

**KEELER TOWNSHIP  
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
64151 TERRITORIAL RD. W.  
HARTFORD, MI 49057**

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWNSHIP BOARD BUDGET MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024**

The Keeler Township Board Special Budget Meeting called to order by Supervisor, Don Blackmond at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call of members present Trustee Matt Sexton, Treasurer Sharon Clupper, Clerk Angie Sexton, and Supervisor Don Blackmond. Trustee Jerry Morin was absent and excused. Four members were present constituting a quorum.

Public comment opened at 6:02 p.m. Mr. Davis then asked why the unapproved minutes had not been posted to the township website. Clerk Sexton let him know that approved minutes were being posted to the website. Carl Davis said that the unapproved minutes needed to be posted within 20 days. Upon hearing no other public comments, the floor closed at 6:03 p.m.

Budget Hearing- Don Blackmond moved to open the public Budget Hearing for the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year. Sharon Clupper seconded and all were in favor. Copies of the proposed budget were made available to the public for viewing. The estimated income for the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year is \$1,247,652.00, with estimated expenses of \$1,195,445.63 for a gain of \$52,206.37. (See attached proposed 2024-2025 Keeler Township Budget for details.) The salaries of the board proposed in the budget are based upon the Consumer Price Index. Carl Davis asked where the board came up with the CPI. Supervisor Blackmond informed him that the percentage is from the State of Michigan which set the Consumer Price Index. Former Clerk Carl Davis asked if there was an expanded sheet of the budget. Supervisor Don Blackmond informed him that he could request a time to see an expanded version of the budget with the Clerk. Don Blackmond moved to close the public Budget Hearing. Matt Sexton seconded, and all were in favor and the hearing closed at 6:13 p.m.

Don Blackmond moved to approve the agenda as amended with the addition of a Statement of Organization. Angie Sexton seconded, and all were in favor.

Salary Resolution- The budget included a 5% increase across the board for Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk, Deputies and Trustees. Additional compensation was considered for additional duties being taken on by the Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk. Discussion was held on salary increases. Matt Sexton and Sharon Clupper felt the Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk should be the same salary of \$39,495.00. Don Blackmond felt that the Supervisor should be \$31,500, Treasurer \$35,000, Clerk \$40,000 and Trustees \$5,275. Trustee Matthew Sexton moved to approve the Salary Resolution establishing the officers salaries of Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk to \$39,495.00 a year, the Deputies and Trustees to \$5,275.00 a year. Sharon Clupper seconded. A roll call vote was taken of Matthew Sexton - support, Don Blackmond- deny, Sharon Clupper- support, Angie Sexton- support. The motion carried.

2024-2025 Budget approval- Supervisor Don Blackmond moved to approve the 2024-25 Budget as presented with the salary adjustments. Matthew Sexton Seconded. A roll call vote was taken of Angie Sexton- support, Sharon Clupper- support, Matthew Sexton- support, Don Blackmond- support. Motion carried.

2023-24 Budget Amendment- The 2023-2024 budget showing what was budgeted, actual and amount needed to be amended was presented and gone through line by line. (See attached 2023-2024 Keeler Township Fiscal Year Budget for details.) Matthew Sexton noted that the budget was within 4.5% of income and expenses versus the 2023-2024 budget. Don Blackmond moved to approve the amended budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Matthew Sexton seconded. A roll call vote was taken of Sharon Clupper- support, Don Blackmond- support, Angie Sexton- support, Matthew Sexton- support. The motion carried.

Delinquent Old Personal Property Taxes- Treasurer Sharon Clupper let the board know that the township has earned \$650 interest on the Current Property Taxes and she would like to pay down some of the uncollectible outstanding Personal Property taxes that still exist from the years 2011-2013 with the accrued interest, like the board did previously. It is cheaper for the board to pay off these uncollectible amounts than to hire the township attorney to petition the court. Sharon Clupper moved to use the \$650.00 Current Fund interest to pay down some of the old uncollectible personal property taxes from the 2011-2013 years. Angie Sexton seconded and a roll call vote was taken of Supervisor Don Blackmond- support, Matthew Sexton- support, Clerk Angie Sexton- support, Sharon Clupper- support. Motion carried.

Planning Commission opening- Carmen Fleischauer has decided not to continue with another term on the Planning Commission. Bill Kays has agreed to fill the open position. Supervisor Blackmond recommended the Township Board appoint Bill Kays to fill the vacancy. Matthew Sexton seconded. All were in favor.

Insurance Policy- The insurance policy from EMC to cover the township and fire department from 4/1/2024-4/1/2025 was presented at \$29,980. There were slight changes of costs due to increases in fire department equipment values, property casualty premium and additional fees for a couple fire department events. In the past, the total policy premium was broken down between the township and the fire department for budgeting purposes. With the premium the way it is the \$29,980 would have been allocated at \$16,369 to the fire department and \$13,462.78 to the township. Don Blackmond proposes to shift \$3,254.98 of the cost to the township to cover the cost of insurance on the fire department building due to it being the township's property and therefore the township should cover the cost of insuring it. Don Blackmond moved for the fire department's cost of \$16,369 to decrease by \$3,254.98 and the townships portion of \$13,462.78 to increase by \$3,254.98. Angie Sexton seconded, and all were in favor. The previously approved 2024-25 budget already had this adjustment built into it. Don Blackmond moved to approve the amended policy from EMC Insurance for \$29,980. Angie Sexton seconded, and a roll call vote taken of Angie Sexton- support, Matthew Sexton- support, Sharon Clupper- support, Don Blackmond- support. All were in favor and the motion carried.

