

**Watson Township Board Meeting
December 7, 2017**

Called to order: 7:01 P.M.

Present:

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

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Michelle made a motion to approve the minutes for November 2, 2017, Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Scott Hershberger of Symponia Farms presented the board with more information involving their intention of developing a medical marijuana facility including the mention of the community approval of 57% in the election approximately nine years ago with the legalizing of medical marijuana in Michigan. He also provided the board with a scale of the building with information on the size and layout of the building and surrounding areas.

John Caras also commented on the security of the building and the “not in my back yard” mentality. He also elaborated on the security, stating that if there were ever to be a “break-in”, the culprits would not ever get to the actual product, at most they could access a couple plants before they were caught.

Reports:

A. Planning Commission:

Chuck reported that the planning commission had a “joint” meeting with the township board in order for the board and planning commission to discuss the prospect of working on an ordinance for medical marijuana facilities. The planning commission scheduled a public hearing for February to deal with a special use application for a “Contractors Yard” on 12th Street near the highway

B. Fire Chief:

The supervisor read the report of Fire Chief Tim McKinnon for the benefit of the township board and audience members.

C. Sexton:

Mark reported that everything is going well at the cemeteries and there were no funerals for the past month.

D. Libraries:

Barb Wroblewski attended, but had nothing to report this month.

E. Supervisor:

The supervisor reported that he has been dealing with some personal issues. The board offers its condolences for the loss of the supervisor’s mother.

The supervisor still has intentions of reaching out to the townships investment account “Oppenhiemer” to see what options the township has for investing. Michelle added that the township would need to have a financial investment statement. There is discussion about the Oppenhiemer account and what options the township has.

The supervisor also reported that he is working on mini grant technology to potentially help the township purchase computer equipment. Sue mentions the website seems unfinished and is concerned that there used to be a calendar for residents to reference.

F. Clerk:

None.

G. County Commissioner:

Gale Dugan wished everyone “Season’s Greetings”. He spoke about the Kalamazoo River Project and the outdoor Discovery Center that are being spearheaded by Mary Whiteford. He mentioned that the Environmental Health would be adding three positions to get caught up and plan for an influx of new business in the near future. He reported that the Allegan County Clerk gave a very good report covering the election. He also added that December 15 was the deadline for the fire department to express which type of equipment they wish to have (a neck or lapel mic) yet.

Bills

Chuck made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$15,042.60, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasure’s Report

Sue gave the Treasure’s Report.

Old Business:

A. Pension Plan-

This subject was covered during the Supervisor’s report

B. Fire Insurance Withholding Program

Mark Simpson mentioned that Otsego Township does participate in this and keeps 10% of the insurance money until the after the area is cleaned up. The board decided to table it until there is more information.

New Business:

A. Township Community Logo-

The supervisor suggests asking the local high schools to participate in a logo development for the township. Michelle asks how it will be used. Kevin explains that it could go on letterhead, a flag, and other things. The board discussed what compensation the kids would get. Although the board is not allowed to offer compensation, the board members along with Gale Dugan decided to take up a collection and use that collection as a farm worker. Kevin made a motion to reach out to Martin, Hopkins, Allegan, and Otsego High Schools to any high school age student to develop a township logo, with the logo project chosen being compensated by the township board and Mr. Gale Dugan, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.

B. “OLD” Township Dump-

Chuck explains that with all the news lately up north in old dump sites and contamination, he is curious what items were in fact kept in our closed dump in 115th Ave. Chuck would like to make some calls and inquire on the contents more. The board is in favor of this.

C. Special Meeting to Discuss Medical Marihuana:

There is discussion on when to hold this meeting. Gale Dugan mentioned that Otsego City had their attorney come and do a complete informative presentation on the subject of medical marihuana. John Caras would like to point out that the Federal government has said they will not interfere with the state. The board discussed how they would like to structure the meeting. Gale explains that if it is done as a public hearing it would need to be formal. It is discussed to do a notice in the newsletter and then have a meeting. It is further discussed the process to assemble these meetings.

Adjourn:

Kevin made a motion to adjourn, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned - 9:07P.M.