

THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting, Monday, July 9, 2018

1. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bremer at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall, followed by the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by those present.
2. Present: Mike Bremer, Deb Buckowing, Curt Campbell, Cindy Willshire, Ross DeMaagd, Jake Jelsema and Sandy Rairigh. Also present: Catherine Getty, Chief Randy Eaton, Dianna Pitt, John Luepnitz, Tammy Luepnitz, Gary Rairigh, Paul Huyser, Julie Huyser, Eric Schaefer, William Hitchcock, Lori Ridderikhoff, Shane Clark, Chad Klutman, Dan Parker and Jared Willman.
3. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Campbell to approve the Printed Agenda as Amended with addition of 13.c. Repair and Restoration at TTES; 12.a. Add Investment Report; and 9. Change Current Bills amount to \$124,449.67. **MOTION APPROVED** with 7 yes voice votes.
4. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Campbell to approve the Consent Agenda as Amended with the removal of a. June 11, 2018 Minutes of Regular Meeting; b. Emergency Services Committee Minutes. **MOTION APPROVED** with 7 yes voice votes.

First Public Comment

None.

County Report

Commissioner Parker reported on the activities of the Barry County Commissioners. Parker provided updates on the following: 1) work being done at McKeown Bridge Park; 2) Seeking appraisals for where the sheriff's department is; 3) COA deciding what steps to take, as there is still a need for building improvements.

Reserved Time

None

Discussion/Payment of Current Bills

MOTION by Buckowing, support by Willshire to pay current bills totaling \$124,449.67. The addition of \$22,853.25 was added to the original bills amount for a cashier's check for property that was closed on after bill run. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, yes; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Public Hearing: Special Assessment for Moe Road dust control

Bremer closed the Board Meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Bremer opened the Public Hearing at 7:13 p.m.

Bremer thanked the residents for attending the Public Hearing and looked forward to hearing their comments and concerns.

Bill Hitchcock, Moe Road: Mr. Hitchcock inquired whether the Board had received the packet he dropped off at the Township Hall. He was informed that we did. Mr. Hitchcock asked if the residents in the Special Assessment District were already assessed and why did the Board think that they had the right to make the decision for them. Bremer explained the process of how a special assessment works. He asked what would happen if he was to combine his properties into one? How would the special assessment change?

Julie Huyser, 7921 Serenity Drive: Ms. Huyser asked about opting out and what the procedure would be. Bremer responded that they would need to go to the Tax Tribunal. She asked why Serenity Drive is being assessed when they do not live on Moe Rd. Bremer explained that even the private roads that are off Moe Rd. would access Moe Rd. She asked if there was something that they can do to get the county to do more for Moe Rd. so as not to have a special assessment. Bremer suggested that they just wait and see how this procedure goes and see how it changes the road. Julie said the potholes are the real issue. Bremer suggested giving him a call when those issues arise.

John Luepnitz, 7490 Moe Rd.: Mr. Luepnitz said the road is better than it ever has been.

Lori Ridderikhoff, 7348 Moe Rd.: Ms. Ridderikhoff explained that the Township had the meetings, majority ruled in favor of the assessment and the Board is voting with the resident's best interest in mind. She stated she is in favor of the special assessment and even neighbors that don't live on Moe Rd. but access it off private drives, use Moe Rd. and cause a ton of dust.

Paul Huyser, 7921 Serenity Drive: Mr. Huyser asked if the special assessment was expanded to the south side of Parmalee at previous meeting. Bremer confirmed it was. Mr. Huyser asked what happens if people are granted to opt out. Bremer explained the assessment is the total amount divided evenly between how many parcels are in the special assessment.

Dianna Pitt, 7380 Moe Road: Ms. Pitt asked why they are paying for 10 years if vacant land can be split up and not have to pay for what's left of the 10-year assessment. It is determined that the Board would add more language to the resolution to cover the possibility of parcels splitting and new parcels being added to assessment. The new language would also be sent to attorney for approval.

Gary Rairigh, 7237 Moe Rd.: Mr. Rairigh asked who makes the decision to pave Moe Rd. and who pays for it. Bremer explained it would be a special assessment if 51% of the residents requested it.

Supervisor Bremer thanked the residents of the Moe Road area for coming to the board meeting to share their views and opinions.

Bremer closed the Public Hearing at 7:53 p.m.

