

**Watson Township Board Meeting
September 4, 2014**

Called to order: 7:02 P.M.

Present:

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

Absent:

None.

Public Hearing –Fire/EMS:

The supervisor read Resolution #09-04-2014-1 in its entirety. Rod made a motion to adopt Resolution #09-04-2014-1 Special Assessment Roll for Special Assessment District for Fire Department Operations and Equipment and Emergency Medical Services Operations and Equipment, Chuck supported- Roll Call Vote: Rod-yes; Chuck-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; and Pam-yes. The supervisor declared Resolution # 09-04-2014-1 adopted by a vote of 5-yes and 0-no votes. Rod made a motion to close the public hearing on the Special Assessment for Fire and EMS, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Agenda:

Chuck made a motion to approve the agenda, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

Cemetery Report:

Sexton John Andrysiak reported there was one funeral this month. He has continued to add topsoil and grass seed to some graves. He also reported that the brush is dying off at Hicks Cemetery and there seemed to be some overspray on the grass. He is not sure if this was expected to happen or not. **Planning Commission**

Report:

No Meeting.

County Commissioners- Jon Campbell:

Jon Campbell highlighted that the commission had authorized the sale of bonds to build a new building for the Allegan County Road Commission. They also accepted a budget for a Secondary Road Program to fund deputy patrol on Secondary Roads. They also approved to have radios inside county busses. There are questions raised as to the completion of the Road Commission Building. Jon will check on when the Road building is estimated to be complete. There is also a question about when the camera is running in the county busses. Jon does not believe the driver has an ability to control the camera and believes it is running anytime the bus is in operation.

Hopkins Area Fire:

Supervisor gave emailed fire report.

Library Report:

The supervisor summarized a newsletter sent from the J.C. Wheeler Library.

Supervisor's Report:

The supervisor reported that the gravel projects are getting underway in the township, as well as the two bridge projects that should be complete by November 26th.

Minutes:

Rod made a motion to approve the minutes from August 7, 2014 Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried. Chuck made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on August 21, 2014, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Bills:

A motion was made by Rod to pay the bills for September, in the amount of \$17,684.70, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Sue gave a report on current bank balances.

Chuck questioned the money that was asked about a couple months ago. Sue explained that the auditor wished to discuss the matter with the State prior to coming to speak with the board.

Old Business:

1. Review of Wind and Solar Ordinance:

The board discussed the ordinance with the changes made from previous month. There was discussion on “Surety Bonds” vs. Cash. Chuck made a motion to send it back to the planning commission for a final review and draft, Rod supports, all in favor, motion carried.

2. Review of Wood Stove Ordinance:

The board discussed the changes in the “Outdoor Stove” Ordinance. The changes discussed included the front yard topography and the 1st offense fee. Rod made a motion to send it back to the planning commission with the changes the board made, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

3. Hicks Cemetery Driveway Bid:

Pam mad a motion to table the driveway work for Hicks Cemetery until next spring, Rod supported, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

1. Consumer’s Energy Franchise:

Dennis Berkebile- Area Manager for Consumer’s Energy attended and explained the 10 year franchise for Consumer’s Energy and Watson Township that has been agreed upon by the townships legal counsel. He asks that the township pass Ordinance #09042014-1 to enter into an Electric Franchise agreement with Consumer’s Power. There is some discussion and questions answered by Mr. Berkebile. Rod mad a motion to adopt ordinance #09042014-1 Consumers’ Energy Company Electric Franchise Ordinance, Sue supported, roll call vote: Chuck-yes; Sue-yes; Rod-yes; Kelli-yes; Pam-yes. The supervisor declared the ordinance passed by a vote of 5-yes, and 0-no votes.

2. Snow Plow Bids for 2014/2015 Season:

The board discussed the snowplowing situation for upcoming season. Rod will come up with some “language” to submit an ad to the papers soliciting bids for snowplowing for the upcoming season. The board will submit an ad to the Allegan County News and Gazette and The Penasee Globe with the deadline for submitting to be September 30th.

3. Sale of the Church:

Pam explained that the church did sell to Kari Wierenga for \$12,500.00. The board presented Resolution # 09042014-2 to sell the Church Property. Kelli made a motion to pass Resolution #09042014-2 To Sell the Church Property on 116th Ave., Sue supported- Roll Call Vote: Kelli-yes; Sue-yes; Chuck-yes; Rod-yes; and Pam-yes. The supervisor declared the resolution passed by a vote of 5-yes; and 0-no votes.

Other Business:

Public Comment (for topics not on the agenda):

Kathy Morris asked about a statement on the August 7th meeting. John Andrysiak explains that the comment he made was that he felt being a township resident should hold the same meaning as being a taxpayer. Pat Adrianson asks why someone had a problem with Jeff working the election. Kelli explained that he was not working the election; he was only running errands for the election workers and clerk and spending time “chatting” at the hall that day, as were many other township residents who came to vote that day.

Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned: 8:47 P.M.