

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

**Called to order: 7:00 P.M.**

**Present:**

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

**Agenda:**

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

**Minutes:**

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

**Reports:**

**Judge William A. Baillargeon:**

Judge Baillargeon gave the board a presentation including the “2016 Annual Report” for the Court, the current drug treatment and mental health treatment programs he and the courts are a part of, and a “Veterans Treatment Court”. He is passionate about these programs as they have proven themselves and are saving lives. He also spoke in very high regards about the clerk staff at the court, pointing out and giving them credit for the ease they can and do make people feel as they enter court (some for the very first time). They treat everyone with respect and make a difficult situation much better. He also answered some questions about a new program in Wayland called “Angel Program” which brings volunteers together with people in crisis and in need of immediate assistance. He is asked about finding reformed felons full time work and explains that he is working on that and has had great response so far actually. The board thanks Judge Baillargeon for his attendance and in site on the happenings of the courts.

**Planning Commission Report:**

Chuck reported that the Planning Commission has had its second request for a 2nd dwelling on a Parcel. The also discussed more information on Langlois gravel and got a sample on sign ordinance changes. They expect the sign ordinance to be a 3-4 month process. They also briefly discussed the “gathering ordinance”.

**Fire Chief:**

The Fire Chief report can be found online.

**Cemetery Sexton:**

Sexton Mark Simpson reported the lilac bushes have been removed from Miner Cemetery. He asked the board what should be done about the bushes and such growing up around some headstones at the cemeteries. Members of the board expressed that although it is not a goal to disturb all vegetation that is planted near these headstones, he should use his own judgement as to what seems “overgrown” and not being cared for and make adjustments to these sites as he sees fit.

**Mary Whiteford- State Representative:**

Representative Whiteford presented the board with a “U.S. Flag” that had been flown over our state capital. The board expressed its appreciation for this gift. She also gave the board a synopsis of the projects she has been working on that included the county wide plan for the use of the Kalamazoo River- involving a Kayak launce and more. She is also still working hard on her summer projects that include broad band, mental health, and auto insurance. Lastly, she addressed some concerns expressed to her about fireworks and the current law. The board appreciated State Representative Whiteford attending with her report.

**Library Reports:**

Library newsletters are available online.

**County Commissioners- Gale Dugan:**

None.

### **Supervisor's Report:**

The supervisor shared some information on an Allegan County Heritage Trail, as they are looking for input and volunteers. He also reported that the new camera system is up and running, a "new" information sign has been installed by the Recycling Center, and he explained an issue with a "gathering ordinance" in the township.

### **Bills:**

Michelle made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$28,973.43, Sue supported, all in favor motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Sue wanted to thank everyone for the help with Spring Clean-Up. She expressed her appreciation for everyone's efforts.

Sue gave a treasurer report with current bank balances.

### **Old Business:**

None.

### **New Business:**

1. **Resolution requesting the Allegan Count Road Commission reinstate its "Culvert Policy" back to a 50/50 cost share of culverts 36" and greater for all townships in Allegan County:**

Trustee Andrysiak made a motion to adopt Watson Township Administrative Resolution #07062017-1; Supervisor Travis supported; Roll Call Vote: Andrysiak-yes; Jones-yes; Morris-yes; Harris-yes; Travis-yes. Supervisor Travis declared the resolution passed by a vote of 5 ayes, and 0 nays.

2. **Gravel for Cemeteries and Fence for Miner Cemetery:**

The board discussed getting a quote for fence at Miner Cemetery and doing a survey of Miner Cemetery. There was discussion on adding gravel to the driveways at Miner and Hicks Cemeteries as well. Sue made a motion to contact Jesse Simpson to put gravel in Miner and Hicks Cemeteries not to exceed \$1,100.00, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried. Kelli will contact Jesse Simpson and make this request.

3. **Resolution for State Grant for Election Voting Equipment:**

Kelli offered Resolution #07062017-2 Application for Secretary of State Grant for the purpose of purchasing a New Voting System, Sue supported; the supervisor called for a roll call vote: Chuck-yes; Michelle-yes; Sue-yes; Kelli-yes; Kevin-yes. The supervisor declared the resolution passed by a vote of 5-Aye and 0-nay votes.

4. **Burnham and Flower Insurance Policy:**

Sue made a motion to accept the insurance policy from Michigan Participation Plan serviced by Burnham and Flower for \$4,360.00; Chuck supported, all in favor, motion carried.

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

- Ken Pardee mentions that the meeting dates are not posted on the bulletin board.
- Chuck mentions he would like to contact some planning commission members to attend a training/informational seminar that is coming up August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Adjourn:**

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

Meeting adjourned - 9:12 P.M.

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Kelli Morris—Watson Township Clerk