

Higgins Township

January 22, 2025 Special Board Meeting Minutes

The special meeting of the Higgins Township Board was brought to order by Supervisor Doggett at 10:00 am on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Supervisor Doggett, Clerk Borgula, Treasurer Sullivan, Trustee Jennette, and Trustee Hartman

Members absent: None

People in attendance: Rob Mazzeo and Fred German

Public Comment: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Resolution NO. 2025-1

Resolution to Support Local Control and Claim if appeal Against Michigan Public Service Commission Order. *See Attached*

The following resolution was offered by Trustee Hartman and supported by Trustee Jennette.

Upon roll call vote, the following vote

Aye: Supervisor Doggett, Clerk Borgula, Treasurer Sullivan, Trustee Jennette, Trustee Hartman

Nay: None

Absent: None

5 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Absent

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Building Repairs- Motion made by Treasurer Sullivan and Supervisor Doggett to accept the quote from Hoff Builders for \$10,285. Repairs included replacing exterior doors, replacing drop ceilings and lights in meeting room. All ayes. Motion carried.

IT Service- Our contract for our current IT company (VC3) is expiring this year. The board received a quote from Anavon Technology Group in Traverse City. To transfer over it will be \$2,124.37(One-time fee) and then it will be \$202.50 a month. Motion made by Treasurer Sullivan and Supervisor Doggett to accept the quote from Anavon Technology Group. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

Solar Farm- Rob Mazzeo made statement about how deforestation of 1000 acres will increase the CO2 omissions. Solar panels also contain toxic chemicals.

** While solar panels may contain small amounts of toxic metals like cadmium, silver, or lead, working solar panels do not leach those toxic metals. So, the problem comes when disposing the units. EPA is in charge with the guidelines of safely disposing of the units.*

Fred German believes we should have asked for bids for the Township Hall repairs.

**The board has tried to get multiple quotes for the work to be done, with no responses.*

Motion made by Clerk Borgula and Treasurer Sullivan to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 am. All ayes. Motion carried.

Steve Doggett, Supervisor

Maggie Borgula, Clerk

These minutes are subject to change/amendment and approved at the next meeting of the Higgins Township Board on Monday, February 3, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Minutes written by Clerk Borgula

Higgins Township

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-1

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT LOCAL CONTROL AND CLAIM OF APPEAL AGAINST
MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ORDER**

At a meeting of the Township Board of the Township of Higgins (the “Township”), Roscommon County, Michigan, held on January 22, 2025, located at Higgins Township Hall at 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Supervisor Doggett, Clerk Borgula, Treasurer Sullivan, Trustee Jennette,
Trustee Hartman

ABSENT: None

The following resolution was offered by Trustee Hartman and supported by Trustee Jennette.

WHEREAS, the Township supports state policies that maintain and advance local control;
and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has adopted policies and introduced legislation that attempts to further reduce local control in key areas affecting unique interests in local communities;
and

WHEREAS, media reports describe ongoing efforts by interested groups to push for the further erosion of local control; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the State of Michigan adopted Public Act 233 of 2023 (“PA 233”);
and

WHEREAS, only under limited circumstances, PA 233 confers powers and duties to the Public Service Commission (“PSC”) regarding the siting of utility-scale solar energy facilities, wind energy facilities, and energy storage facilities allowing developers to bypass local zoning authorities when proposing qualifying developments; and

WHEREAS, the PSC issued an order on October 10, 2024 (the “Order”) implementing the provisions of Public Act 233 of 2023 (“PA 233”); and

WHEREAS, the Order attempts to vastly expand the PSC’s limited and enumerated jurisdiction in PA 233 and is both unlawful and unreasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Order is unlawful and unreasonable because, among other reasons: (1) the PSC’s issuance of the Order violates the Administrative Procedures Act, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*, and (2) the Order unlawfully and unreasonably redefines key terms and concepts and creates processes and procedures that violate the Legislature’s express and unambiguous intent for local input in the regulation of energy facilities; and

WHEREAS, a coalition of Michigan Municipalities timely filed a claim of appeal from the Order on November 8, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the window to appeal the Order was merely 30 days, during which conducting a general election and other business contributed to the Township’s inability to hold a meeting during which it could consider and vote to join the appeal; and

WHEREAS, the Township supports the coalition of Michigan Municipalities in their efforts to protect local control in the regulation of energy facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Township would have joined the appeal if it was able to hold a meeting before the deadline to join; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Township Board of the Township of Higgins, Roscommon County, Michigan, resolves its unequivocal support of local control and the coalition of Michigan Municipalities that have filed an appeal from the Order.

YEAS: Supervisor Doggett, Clerk Borgula, Treasurer Sullivan, Trustee Jennette, Trustee Hartman

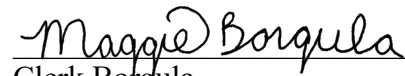
NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)
COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON)

I, Maggie Borgula, the duly elected Clerk of the Township of Higgins DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of the Township of Higgins at a meeting held on the 22nd day of January 2025, at 10:00 A.M.



Clerk Borgula
Higgins Township Clerk