

OAKFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BUDGET WORKSHOP-WAGES RESOLUTION MEETING
February 25, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

A Special meeting of the Oakfield Township Board of Trustees held February 25, 2025 at 10300 14 Mile Road, Rockford, MI., was called to order at 6:30 PM

Present were: Kelley, Trainer, Koett, Sowerby, Howard, Riker & Rittersdorf
Absent: None

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

The purpose of this meeting was to conduct a budget workshop wages resolution meeting to discuss the Township wages for the year ending March 31, 2026.

Kelley used a wage study of other Townships to calculate increases. She stated that no one was being overpaid and some were being under paid.

Supervisor wage increase from \$25,000 - \$30,000 based on the fact that the prior Supervisor hadn't taken an increase for many prior years.

Motion to increase Supervisor wage from \$25,000/year to \$30,000/year offered by Kelley second By Riker.

Koett stated that the wage was based on time spent in the office and that Kelley knew what the wage was when she ran for office so didn't support the increase. Riker stated that for many years the Supervisor didn't take an increase. Kelley stated that you don't pay the person you pay based on their position, their responsibilities and what is fair and equitable across the board. Rittersdorf stated that he wasn't in favor of anyone getting a raise because he felt that tax payers money shouldn't be spent on raises. He feels the money should be spent for road improvement and other items that better serve the community. Also, he stated that the Township jobs are not jobs that you take to make money they are jobs you take to serve the people. Kelley responded that we will have money in the budget for roads. She also said that you need to have enough money in the budget to cover a year's worth expenses and we do have that. Plus people don't pay taxes so money can sit in the bank and collect interest. She agreed that we do need to focus on road improvement but that elected officials should also get a fair and equitable wage and no one is making an above average wage.

Roll call vote: 3- yes, 4-no motion was denied.

Motion to increase Supervisor wage to \$27,500 offered by Kelly second by Riker.

Koett stated that she thought the Board should wait until next year to possibly increase the Supervisor's wage and see how the Supervisor performs. Riker stated that she thought the longer we wait to increase the wage the larger the gap is going to get and then we would be facing a large amount of money being spent to catch up. Sowerby

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stated that to be on the job for 2 months and get a 25% raise didn't seem right that if you were working at a business you aren't even past the 90 day probation period.

Roll call vote: 3-yes 4-no.

Motion to increase Treasurer and Clerk's wages from \$35,000 to \$35,880 for cost of living increase. Koett and Trainer turned down the increase.

Motion to keep Treasurer and Clerk's wages at \$35,000/each offered by Kelley second by Sowerby roll call vote: 5-yes Treasurer and Clerk abstained. Motion approved.

Motion to increase Deputy Clerk's wage from \$21.00/hour to \$21.50/hour and Deputy Treasurer to remain at \$5,000/year offered by Kelley second by Riker. Roll call vote: 4-yes 3-no. Motion approved.

Motion to increase Trustees wage from \$3,300/year to \$4,000/year offered by Kelley second by Riker.

Trainer and Koett stated their appreciation for the Trustees but the increase is too high. Sowerby said he didn't want the increase because he wasn't doing it for the money he was doing it to represent the community.

Roll call vote: 1-yes, 6-no increase was denied.

Motion for Trustees wages to remain at \$3,300/year made by Sowerby second by Riker. Roll call vote: 7-yes.

Motion to increase Assessor's wage from \$52,000 to \$52,415 based on contract and increase Deputy Assessor's wage from \$23.00/hour to \$28.00/hour due to the Deputy Assessor passing her exam to become a level 2 Assessor offered by Kelley second by Riker. Roll call vote: 6-yes, 1-no increases approved.

Motion to increase Administrative Assistant from \$21.00/hour to \$22.00/hour, Custodial Service from \$18.00/hour to \$18.50/hour and leave General Labor at \$15.00/hour offered by Kelley second by Sowerby. Roll call vote: 4-yes 3-no motion approved.

Motion to increase Planning Commission Members and Zoning Board of Appeals Members from \$40.00/meeting to \$50.00/meeting, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Chair from \$45.00/meeting to \$55.00/meeting and Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary to remain at \$15.00/meeting offered by Kelley second by Riker. Roll call vote: 1-yes 6-no motion denied.

Motion to keep Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals members wages at \$40.00/meeting and Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Chairs at \$45.00/meeting and Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary to

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remain at \$15.00/meeting offered by Kelley second by Trainer. Roll call vote: 7-yes motion approved.

Motion to leave Board of Review Members at \$80.00/meeting, Construction Board of Appeals at \$40.00/meeting, Construction Board Hearing Officer at \$200.00/meeting and Election Workers at \$15.00/hour offered by Kelley second by Riker. Roll call vote: 7-yes motion approved.

Motion to increase Fire Chief's wage from \$56,010 to \$57,410.40 and Deputy Fire Chief's wage from \$5,975 to \$6,124.80 cost of living increase offered by Kelley second by Koett. Roll call vote: 5-yes 2-no motion approved.

Motion to increase Fire Fighters wage from \$21.00/hour to \$21.50/hour offered by Kelley second by Sowerby. Roll call vote: 6-yes, 1-no motion approved.

Kelley informed the Board that a rezone that was approved by the Planning Commission that doesn't meet Township Ordinance will be presented to the Board at the March meeting for the Board to vote on.

Also, the Board will be meeting on March 27, 2025 at 6:30 to make final approval of the 2025-2026 budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Sue Trainer
Oakfield Township Clerk