

**Watson Township Board Meeting
October 5, 2017**

Called to order: 7:00 P.M.

Present:

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

Agenda:

Michelle made a motion to add "Snow Plow Bids" as an agenda item, and then approve it as amended, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:

Sue made a motion to approve the minutes as amended for September 7, 2017, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

A. Planning Commission:

Chuck reported that the majority of the meeting was spent on the subject of Medical Marijuana, and that they did not end up with any time to discuss the sign ordinance.

B. Fire Chief:

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

C. Sexton:

Mark reported that everything at the Cemeteries is going well and he plans to take the flags down for the winter season after "Veteran's Day"

D. Libraries:

Barb Wroblewski reported that Hopkins Library is doing some painting and that the new Librarian is doing a good job and things are going well. It is also mentioned that Mary Whiteford will be at the Martin Library on Oct. 16th from 1:30 to 2:30 to answer questions from the community.

E. Supervisor:

The supervisor apologized for his mind being preoccupied with the passing of his father-in-law a few hours before tonight's meeting. The board and audience completely understand and send deepest sympathies and condolences to him along with his wife Bree and their family.

F. Gale Dugan- County Commissioner:

Mr. Dugan explained that there is a new recycling depot at the "Broken Arrow" on M-89. It is open to anyone on the county wide recycling program and is a full service type of operation. However Watson is not on the county wide recycling program as of yet. Chuck asks about a tire recycling program. Gale explains that the county does have a grant and that is helping to eliminate some of the surplus of tires in the county. Gale also participated in a "ride along" with the Allegan Sheriff. He listened to the Sheriff's assessment of the Sheriff's program and believes it is very accurate. Kevin asked Gale about Nora Balgoyen's departure. Gale explained that she has trained some individuals to step in and do the tasks in which she was responsible for until the county is able to hire a replacement for her position.

Bills

Michelle makes a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$11,645.31, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasure's Report

Sue gave the Treasure's Report.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

A. Budget Amendments-

Sue went over the amendments on the attached sheet. Kelli made a motion to the amendments on the sheet as presented by Sue, Michelle supported, all in favor, motion carried.

B. Prioritization of Planning Commission Projects-

The board discussed the current projects and which ones they should instruct the planning commission to make a priority. Chuck explains that currently they have been working on a sign ordinance and it will likely take about two more meetings to complete. He also mentions the construction yard on 12th St. and believes that the planning commission may have to deal with that in the future. The board discussed making the sign ordinance a priority and finishing up with that, meanwhile still collecting data involving the Medical Marijuana legislation.

Mr. Caras wanted to touch on two aspects of the medical marijuana, license stacking and testing of the products. He mentions that everything will be tested from the raw product to final product. Mr. Caras would also like to ask that the board direct the planning commission to make the medical marijuana ordinance a priority and simply get an ordinance in place with information on what types of facilities will be allowed and in what zones.

Michelle made a motion to make the Sign ordinance a priority and finish that, all while still discovering information on the medical marijuana legislation, Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

C. Snow Plow Bids-

Kelli made a motion to place an ad asking for Snow Plow Bids in the Penasee Globe, with a deadline of Oct. 31st. , Sue supported, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Jay Roberts-Eveland expressed her concern about “rental property” legislation that is being passed by the state. She explains that if these bills pass then the townships would lose local control of these properties and the control would defer to the State.

Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned - 8:05 P.M.

Kelli Morris—Watson Township Clerk