

**Watson Township Board Meeting
March 2, 2017**

Called to order: 7:00 P.M.

Present:

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

Absent:

None.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Michelle made a motion to approve the minutes, for February 2nd and February 22nd 2017, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

Planning Commission Report:

No meeting. Next meeting will be in March.

Hopkins Area Fire:

The supervisor presented and read aloud an emailed report from the Hopkins Area Fire Department.

Cemetery Sexton:

There were no funerals this month. Mark Simpson our new sexton is spending time getting familiar with both the cemeteries and cemetery records.

Library Reports:

Amy Germain was appointed to the Hopkins Library Board as a representative from Watson Township.

County Commissioners- Gale Dugan:

None.

Supervisor's Report:

The supervisor attended a "Budget" training workshop and explained a little about a "new" philosophy behind the budget writing and the vision behind the budget. He has also been in contact with both Ben Williams and Kerry Rattinger about the townships current recycling contract. They are working on providing some numbers for the township to consider concerning recycling options. The board also received a letter from the Allegan County on the status of Meth Amphetamine Contamination. Currently there are two sites, both are single wide trailers. He also provided some statistics on the "medical marijuana" proposal on the county ballot in 2009.

Bills:

Michelle made a motion to contract with Net Warrior to maintain and upgrade the township's website, in the amount of \$660.00 for the year beginning April 1, 2017 thru March 31, 2018, Kevin supported, all in favor, motion carried. Sue made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$8,384.24, Michelle supported, all in favor motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Sue gave a treasurer report with current bank balances.

Old Business:

1. Land Lease Alan Henrickson:

Sue made a motion to renew the Land Lease of township property located on M-222, for 1 year beginning May 15, 2017 and ending May 15, 2018, with the addition of Watson Township being named as an insured party on insurance binder, pursuant to the lease agreement, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.

2. Lawn Care Bids:

The board received 5 bids for lawn care. The bids were opened and discussed by the board with consideration to the “bid specification” sheet provided. Kevin made a motion to contract with MNS Lawn care in the amount of \$9,698.00 (with unit pricing of Township Hall-\$39; Hick Cemetery- \$189; and Miner Cemetery- \$145), Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

1. Provide Guidance on Planning Commission Priorities:

The board discussed four major areas to review and possibly make ordinance changes. The Planning commission has developed a list of ordinances to work on including signs, towers, and Mother in Law housing. They will work on Medical Marijuana in the future. Michelle mentions that in light of the cost of doing these reviews and possible changes, it might save some money to work on more than one at a time. The supervisor will contact the Planning Commission and convey the suggestions of the board.

Addition to agenda: Michelle made a motion to add a meeting date for our budget workshop under “new” business, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

2. Dust Control Program:

Sue made a motion to contract with Michigan Chloride Sales Inc., for the townships dust control for the 2017 season, Kevin supports, all in favor, motion carried.

3. Approval of \$4,900.00 MTP Grant for Video Surveillance:

Michigan Township Par Plan was approved. There was some discussion and concerns on the subject. Kevin made a motion to approve the grant for \$4,900.00 as presented and proposed on the “grant agreement”, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

4. Approval of Letter of Engagement for Audit:

Kevin made a motion to approve the Audit Engagement letter from Angle and Associates P.C. for up to \$4,700.00, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Budget Workshop:

The board will hold a Budget Workshop on March 16th at 6:30 P.M. It will be noticed on the board and the website.

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

Brant A. Johnson attended to share some points about the Medical Marijuana Act. He made a case in support of developing an ordinance in favor of allowing “medical marijuana” facilities in the township. There was discussion between the board, and Mr. Johnson on the subject. He mentioned that it is up to the township entirely what they want to allow or disallow. Chuck mentioned that we are getting information from other municipalities that are working on similar ordinances. Mr. Johnson thanked the board for their time and the sentiment was reciprocated.

Adjourn:

The supervisor made a motion to adjourn, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned - 9:50 P.M.

Kelli Morris—Watson Township Clerk