

**Watson Township Board Meeting  
November 1, 2012**

**Called to order: 7:01 P.M.**

**Present:**

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

Absent: Chuck Andrysiak.

**Agenda Approval:**

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

**Reports:**

**County Commissioners- Jon Campbell and Max Thiele:**

None.

**Hopkins Fire Chief:**

Tim McKinnon gave a report for the Hopkins Fire Department.

**Cemetery Report:**

Dave Kok (Cemetery Sexton) called in a report of no funerals for October. He also reported that he was currently working with Bill Taylor to get him cemetery plots.

**Planning Commission Report:**

The supervisor gave a report on the Planning Commission meeting from the last month.

**Supervisor's Report:**

No Report.

**Approval of Minutes and Bills:**

**Minutes:**

Sue made a motion to approve the minutes from October 4, 2012, Kelli supported, all in favor, motion carried.

**Bills:**

A motion was made by Rod to pay the bills for October, in the amount of \$12,914.07, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Sue gave a report on current bank balances.

**Old Business:**

**1. Western Land Services**

Matt Roark gave a presentation to the board and members of the audience and provided leases to overview and maps to view concerning a current proposal his company has to lease some township property for an oil and gas lease. He explained the fracking process. John Andrysiak expressed his opposition to the lease. Debbie Gadare also expressed her opposition to the land lease. Rod made a motion to "not" accept the offer to lease the township property from Western Land Services because of the method of fracking used, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

**2. Julie Cowie**

Julie Cowie, candidate for Allegan County Clerk attended and gave a short synopsis of her bid for the County Clerk position, introducing herself and explaining some of the goals she has for the future of the position of County Clerk.

**3. Cemetery Ordinance**

The board discusses the subject of cemetery ordinance. Township attorney John Lohrstorfer suggests having a procedure put in place to relinquish lots over 40 years old. Rod made a motion to table this subject, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

**4. Resolution to oppose Hydraulic Fracking**

Rod made a motion to pass Resolution to Oppose Hydraulic Fracturing #11-1-2012-1. Roll call vote: Sue-yes; Rod-yes; Kelli-yes; and Candy-yes. The supervisor declared the resolution passed by a vote of 4-yes and 0-no votes.

**New Business:**

**1. Farmland and Open Space Preservation- Application Daniel Cook & James Cook**

Rod made a motion to approve 1 parcel in Watson Township in PA-116 for Daniel & James Cook, Sue supported, roll call vote: Sue-yes; Rod-yes; Kelli-yes; and Candy-yes. The supervisor declared the motion passed by a vote of 4-yes and 0-no votes.

**2. Farmland and Open Space Preservation- Application Donald Cook (16)**

Rod made a motion to approve (16) Parcels in Watson Township into PA-116 for Con Cook, Sue supported. Roll call vote: Sue-yes; Rod-yes; Kelli-yes and Candy-yes; the supervisor declared the motion passed by a 4-yes and 0-no vote.

**3. Chair Cart Quote**

Rod made a motion to table the purchasing of two carts for chairs, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried. Rod made a motion to put an ad in the paper for the sale of the wooden chairs and wooden tables owned by the township in November to be opened in December; to include the sale of the chairs in lots of 10 and then the balance of chairs and the tables single, Kelli supports, all in favor, motion carried.

**4. Hopkins Library**

Hopkins Librarian Natalie Bazan gave a report of current happenings at the Hopkins Library including two awards from the State of Michigan, one being the Library State Excellence Award, and one being the "Up and Coming" award given to Librarian Natalie Bazan. Some upcoming events will be a "Car Seat" Check November 15<sup>th</sup> which will be held in the Hopkins Fire Department parking lot from 4-8 pm. Also, on December 15<sup>th</sup> there will be a "Craft and Cookie" swap from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**5. Embezzlement Case**

Rod made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the embezzlement case, Sue supported; roll call vote: Rod-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; and Candy-yes. The supervisor declared the motion passed by a vote of 4-yes and 0-no votes. The board went into closed session.

Kelli made a motion to re-open the public meeting, Sue supported, roll call vote: Rod-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; and Candy-yes; the supervisor declared the motion passed by a vote of 4-yes and 0-no votes. The public meeting was reopened.

Rod made a motion that under the recommendation of the township attorney and the prosecuting attorney, the Watson Township Board agrees to a stipulated

restitution amount of \$87,744.01, plus all restitution costs such as the forensic auditor fee, attorney fees and any other fees incurred, Sue supported. Roll call vote: Sue-yes; Rod-yes; Kelli-no; and Candy-yes. The supervisor declared the motion passed by a vote of 3-yes and 1-no votes.

**Other:**

None

**Public Comment (for topics not on the agenda):**

John Andrysiak does not agree with a statement made earlier concerning the specific duties of a township official and a fair estimate of what the position might entail. Both Michelle Harris and Kelly Kivell make a comment that they agree with Mr. Andrysiak's sentiments. Jeff Gouker made comments about the mess at the recycling container, and went on to explain with some investigation he had discovered that some newspaper companies had been dumping their unused papers in the container.

**Adjourn:**

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

Meeting adjourned: 9:19 P.M.

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Kelli Morris -- Watson Township Clerk