## MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 2024

Chairperson Butewicz called the Meeting to Order at 7:36 p.m.

Chairperson Butewicz read the Adequate Notice

**ROLL CALL:** 

Present: Ms. Butch, Ms. Butewicz, Ms. Coppinger, Mr. Ziner

**Absent:** Mr. Asprocolas, Mr. Peck, Ms. Posten

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No Public 7:37pm

**MEETING MINUTES:** 

January 9, 2024 Minutes - Tabled

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Spring Newsletter:** Articles due by March 11, 2024. Would like to get copy to printers by March 29<sup>th</sup>. Articles: Ms. Butch will provide 2 articles. One on the restoration of the stained glass windows at the historic Methodist church and a second article on the Two Rivers mushroom farm. Ms. Butch will also reach out to Ms. Mark regarding an article on wildlife research. Ms. Butewicz will provide the letter from the Chair and incorporate information regarding farm vehicle and equine traffic courtesy. Information might be available regarding the proposed revised appraisal method for farm preservation and updates on the soil protection standards. Ms. Coppinger will provide a picture of the restored Rising Sun image on the side of their barn.

**SADC Soil Standards Update:** Ms. Butch wrote and presented amendments at the Ag convention on February  $6^{th} - 8^{th}$ , that were overwhelmingly approved. The amendments would help reduce the overregulation being proposed by the SADC. Many farmers see the new language as a change to the original deed of easement. The proposed change would use the conservation plan to provide a more acceptable and fair way to implement soil protection standards for preserved farmland.

**Deer Management:** Chairperson Butewicz will look into a presentation regarding deer management options that could be given at the community center as a public education session.

**Labor Housing Ordinance**: 2 similar bills have been presented at the State level. Hoping something will get approved. The Township should start reviewing its current ordinances.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Clambake:** The tentative date for the Clambake is Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Open Space will confirm that date with Mr. Asprocolas before committing to it.

**Landowner Meeting**: Ms. Butewicz would like to hold another landowner meet and greet. The event 2 years ago went very well. We can also incorporate a presentation on what the Farmland Property Assessment rules are since it has been a topic of confusion in the Township.

Chairperson Butewicz moved to go to executive session at 8:05pm.

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:40PM.

Seeing no further business, Councilerson Butch moved to adjourn. Councilperson Coppinger offered a second. Meeting adjourned at 8:41PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew DeFelice