

**Watson Township Board Meeting
April 5, 2012**

Called to order: 7:06 P.M.

Present:

Chuck Andrysiak, Rod Zeinstra, Sue Jones, Kelli Morris and Candy Adrianson.

Public Hearing for Budget:

Candy read each budget to board members and audience members. Rod made a motion to accept the 2012-2013 "Dust Control Budget" with revenues of \$52,000.00 and expenses of \$40,000.00 and an excess of \$12,000.00, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Rod made a motion to accept the 2012-2013 "Special Road Budget" with revenues of \$108,200.00 and expenses of \$108,200.00, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Rod made a motion to accept the 2012-2013 "Special Assessment Budget for Fire Department Operations and Equipment/Emergency Medical Services Operations and Equipment" with revenues of 52,100.00 and expenses of \$68,650.00 and a deficiency of revenues of \$16,650.00, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Chuck made a motion to accept the 2012-2013 "Building Department Budget" with revenues of \$5,000.00 and expenses of \$4,500.00 and an excess of \$500.00, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Chuck made a motion to accept the 2012- 2013 "General Fund Budget" with an operating millage of .7741 and revenues of \$194,550.00 and expenditures of \$213,250.00 and a deficiency of \$18,700.00, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

There was some discussion and questions answered concerning the General Budget. Rod made a motion to close the public hearing, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Agenda Approval:

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Chuck, supported by Sue, all in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

County Commissioners- Jon Campbell and Max Thiele:

Jon Campbell gave the township board and residents some information on "personal property tax". There was some discussion with Jon, the board, and residents concerning the receipt of delinquent summer tax bills because of the treasurer's embezzlement. He wants to be sure they get their delinquent fees omitted.

Max Thiele passed out his monthly report, but said he forgo the formal report this month as Jon had just reported on the happenings this month.

Hopkins Fire Chief:

Fire Chief, Tim McKinnon went over his monthly report with the board and audience in attendance. He highlighted two fire fighters that have just completed and passed their training. He commented on a couple events coming up this spring including a "Cruise in Car Show" in Salem and the B-93 Birthday Bash at the Martin Speedway. He also reported that the upgrade on the radios is now in the hands of the county commissioners. Jon Campbell mentioned that he is now on that committee and they are working to get that situation resolved as quickly as possible. Emailed a monthly report. The supervisor summarized the report for the board and attending residents.

Jon also added that he attended the regional meeting of law enforcement and wanted Watson Township to know he was pursuing some alternate funding to assure that our coverage does not suffer.

Cemetery Report:

Dave Kok reported on funerals this month. He reported that he has fixed the settling on Haldon Mauchmar's site.

Planning Commission Report:

No Meeting Held.

Supervisor's Report:

Candy welcomed Sue to the board. She reported that the Hopkins Fire Department approved the proposal from Watson Township to pay \$12,000.00 per year for the next three years to pay for the new fire truck. Candy also presented the board with a settlement spreadsheet from the county.

Public Comment (for topics not on the agenda):

Pam Brown asked about any more money found. Rod answered her question and there was some discussion on the amount taken. There was discussion and questions answered in length between the entire audience (township residents) and the board concerning the embezzlement of the former Treasurer and the State's case against her. It was also mentioned that the next court date for her is set for April 9, 2012 at 2:30 P.M.

Approval of Minutes and Bills:

Minutes:

A motion was made by Chuck to approve the minutes from March 1st, 20th, and 28th as presented (with the amendment of Sue's name being added as in attendance), Rod supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Bills:

A motion was made by Rod to pay the bills for March of \$21,813.80, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Sue gave a report on current bank balances.

Old Business:

1. **ZBA Annual Summary:**

Rod made a motion to accept the summary report from the supervisor of the Zoning Board of Appeals as their annual report, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

2. **Mowing Contract:**

The board received a quote from D.K Landscape Management for \$9,500.00 for cemeteries, and \$750.00 for hall mowing for the 2012-2013 season. Rod made a motion to approve the bid from D.K. Landscape Management for mowing for the 2012-2013 season in the amount of \$10,250.00, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

3. **Assessor's Contract:**

Rod made a motion to renew the assessor's contract from April 1, 2012 thru March 31, 2014 for an amount of \$15,000 salary per year, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

4. **Newsletter:**

The board expresses its appreciation for the hard work and effort that Sue Zeinstra put into the township newsletter. Chuck made a motion to sent the newsletter to print and then distribute them to residents, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Church:

The board discussed the possibility of selling the church property. Rod suggests having the building and property appraised.

Rod made a motion to accept the bid from D.K. Landscape Management for \$1,275.00 to clean up brush and debris from the church, Kelli supported, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

1. Hopkins Library Update:

Hopkins Librarian attended and gave a presentation on the Hopkins District Library. She informed the audience and board members about the millage and other area district library millages. If the millage is passed the estimated revenue would be \$120,000.00.

2. Advance Newspapers Legal Advertising:

The open rate for legal ads will be 9.60 and electronic rate is 4.80. Rod made a motion to adopt resolution 04052012-1 to continue to use the Advance Newspaper for legal advertising, Sue supported, roll call vote: Rod-yes; Sue-yes; Chuck-yes; Kelli-yes; and Candy-yes. The supervisor declared the resolution passed by a vote of 5-yes and 0-no votes.

3. Road Work Order:

Gravel on 118th Ave. from 24th St. to 20th St (2 miles). Rod made a motion to grant the Road Commission approval to bid out the gravel project on 118th Ave. between 24th St. and 20th St. and for the work to be done before the 1st of July, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

4. Heart and WREPA Pension Plan Amendments Resolution:

The supervisor explains that we had no control over the changes and would only need to pass a resolution that the board had reviewed the changes. Rod made a motion to table until next month, Kelli supported, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Rental of Township Land on M-222:

The board received two bids for the rental of the township land on M-222. The bids were as follows: Jesse Simpson \$85.00 per acre for 3-5 yrs. and Ted Hildebrand for \$90.00 for 3 yrs. Rod made a motion to put in writing a "lease contract" with Jesse Simpson for a 2 year contract from May 2012 thru May 2014 that would include a \$500 payment in May, a \$500 payment in May 2013, and a \$350 payment in February 2013 and 2014, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Other

None.

Adjourn:

Chuck made a motion to adjourn, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned: 9:23 P.M.