

**Watson Township Board Meeting
April 6, 2017**

Called to order: 7:02 P.M.

Present:

Kevin Travis, Sue Jones, Chuck Andrysiak, Michelle Harris, and Kelli Morris

Agenda:

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

Budget Public Hearing: The supervisor opened the Public Hearing and presented Resolution 04062017-1 and the budgets for the townships funds. Michelle made a motion to open Public Comment, Sue supported, all in favor. Sue answered one question about fund balance explaining that it is \$269,170.00. Kevin made a motion to close Public Comment, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried. Kevin asked that resolution 04062017-1 to Adopt the 2017-2018 Budgets for General Fund, Dust Control Fund, Road Fund, Building Department Fund, and Fire/EMS Special Assessment Fund be passed, Supported; Roll Call Vote: Chuck-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; Michelle-yes; and Kevin-yes. The supervisor declared resolution 04062017-1 passed by a vote of 5-yes and 0-no votes.

Kevin made a motion to close the Budget Public Hearing, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:

Michelle made a motion to approve the amended minutes for March 2017, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

Planning Commission Report:

Chuck gave a report of the years events in detail of the planning commissions meetings. This report can be found as an Annual Report in the Planning Commissions minute record. The Planning Commission also discussed further an ordinance dealing with a second residence on a parcel. Kirk Scharphorn of PCI is putting together an ordinance for this subject. He has also begun work on "Annual" Gravel Pit reviews.

ZBA:

Michelle reported the election of officers. Also a gentleman that owns the property on M-222 (where the old horse track was) expressed interest in what possibilities may be available for that property.

Hopkins Area Fire:

The supervisor presented and read aloud an emailed report from the Hopkins Area Fire Department. The report included the arrival of "Scotty's Firehouse" very soon.

Cemetery Sexton:

There were no funerals this month. The supervisor noted that Mr. Charlie Statler donated a graveside back to the township. The board feels they would be well served by leaving the assignment of the site to Gordon's Funeral Home for placement, with respect to being an indigent Watson resident.

Library Reports:

Library newsletters are available online.

County Commissioners- Gale Dugan:

Gale Dugan gave the board a synopsis of recent happenings at the county, including a resolution on an assessment study on the Kalamazoo River. Recently the county also put together a "pension plan", applied for new voting equipment, passed "Park" by-laws, and purchased thirteen new vehicles for the Sherriff. Commissioner Dugan also asked if the board would be in favor of the resolution with reference to the Kalamazoo River. Kevin makes a motion to support the county's resolution in principal (as an assessment study of the Kalamazoo River), Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor's Report:

Kevin gave a report including information on the 7th Day Adventist in the area from June 4th thru August 11th, and a letter he received from the Allegan County Road Commission concerning some work on the drain just north of M-222 on 16th Street for late spring. He also reported that Spring Clean-Up Day will be Saturday May 6th from 9 AM – 2 PM. Lastly, he attended the WAEMS meeting and they approved their final budget.

Bills:

Michelle made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$21,284.04, Sue supported, all in favor motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Sue gave a treasurer report with current bank balances.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

1. Martin Library Service Agreement 2017-2018:

Kevin made a motion to approve the contract with J.C. Wheeler Library in the amount of \$1000.00 for library services from April 1, 2017 thru March 31, 2018, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

2. Meeting Dates:

The Watson Township Board will meet on the first Thursday of each month beginning at 7:00 P.M. for the next fiscal year. The board also verified the meeting dates for the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

3. Cemetery:

The sexton and clerk are working on how many flags and veterans markers will need to be ordered. Chuck has offered to assist in marking the graves and placing flags for the veterans.

4. Township Flag Replacement:

The board will replace the flag at the township hall, and properly retire the used flag currently there.

5. Newsletter:

The supervisor is currently working on finalizing the 2017 Newsletter. The board discussed additions and changes to the newsletter. The board discussed inserting a questionnaire with regard to a Medical Marijuana facility and Recycling options. Michelle would like to title the questionnaire "Help Us- Help You". The board is in agreement this would be a good title.

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

Mark Meyers a resident who lives on 118th Ave., mentioned that he is hoping the township can coordinate something with the county road commission with regards to the quality of the road on 118th Ave. The area that needs the most attention is between 23rd and 24th Streets. He suggests the possibility of grading to pull the shoulders in or even adding some good gravel. The board will contact the county about this section of road, however it is suggested that Mr. Meyers contact the county road commission with his concerns personally as well.

Adjourn:

The supervisor made a motion to adjourn, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned - 8:45 P.M.

Kelli Morris—Watson Township Clerk