ORV Ordinance- The Van Buren County presented a proposed ORV Ordinance to the Keeler Township board for their input on and whether the township is in favor of the ordinance or would like to opt out. Don Blackmond was in favor of the ordinance as

presented. All were in favor of the ordinance.

Transfer Site Fees- Carl Davis the Transfer Site Attendant recommended that the Transfer Site Fees remain the same and that the fee schedule needed to be approved again. Don Blackmond moved to approve the transfer site fees as they currently exist. Sharon Clupper seconded, and all were in favor.

Statement of Organization- Sharon Clupper is requesting permission from the board to use the township hall address on her Statement of Organization application for her campaign committee for her re-election petition. Angie Sexton moved to approve the request by Sharon Clupper to use the township address on her Statement of Organization application. Don Blackmond seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The floor for Public Comment opened at 6:58 p.m. Hearing no public comments, the floor closed at 6:59 p.m.

Correspondence- The Supervisor received mail correspondence dated 2-28-24 from Primeland Properties to the Keeler Cemetery expressing interest in purchasing the property for \$42,416.45. The board agreed that this was something that they were not interested in entertaining.

Motion by Don Blackmond to adjourn and Matthew Sexton seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Submitted by,

Angie Sexton, Clerk  
April 1, 2024

2022-2023 Fiscal Year Ammended Budget link

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:va6c2:3a40bae5-8982-4bcf-bd1a-163df7c23d99>

2024-2025 Fiscal Year Approved Budget link

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:09dc1076-409c-41c0-ad9a-43f2e324d226>

**TOWNSHIP OF KEELER  
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION NO: 03-26-2024**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TOWNSHIP OFFICERS' SALARIES**

WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.95(3), in a township that does not hold an annual meeting, the salary of officers composing the township board shall be determined by the township board; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the offices of Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, Trustee, Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer is warranted;

WHEREAS, the Township Board recognizes that the Consumer Price Index is 5.1%; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that a 5% increase is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, as of April 1, 2024, the salary of the offices of Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, Trustee, Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer shall be as follows:

Supervisor: \$39,495

Clerk: \$39,495

Treasurer: \$39,495

Trustee: \$5,275

Deputy Clerk: \$5,275

Deputy Treasurer: \$5,275

This RESOLUTION was offered by member Matthew Sexton and supported by member Sharon Clupper. The members voted as follows:

Yes: Matthew Sexton, Sharon Clupper, Angie Sexton

No: Don Blackmond

Absent: Jerry Morin

The Supervisor declared the resolution approved.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned Clerk of Keeler Township, Van Buren County, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Board at a meeting held on March 26, 2024, and that said meeting was held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk, Keeler Township

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Blackmond, Supervisor

# KEELER TOWNSHIP TRANSFER SITE FEES & RULES

Trash Bags 30-gallon, 32-gallon, or 40-gallon size bags	\$4.00 per bag
Appliances: Stove, Washer, Dryer, Dishwasher, Freezer, Refrigerator	\$25.00
Sofa, Loveseat, Recliner & Other Furniture	\$25.00
Car Trunk Loads	\$40.00 to \$60.00
Small Pickup Truck Loads (Chevy S-10, Ford Ranger etc.)	\$50.00 to \$80.00
Standard Pickup Truck Loads	\$70.00 to \$100.00
Mattress -Twin \$15.00, Full/Queen \$20.00, King \$25.00	\$15.00, \$20.00, \$25.00
Trailer Loads	\$70.00 to \$150.00
Roll out curb container size 92-gallon.	\$15.00
Wood (Not Treated), Paper Products, Cardboard, Plastic, Cans Discretion	Attendant's

## **ANYTHING NOT LISTED WILL BE ACCEPTED/CHARGED PER ATTENDANT'S DISCRETION**

- SOLID WASTE ONLY
- NO GARBAGE OF ANY KIND
- NO TIRES OF ANY KIND
- NO STEEL BARRELS FULL OR EMPTY
- NO GRASS CLIPPINGS, LEAVES OR LAWN WASTE
- DO NOT LEAVE ITEMS OUTSIDE THE GATE/FENCE

**The Keeler Township Transfer Site only accepts residential solid waste from Keeler Township residents/property owners, and will not accept**

**commercial waste from contractors, builders, commercial haulers, etc.**

PAY ATTENDANT BEFORE YOU BEGIN UNLOADING

FOLLOW ATTENDANT'S INSTRUCTIONS

VIOLATORS WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE AND/OR FINED

**OPEN SATURDAYS ONLY**

**First Saturday in April to Last Saturday in October**

**8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. (4 Hours Only)**

See attendant if you have any questions or contact the Township Clerk

Approved by the Keeler Township Board on March 26, 2024