Bremer opened the Board Meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Clerk's Report

1. Clerk Willshire presented the Revenue and Expenditure report to the Board and apologize for it not being included in the Board packet. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Rairigh to approve Revenue & Expenditures report. **MOTION CARRIED** with 7 yes votes.
2. 1 Year Post Warranty Warranty for servers through Secant: Willshire provided an overview of the Secant Quote and summarized that Secant's recommendation is to purchase the warranty this year and next year then investigate purchasing a new server in a few years. **MOTION** by Campbell, support by Rairigh to purchase the Post Warranty Warranty for 1-year. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, yes; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, yes. **MOTION CARRIED**.
3. Corrections to June 11, 2018 Minutes of Regular Meeting: Rairigh suggested corrections to meeting minutes. **MOTION** by Campbell, support by Buckowing to approve the amended June 11, 2018 Minutes of Regular Meeting. **MOTION CARRIED** with 7 yes votes.

Treasurer's Report

Buckowing presented the Financial Activities Report and Investment Report to the Board. She explained that the investment report is part of her requirement that the auditors look for. At last month's meeting the Board wanted to take advantage of some of the better rates out there. She summarized the investments and rates that we invested in. **MOTION** by Jelsema, support by Campbell to approve the Financial and Investment Reports. **MOTION CARRIED** with 7 yes votes.

Emergency Services Report

1. Motion to authorize TTES staff to apply for a grant to fund training and implementation of a Community Integrated Paramedic program. The grant would provide \$12,000 to go towards training for 3 TTES employees and \$12,000 for infrastructure. There is no matching fund. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Jelsema to approve TTES to apply for the new State of Michigan Integrated Paramedic Program \$24,000 in grant funds and allow them the flexibility to administer and research the program. **MOTION CARRIED** with 7 yes votes.
2. Motion to authorize pre-employment screens to hire EMT Basic firefighter Tyler Gregg. **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Willshire to authorize pre-employment screens for EMT Basic firefighter Tyler Gregg. **MOTION CARRIED** with 7 yes votes.
3. Repair and Restoration of water damaged area at TTES: Eaton informed the Board that an employee of TTES will install an access point to the attic area of the TTES building. Eaton will be seeking quotes to replace the pipes to the dry system.
4. Emergency Services Committee minutes of July 2, 2018. Buckowing asked for clarification of the minutes involving the amending of the Employee Handbook pertaining to the reimbursement of training costs for TTES employees. Buckowing recommended bringing all changes to the Personnel Committee.

New Business

Riverside CO2/CO monitor proposal. **MOTION** by DeMaagd, support by Jelsema to charge Property and Public Utilities Committee with purchasing three CO2 detectors, two for the Township Hall basement and one for the main floor. **MOTION CARRIED** with 7 yes votes.

Committee Reports

1. Administration: None
2. Cemetery: None
3. Elections: Willshire stated that 320 absentee ballots have been sent out and 119 have been returned for the August 7, 2018 election.
4. Emergency Services: **MOTION** by Buckowing, support by Rairigh to task the Personnel Committee with preparing an employee package to hire a full-time employee within the guidelines proposed by the Finance Committee. Roll call vote: Bremer, yes; Willshire, yes; Buckowing, yes; Jelsema, yes; DeMaagd, yes; Campbell, yes; Rairigh, yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**
5. Finance: None
6. Parks and Recreation Representative: Bremer informed the Board that there was a 3-day, 12 team tournament out at the Crane fields.
7. Personnel – Compensation: None
8. Property, Public Utilities: Campbell told the Board that Susan Dykstra will weed at the Township Hall prior to the August 7 election. Buckowing told the committee about the necessity of the handicap doors.
9. Roads and Highways: None

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

CLOSED SESSION: MOTION by Rairigh, support by Buckowing to go into closed session to discuss possible land acquisition. **MOTION CARRIED** with 7 yes votes.

Bremer recessed the meeting at 9:16 p.m. to go into Closed Session.

Bremer opened the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

POLL OF MEMBERS:

Jake Jelsema, Trustee: None.

Sandra Rairigh, Trustee: None

Curt Campbell, Trustee: None.

Ross DeMaagd, Trustee: The Hastings Flying Association held their annual pancake breakfast with plane rides.

Deb Buckowing, Treasurer: Said she appreciates and wants to acknowledge the caliber of people on the Board and staff.

Cindy Willshire, Clerk: None.

Mike Bremer, Supervisor: Bremer thanked the Lion's Club for all the work they did for the Vietnam Wall, fireworks and the July 3 all-day event.

MOTION by Campbell, support by Buckowing to adjourn meeting. **MOTION APPROVED** with 7 yes voice votes.

Adjournment of meeting by Supervisor at 9:39 p.m.

Cindy A. Willshire, Clerk

Approved 8/13/2018