

**Watson Township Board Meeting
April 4, 2013**

Called to order: 7:04 P.M.

Present:

Sue Jones, Chuck Andrysiak, Pam Brown and Kelli Morris.

Absent:

Rod Zeinstra

Agenda Approval:

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

Public Hearing for Budget:

The supervisor noted that the hearing had been published in the paper. The supervisor went over all budgets totals both revenue and expenditures. The public hearing was closed. Sue made a motion to pass resolution #04042013-1 (attached) adopting all budgets for 2013-2014, Chuck supported, roll call vote: Sue-yes; Chuck-yes; Kelli-yes; and Pam-yes. The supervisor declared the resolution adopted by a vote of 4-yes, and 0-no votes.

Reports:

County Commissioners- Jon Campbell:

None.

Hopkins Fire Chief:

Fire chief Tim McKinnon went over his monthly report with board members and the audience. He noted that there will be a "Bike Ride" and a "Spaghetti Dinner" on June 15th to benefit the Noble family who has a daughter going through cancer treatments. There will also be a "Father's Day" breakfast on June 16th with the proceeds going to the Noble family. They will also have a "Car Show" on June 7th with the proceeds going to send children who are burn victims to a special camp.

Cemetery Report:

None.

Planning Commission Report:

Chuck reported that he had asked the planning commission to revisit the last three ordinances that had been worked on in order for him to become more familiar with what they had been working on. They also discussed the company from Hastings that purchased the commercial property by the highway. Chuck also reported on the county wide meeting he attended in Allegan Township. The topic was "meth labs" and how they relate to our area. Out of 300 in the state, over 70 were here in Allegan County. The other topic was "fracking" A presentation was given by Jim Olsen and Karen Fifelski.

Chuck also attended the B-93 Bash organizational meeting. Everything is going to be basically the same as last year. One idea from the "State Police" is to route traffic through Watson Township to keep them off the highway. Chuck tried to make it clear and evident that this idea is not in the best interest of Watson or its roads. The only other topic was the camp that is located in Otsego Township. It will be conducted by a different person this year, and they also have to get a "special use" permit for this. Schnable Lake Campground is also planning on asking for some temporary sites that would have to be permitted by our planning commission through a special use permit.

Supervisor's Report:

The supervisor attended a Fire Board meeting. She reported that they reviewed accounting, discussed snowplow responsibilities and the roof of the fire barn. They also elected officers. She also reported that Watson Township has officially switched to West Michigan Wireless for internet service. The new email will be watsontownship@watsontownship.org. She also received a letter from Karen Fifelski that she is petitioning to have fracking banned through a ballot question. Karen will have the petitions available to sign at the local libraries as follows: Hopkins Library, April 6, from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.; Allegan Library, April 6 from 2 P.M. to 5 P.M.; and Hienika Library on April 9 from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Approval of Minutes and Bills:

Minutes:

Sue made a motion to approve the minutes from March 7th, March 21st, and March 28th, Kelli supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Bills:

A motion was made by Kelli to pay the bills as amended for March, in the amount of \$15,734.48, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Sue gave a report on current bank balances.

Old Business:

1. Bids for Tillable Land

Pam read the notice that appeared in the paper on March 16th asking for sealed bids to be submitted. The township received 3 sealed bids and the supervisor opened them and they were as follows: Alan Hendrickson \$101 per acre, John Dolegowski \$97.50 per acre, and Joe Jablonski \$106 per acre. There was discussion of the lease by the board and Kelli made a suggestion to add a "no hunting" clause to the lease. Kelli made a motion to accept the bid from Alan Hendrickson for \$101.00 per acre/ per year for a period of 4 (four) years, with the township having the option to renew the lease with the original lessee for a period of 1 (one) year after the initial period; Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

2. Cemetery Ordinance

Sue made a motion to adopt Cemetery Ordinance # 04042013-1 as noted with changes, Chuck supported, Roll Call Vote: Chuck-yes; Kelli-yes; Sue-yes; Pam-yes and Rod- absent. The supervisor declared the ordinance passed by a vote of 4-yes and 0-no votes.

3. Church

Pam went over some issues with the current status of the church. The board will continue to examine the title issues and possibilities for the churches future.

4. Roads

The supervisor explains that the board is still examining the roads. The board is considering "spot graveling". The supervisor is going to examine the roads with Kelly Beckers of the Allegan County Road Commission. The board will ask the county to provide a report concerning the quality of the gravel being used on the roads as well, when it is going to be applied.

New Business:

1. Spring Clean Up

Spring Clean Up will be May 4th this year from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. The cost for this will range from \$5.00 to \$25.00 for a pick up load.

2. Picture Board

There is a “scrapbooking” group that uses the hall for its classes and they have offered to update the current picture boards in the hall.

3. Martin Library:

Diane Gilson and Angie Cameruci attended the board meeting and gave a short presentation and asked that the board renew their library agreement for \$1,000. Kelli made a motion to renew the Library Agreement with Martin Library for April 2013 thru March 2014 in the amount of \$1,000, Sue supported. Roll call vote: Sue-yes; Chuck-yes; Kelli-yes; and Pam-yes. The supervisor declared the motion passed by a vote of 4-yes and 0-no votes.

4. Hopkins Library

Hopkins librarian Natalie Bazan attended and let the board know they did receive another grant to purchase new materials. She also would like to add anyone to her email list to receive the libraries monthly newsletter which contains all the news and events for the library. Lastly, she added that she is always looking for new ideas from people for projects and activities to do at the library.

Other:

None

Public Comment (for topics not on the agenda):

None.

Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned: 8:49 P.M.

Kelli Morris -- Watson Township Clerk