

Watson Township Board Meeting  
May 7, 2015

Called to order: 7:00 P.M.

**Present:**

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

**Absent:**

None.

**Agenda:**

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

**Reports:**

**Hopkins Area Fire:**

Hopkins Fire Chief- Tim McKinnon attended and gave a report for the Hopkins Fire Department. One topic included the "Burn Advisory Line", which is currently being developed and will be available hopefully later this summer. It will again be similar to the one that was in place in the past and give direction to callers that call in for burning. Tim also said two of the firefighters would be bringing a "Brush Fire" truck for the board members to inspect as that is what they are planning on using to replace one of the trucks housed at Watson that is being retired. Bob Kerber and Trevor Bielby arrived with the truck and the board members took a trip outside to inspect the truck and hear some information and explanation from the firefighters. The board discussed approving the purchase of a chassis for a brush truck to replace the tanker that is going to be retired. Rod made a motion to commit to Watson's portion of the new brush truck up to \$35,000 (thirty-five thousand), Sue supported- Roll call vote: Chuck-yes; Rod-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; and Pam-yes; motion passed by a vote of 5-yes and 0-no votes. Rod also mentioned that he believes in the future Martin's Fire Department will be approaching the township with something other than the current agreement.

**Election Report:**

The May Election had 346 voters turn out to vote and the State Proposal was not passed in the township by a vote of (55) yes and (291) no votes. The Hopkins School Millage Renewal did pass.

**Planning Commission Report:**

Chuck reported that they had a site plan review for Otsego Crane and Hoist for the addition they are adding. He also mentioned he will likely be applying to make the back lot commercial as he owns the property behind the building now. This would make it easier to access his building from the rear. They also went over some information on the master plan that Mark Sisson had been updating and compiling. Sue questioned if Otsego Crane and Hoist had in their site plan to use crushed concrete instead of gravel and why. There was some discussion with planning commission members present on this subject.

**Library Report:**

Gloria, a representative from the J.C. Wheeler Library in Martin attended and gave a report on the many activities planned for this summer. She also said they will be providing some online job skills testing to aid in employment opportunities.

**Cemetery Report:**

Pam has been doing some filling in of some of the grave sites. She also mentioned that she will be getting some help from a young girl for a "Club Community Service" for putting out flags for Memorial Day. Chuck also mentions that we may need to be sure that the areas we had worked on last fall do not become overgrown again.

**County Commissioners- Jon Campbell:**

Jon Campbell attended and gave a report on the current happenings of the county commissioners. He was curious if the upload of the election results went well to the county on election night, and we let him know that Watson had no trouble transmitting results in to the county. He mentioned that they had approved the "911" surcharge again for a maximum of \$3.00. And they have approved an equalization budget as well, where the only adjustment made was in Dorr. They also approved a contract for health service for the jail thru 2018. The board also had some discussion with Jon on the plans for parking at the county and the property where the old jail sits. Pam also questioned Jon about what work is being done on Miner Lake.

### Supervisor's Report:

Pam thanked Ken Pardee for grading the gravel portion of the hall parking lot. Ken Pardee also offered to repaint the stripes in the parking lot if the township provided the paint. The board replied to that with appreciation, and will look into purchasing the paint. There was then some discussion on getting the parking lots resealed. The supervisor will get some quotes on doing a seal coat on both parking lots and hold off on repainting the striping until after the bids for resealing are discussed.

### Minutes:

Rod made a motion to approve the minutes for April 2, 2015, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

### Bills:

Rod made a motion to pay the bills as adjusted for the amount of \$23,172.35, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

### Treasurer's Report:

Sue gave a report on current bank balances. Sue made a motion to transfer \$5,100.00 from the Tax Fund to the Dust Control Fund, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

### Old Business:

#### 1. Streetlights:

The supervisor explained that we cannot get the insurance company's grant, because that is only for things specifically at the township property. Rod made a motion to get a work order in the amount of \$2379.00 for the installation of 3 regular streetlights from Consumer's Energy, and 1 LED streetlight from Great Lakes Energy, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

#### 2. 12<sup>th</sup> Street Bid Approval:

The board discussed the bid sent by the county which included an adjusted timeline for the project. Rod made a motion to approve funding of up to \$150,000.00 to cover Watson portion of the project, Sue supported- Roll call vote: Chuck- no; Rod-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-no; Pam-yes; motion passed by a 3-yes; 2-no vote.

#### 3. Gravel/Bid Approval:

Rod mad a motion to proceed with the work order for gravel projects for Allegan County Road Commission in the amount of \$39,975.00 and to do gravel work on 124<sup>th</sup> (from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, and being a 50/50 split with Hopkins; 112<sup>th</sup> (from 16<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, and being a 50/50 split with Otsego; 19<sup>th</sup> (from 114<sup>th</sup> to M-222); 22<sup>nd</sup> (from 112<sup>th</sup> to 114<sup>th</sup>); 119<sup>th</sup> (from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>); and spot work on 14<sup>th</sup> north of 112<sup>th</sup>; and for this work to be completed by the end of August; Chuck supported, roll call: Rod-yes; Chuck-yes; Kelli-yes; Sue-yes; Pam-yes. The supervisor declared the motion passed by a 5-yes; and 0-no.

### New Business:

#### 1. Hopkins 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks and Celebration Contribution:

Chuck made a motion to contribute \$1,000.00 to the Hopkins 4<sup>th</sup> of July day Celebration, Rod supported- Roll call vote: Chuck-yes; Rod-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; Pam-yes; motion passed by a 5-yes; 0-no vote.

#### 2. Building Repairs:

Pam explains a problem area in the women's bathroom where a pipe continues to freeze in the winter, and the corner of the office area outside where siding is in need of repair. Rod made a motion to approve up to \$1,500.00 to repair the bathroom wall area (with the area being insulated sufficiently) and the corner of the office area, Sue supported- Roll call vote: Chuck-yes; Rod-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; Pam-yes; vote passed by a 5-yes, 0-no vote.

#### 3. Special Use/ Site Plan/ Variance Request- Fee Change:

The board discussed the change of a fee schedule for special use, site plan, and variance requests, as costs have increased for the township significantly. Chuck made a motion to send the free schedule to planning commission and ask them for suggestions and input on the fee schedule adjustments, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

#### 4. Oppenheimer Account:

Pam read a letter from a Mr. Fox (a representative from Oppenheimer) addressing suggestion he had for the township to implement an investment policy on the account the township has with Oppenheimer that included having one representative from the township to make "quick"

decisions for the investment of township funds. The township discussed seeking legal advice on what might be necessary for such an account. Sue made a motion to table the subject, Rod supported, all in favor, motion carried.

**5. Burnham and Flower/ Par Plan Renewal:**

Pam explains a letter from Jeff McCray involving our insurance policy that will be renewed in July. Pam will ask him to attend our next meeting.

**Other Business:**

Michelle Harris mentions a reminder that the Hopkins Fire Department will be holding a "pancake breakfast" again for Father's Day.

Chuck also mentioned that the next B-93 Bash meeting will be at the Race Park Location next week.

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

Ken Pardee stated that he had read an article concerning the assessor and new "state mandated" responsibilities. The board let him know that these have been addressed and our Assessor is performing these new responsibilities and his salary was adjusted as a result. Ken also expressed that he did not feel the Planning Commission was very well versed in the current site plan review. This was just his observation.

**Adjourn:**

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

Meeting adjourned: 9:32 P.M.

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Kelli Morris—Watson Township Clerk