

**Watson Township Board Meeting
November 3, 2016**

Called to order: 7:00 P.M.

Present:

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

Absent:

None.

Agenda:

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

Reports:

State Representative:

Mary Whiteford attended and gave the board a report on some committees and projects she is involved with that included the cleaning of the river bed of the Kalamazoo River near the Otsego Dam by Bittersweet Ski resort. They hope to have half of this project complete by Thanksgiving and finish the other half next year. She also indicated that there is a plan being worked on that deals with rural internet broadband. Other happenings also include the DNR working with fire departments on "controlled burns".

Planning Commission Report:

Chuck reported that the planning commission met and had a hearing for a "special use" Tower for internet service. The planning commission did approve the permit with some contingencies and/or stipulations. Currently, the tower height is not as tall as the original plan. The planning commission also prioritized some ordinances that will likely be reviewed. Also Pam and Chuck attended a seminar hosted by our attorney's firm. They also mentioned a Medical Marijuana Seminar coming up December 6, 2016.

Cemetery Sexton:

Sexton reported no funerals for the month. She also reported that the driveway and brush clean-up is complete at Hicks Cemetery. The board is in agreement that the project looks very nice. Lastly, she is still working on repairing some headstones.

Hopkins Area Fire:

Fire Chief Tim McKinnon attended the meeting and gave the board and audience a report.

Library Reports:

Newsletter from J.C. Wheeler Library was emailed to the township and is available for viewing on the township website.

County Commissioners- Gale Dugan:

Commissioner Dugan gave a report on current happenings of the county, including the budget. He also explained that the county is considering the release of the lease at Pine Point Park. Ken Pardee asked Mr. Dugan if Allegan County was going to be looking at the ORV laws for Allegan County, mentioning that he would like to see them address that subject.

Supervisor's Report:

The supervisor gave a report that she removed four televisions from beside the dumpster last week. She also gave a report on some of the accomplishments of the board over the past four years that included selling the Church Property, paying off the road loan and having 122nd Avenue paved West of 20th Street to the township line, resealing 2 miles of road, sharing cost with Martin to repave 12th street, receiving a grant to replace the bridge on 112th Avenue, replacing the privacy fence around the hall, resurfacing the parking lots, repairing the outside wall of the women's bathroom to keep pipes from freezing, and the cemeteries (which are a work in progress).

She also thanked Rod for his 31 years of service to the township in various different roles. The board also expressed their gratitude for his dedication to the township.

Minutes:

Rod made a motion to approve the minutes, for October 6, 2016, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Bills:

Chuck made a motion to pay the bills for October in the amount of \$10,561.58, Rod supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Sue gave a treasurer report with current bank balances.

Old Business:

1. Gravel on 13th Street:

The board received a letter from the Allegan County Road Commission regarding the gravel on 21st Street and 13th Street. There was some discussion on the subject.

New Business:

None.

Other Business:

1. FEMA Meeting:

Chuck mentioned that he and Michelle attended the FEMA meeting where the majority of the discussion involved the flood plane mitigation process. This project is ongoing and wants our residents that own property on the flood planes to be well informed. There was some discussion on this subject.

2. November Election:

The November election will be held on November 8, 2016. The office will be open on November 5, 2016 from 9 AM – 2 PM.

Public Comment (for topics not on the agenda):

None.

Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned: 7:59 P.M.

Kelli Morris—Watson Township Clerk