

Watson Township Board Meeting
April 3, 2008

Called to order: 7:00 P.M.

Present:

Catherine Pardee, Candy Adrianson, Stephanie Bogdan, Rod Zeinstra and Kelli Morris.

Absent:

None.

Joint Meeting with Hopkins Area Fire Association, Hopkins Township, and Hopkins Village

Purpose: Informational meeting. Any other business.

Present:

Board Members:

Catherine Pardee, Stephanie Bogdan, Rod Zeinstra, Candy Adrianson and Kelli Morris.

Mark Evan (Hopkins Twp. Supervisor) and Tom McKinnon (Hopkins Fire Chief) and Pat Kelsey (Hopkins Area Fire Board Member).

Cathy began by explaining some of the history of the relationship between Hopkins Fire Dept. and Watson Twp., which dates back to 1963. Mark Evans went over the "Interlocal Fire Protection Agreement", which started in 1993. He explained the funding which includes revenue contributions and run charges. He then went over and explained the "formula" for the agreement in detail. Tim McKinnon gave a report on the number of fire calls, new firefighters that are currently going to class every Saturday from 8- 4. He also reported that the fire department has received a "FEMA" grant for close to \$70,000.00 for and Air Fill Station which was greatly needed. This station will be located in Hopkins. The department will also get a portable fill station which is currently being made. These fill stations will be of great help not only for the Hopkins Area Fire Department, they will also help other fire departments that need tanks filled that do not have their own fill station. Cathy expressed the Watson Township board's appreciation for both Mark and Tom and Pat for attending our joint meeting and sharing the information with everyone:

Joint meeting ended at 7:30 P.M.

Budget Public Hearing

Public Comment

None

Rod made a motion to close the Budget Public Hearing, Stephanie supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Stephanie made a motion to pass Resolution 040308-1 as Cathy had read through the resolution, Kelli supported, roll call vote: Candy-yes; Rod-yes; Kelli-yes; Stephanie-yes; and Cathy-yes; Cathy declared resolution #040308-1 passed by a vote of 5-yes to 0-no votes. See attached resolution.

Agenda Approval:

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Stephanie, and supported by Candy, all in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

County Commissioners- Jon Campbell and Max Thiele:

Commissioner Max Thiele told the board most of the happenings the past month at the county

was boiler plate information. Ken Pardee asked Max about the jail meeting the commissioners had, Max told him it was for the most part a good venue and opened some eyes, however may not have changed anyone's perspective on the subject.

Supervisor's Report:

None.

Allegan County Planning Commission Report:

None.

Cemetery Report:

Dave Kok left a report that there were no funerals this month, however there would be some cremations in the coming month.

Planning Commission Report:

Rod reported that the planning commission was still working the Master Plan and concentrated on areas of high concentration, like the expressway as a place for commercial or residential. They also looked at the "old tire pile" site for which is industrial and would like to rezone commercial. The planning commission plans to meet with adjoining townships sometime this fall. Rod reported that they also would like to schedule some "informational meetings" to focus on different sections of the master plan.

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Minutes and Bills:

A motion was made by Stephanie to approve the minutes for the March 6, 2008, and March 18, 2008 Rod supported, all in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Stephanie to pay the bills for April 2008, in the amount of \$25,497.12, supported by Candy, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Stephanie Bogdan gave a report of account balances as follows:

Reconciled Balances: \$472,564.76 Book Balances: \$417,788.12

Old Business:

1. Joint Meeting With Hopkins Area Fire Dept., Hopkins Twp., and Hopkins Village-
The board discussed who was responsible for cleaning the Fire Barn restroom and day room. The board discussed the lease agreement further. Rod expressed his concern that he did not want the township board to lose control of the building or property by signing a lease agreement. Mark Evans suggested rewriting the lease agreement to include any terms the board would wish to include in the lease. Cathy will e-mal the Lease agreement and board members can make any changes they would like to see included.
2. Policies and Procedures- The board discussed policies and procedures concerning hall rental, mileage reimbursement, and extra meeting compensation. Rod made a motion to approve the "Hall Rental" Policy #040308-1, Candy supported, all in favor, motion carried. Rod made a motion to approve the "Mileage Reimbursement" Policy #040308-2 as presented, Stephanie supported, all in favor, motion carried. Stephanie made a motion to approve the "Extra Meeting Compensation" Policy #040308-3 with noted changes, Rod supported, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

1. Court Community Service Program-
Cathy explained a new program being offered by the county that includes having

offenders do community service as part of their payment to the courts vs. monetary payment. The Watson Township board is not interested in participating in this program at this time.

2. Newsletter- Stephanie went over all the information for the 2008 Newsletter. She will be finished with it soon and it will be in the mail in a couple weeks

Other:

1. Question about the Bridge on 112th Ave.-

Cathy explained that Otsego is currently working on a plan that includes bypassing the 112th Ave. bridge by extending the road around South of the 112th Ave. bridge to 22nd St. and replacing the bridge on 22nd St. There was some continued discussion on this subject and possible solutions.

2. Questions pertaining to our Ambulance Service- The board was asked why our ambulance service does not come from Allegan. Cathy explained that we are a part of the Wayland Ambulance Service and it is stationed in Wayland, Martin, and Orangeville. The board and audience had some continued discussion on our current ambulance service.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by Stephanie, supported by Candy, all in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:22 P.M.

Kelli Morris
Watson Township Clerk
