

**Watson Township Board Meeting
June 4, 2015**

Called to order: 7:00 P.M.

Present:

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

Absent:

Rod Zeinstra.

Agenda:

Sue made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

Hopkins Area Fire:

The supervisor read an emailed report form Hopkins Fire Chief- Tim McKinnon.

Spring Clean Up:

The clerk reported that Spring Clean up went well, with residents filling three trash containers and a good portion of a metal container. The event also included the assistance of a local youth group at EMCRC (East Martin Christian Reformed Church), they spent a couple hours “combing” some of our rural roads and bringing what they retrieved from the roadsides and putting it in the containers.

It was also discussed that the board had budgeted fifty dollars for an attendant (which was the clerk). The clerk will include this voucher in bills next month.

Planning Commission Report:

The planning commission will meet in June. The Supervisor has reviewed the new sample zoning map and will order a large one for the wall after the planning commission give their approval.

Library Report:

Barb (Hopkins Library Representative) is out of the state this month. The supervisor will post the newsletter from the J.C. Wheeler Library in Martin on our township website.

Cemetery Report:

Pam reported no funerals. She also reported that all the headstones at Miner had been straightened. She explained that she would like to spray the spots that were cleaned up last season at Hick Cemetery. Kelli made a motion to have Pam spray those areas if “Knightway” declines to re spray as part of their original bid, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried. There is some discussion of how to repair and replace some of the old flat headstones that are in disrepair at Hicks Cemetery.

County Commissioners- Jon Campbell:

None.

Supervisor’s Report:

Pam explained that there were a few issues with doing Dust Control, but she has made the appropriate phone calls and these issues should be resolved.

Minutes:

Sue made a motion to approve the minutes for May 7, 2015, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Bills:

The invoice for Kaechele Publications was discussed and they will review their rates and re-issue a bill. Therefore, Sue made a motion to pay the bills for June in the amount of \$9,866.30, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report:

Sue gave a report on current bank balances.

Old Business:

1. Streetlights:

Mr. Matthew McKeon of Consumers Energy attended and explained some concerns they had with the street lighting for the intersections previously discussed for installation of lights. Because it is no longer allowed to install overhead intersection suspended lights, he suggests a “Mongoose” that has the capability to adjust the light beam and would not be straight down. These are also high pressure sodium lights. He explained that he wanted to install a “test” light at intersection on M-222 and 23rd

Street at no cost to the township, unless it was satisfactory and the township wanted to keep the light. Sue made a motion to allow Consumers Energy to install a “test” Mongoose light at 23rd and M-222 at no cost to the township until final approval by the board, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

2. Parking Lot Estimates:

After discussing the bids for resealing and re- stripe the parking lots, it was decided to wait until next spring and budget the project. Sue made a motion to table the subject, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried. Also because there is no need to re stripe until the lots are sealed, the re striping will also be postponed.

New Business:

1. Burnham and Flower/ Par Plan Renewal:

Jeff McCray of Burnham and Flower attended and explained the Par insurance plan and the different options available to the board. He also explained that this will be the first year that a dividend will be issued and this year’s dividend will be for the 2011/2012 insurance year. He also mentioned the “Citizen Planner” program and noted that the Par Plan would reimburse to townships to send one person per year to the regular class that is available. The board also discussed increasing the property values by 6% (Property and contents) for an additional \$16.00 dollars on the premium. Sue made a motion to accept Burnham and Flower par Plan Renewal in the amount of \$4,116.00, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

2. EMS Report- Cathy Pardee:

Cathy explains that the Gun Lake Tribe would like the WAEMS to sign a contract to service the tribe’s properties in this area, including Hopkins, and Shelbyville. Cathy also explained some of the conditions of the contract, with one being in the case of a servicing a “stand by” event, the WAEMS would be compensated in some fashion, possibly by the hour. There is more discussion on the subject including the probability of more properties being purchased in the future.

Other Business:

None.

Public Comment (for topics not on the agenda):

Ken Pardee suggests that he noticed in South Haven he saw that they had a fenced Recycle Area. There is some discussion his comment.

Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned: 8:54 P.M.

Kelli Morris—Watson Township Clerk