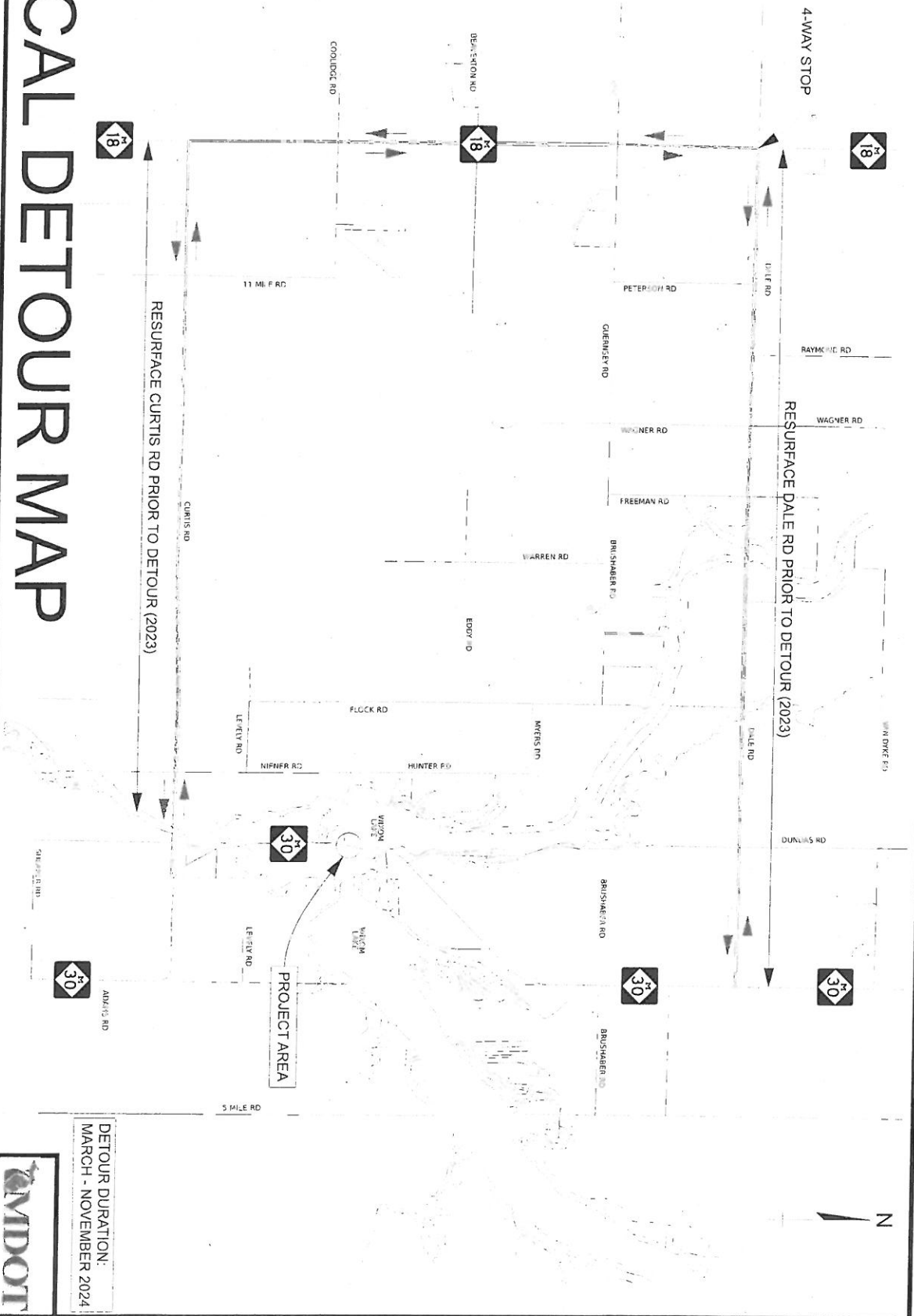
In the meantime, please take care of yourself and your loved ones.

God Bless,



Louie Popovski
(248) 885-7390
louiepopovski@gmail.com

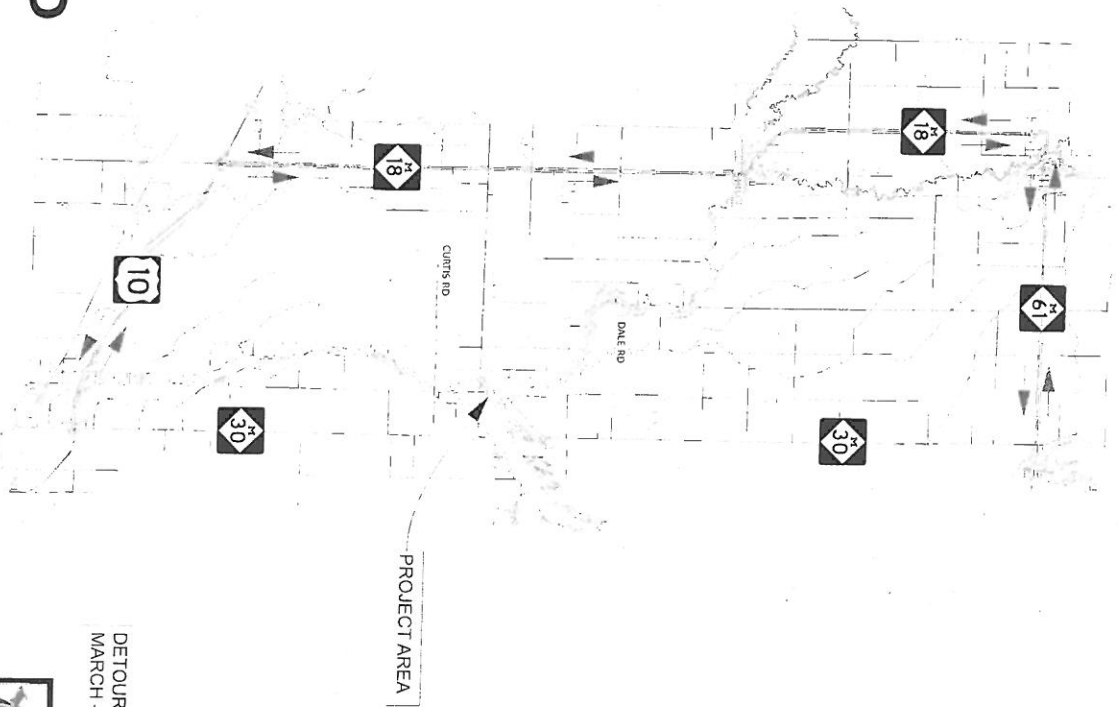
LOCAL DETOUR MAP



DETOUR DURATION:
MARCH - NOVEMBER 2024



TRUCK DETOUR MAP



DETOUR DURATION:
MARCH - NOVEMBER 2024

