

Claybanks Township

April 10, 2017

MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting of Claybanks Township was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Smith with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Smith, Freye, Eilers, Lombard and Rabe.

Agenda Additions – New Business D) Consider Waiving Fee for Potential ZBA Hearing

Minutes

(A) Approval of March 13, 2017 Budget Hearing minutes - Dan Lombard made a motion to approve the March 13, 2017 Budget Hearing minutes. Second by David Rabe. All in favor. Motion carried.

(B) Approval of March 13, 2017 regular meeting minutes - Brenda Eilers made a motion to approve the March 13, 2017 regular meeting minutes. Second by Dan Lombard. All in favor. Motion carried.

Accounts Payable

(A) Amend Budget - Clerk expenses are over budget by \$1,120.26 and treasurer expenses are over by \$260.89. It is noted that road improvement expenses are over budget, but money set aside in the Road Improvement Fund was used for this expense, so it is not really over budget. David Rabe made a motion to transfer \$1,120.26 from the Contingency Fund to clerk expenses and \$260.89 from the Contingency Fund to treasurer expenses. Second by Dan Lombard. Smith, yes; Rabe, yes; Lombard, yes; Eilers, yes; Freye, yes. Motion carried. New clerk expense budget \$15,120.26; new treasurer expense budget \$14,260.89; new Contingency Fund \$10,133.91.

(B) Approve April Payables - David Rabe made a motion to pay the general fund payables in the amount of \$14,814.48 and the park fund payables in the amount of \$5,588.53. Second by Brenda Eilers. Rabe, yes; Freye, yes; Smith, yes; Eilers, yes; Lombard, yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence –Miscellaneous correspondence was reviewed.

Public Comment – A resident on Indian Hills Road would like the township board to pressure the Oceana County Road Commission to work on Roosevelt and 40th Avenue and Roosevelt and Indian Hills Road. He described the poor driving conditions and expressed concern that someone is going to get hurt. Supervisor Dick Smith will talk to the Road Commission.

An audience member stated he has camped at the park for many years and has noted that it is becoming more of a family campground. He camped late last summer and was next to a group of ladies who were part of the previous Hesperia women's group. His young grandson was with him and some of the behavior of these ladies was not in line with family camping. He wondered if we could add no nudity to our park ordinance. He also noted that some of them were very disrespectful to the Park Manager. The supervisor acknowledged that group wanted to move their event to our campground and have it closed to the public while they were there. We advised them that while anyone can make a reservation, we did not close the park for group events. We are aware of some of the issues from last year and are talking about ways to have better control of undesirable behavior, should they return in the future.

Commissioner Larry Byl was present and updated the board and audience on happenings at the County level. He stated Pro-Med is pulling out of Hesperia, greatly affecting service in Greenwood and Newfield townships. Pro-Med claims they have a loss of revenue. While Oceana County

financially supports them, Newaygo County does not. Comm. Byl stated fly-overs will be happening soon to update our maps. This is being coordinated by the Equalization Department. He talked about the Shelby millage proposal to be voted on May 2. He also talked about changes being implemented the Mason Lake Oceana ESD.

Reports

- (A) **Financial** – General Fund \$236,644.06; Fire Fund \$73,416.25; Road Improvement Fund \$52,095.20, Park Fund \$65,108.37.
- (B) **Zoning Administrator** – Report given by John Muchna. Issued two permits. Mr. Muchna stated he got a call from someone who wanted to start a solar farm. This is not addressed in our zoning ordinance. Mr. Muchna told him he would have to obtain a special use permit. Mr. Muchna also stated he had an issue with garage that is being built after the ZBA allowed a variance. He stated he received DEQ drawings and there is a dormer going across the north side that does not comply with zoning. Trustee David Rabe, who is a member of the ZBA, acknowledged that the property owners were told at the hearing they had to comply with zoning. Mr. Rabe agreed that under the circumstances the Zoning Administrator cannot issue a permit. Mr. Muchna also spoke about land splits again, that he doesn't feel qualified to do them and does not want to do them anymore.
- (C) **Planning Commission** – The first Planning Commission meeting for 2017 will be on April 18 at 7:00 p.m. Art Grumm stated they will be considering implementing a new public survey.
- (D) **Cemetery Committee** - Report given by Carol Royalty. Cemetery Clean-up Day is Saturday, April 29 at 8:00 a.m. until around noon. If it rains, this will take place the following Saturday.
- (E) **Zoning Board of Appeals** - David Rabe read the minutes from the March 16, 2017 ZBA hearing. It is noted that the setback variance was granted.

Unfinished Business

- (A) **Assessor Contract** - When Dick Smith last spoke with Jim Pease, Jim was waiting to see what Hart was going to do and that will help him decide.
- (B) **Brine Contractor Update** - Dick Smith called D&B and told them he wanted them to brine our roads. We will have them brine at least once, the cost being around \$9,500 per application. The Road Commission will not let us use our match money for brining if we use D&B.

New Business

- (A) **Resolution to Apply for Grant for New Voting Equipment -**

WHEREAS, the Claybanks Township Board wishes to apply to the Secretary of State for a grant to purchase a new voting system from Dominion Voting, which includes precinct tabulators, Absent Voter Counting Board (AVCB) tabulators (if applicable), accessible voting devices for use by those individuals with disabilities, and related Election Management System (EMS) software.

WHEREAS, full funding for the new voting system will be provided by the State, and will include a combination of Federal Help America Vote Act and State-appropriated funds. Local funding obligations, if any, are detailed in attached Dominion quote.

WHEREAS, Claybanks Township plans to begin implementation of the new voting system in 2018.

WHEREAS, the deadline for submitting the required State Grant Application is April 14, 2017 for "First Use" in November, 2017

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Claybanks Township Clerk is authorized to submit this Grant Application on behalf of Claybanks Township, Oceana County on this 10th day of April, 2017.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member Mary Freye.
Second offered by Board Member David Rabe.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "aye": Smith, Freye, Eilers, Lombard, Rabe. Nays: None
The Supervisor, Richard Smith, declared the resolution adopted.

Mary Freye, Clerk

- (B) 2017-18 Audit** - Mary Freye made a motion to sign the letter of intent for Lake Michigan CPA to perform our bi-annual audit at a cost not to exceed \$2,900.00. Second by Brenda Eilers. Lombard, yes; Eilers, yes; Smith, yes; Freye, yes; Rabe, yes. Motion carried.
- (C) Insurance** - Mary Freye advised the board of her displeasure with our current agency. We received our annual bill with an \$800 increase in premium with no explanation and no policy. She contacted the agency and was told policies are usually issued 30 to 45 days after the premium is paid. Mary sent an email to the agency asking to have an agent contact her to discuss this. She received an email from an agent who said she could call him if she had questions. A spreadsheet was sent with values for her to review in lieu of a policy. The office girls who have serviced us for many years are no longer there. Mary worked in commercial insurance for five years and stated this is not good service and our insurance is only as good as our agent. She made a few phone calls to neighboring townships to see who their insurance was through, and it was the same as ours. There was a board member from Newaygo County in the audience and he stated they used Burnham and Flowers out of Kalamazoo. Brenda Eilers suggested using the MTA forum to see who other townships have as agents.
- (D) Waive Fee for Possible ZBA Hearing** - Dick Smith advised the board that Matthew Bunce has a building on his property that his neighbor, Mr. Jones, says needs to go. This building is 12' x 16' and was on his property before the latest zoning ordinance amendment pertaining to accessory buildings was adopted and Mr. Bunce constructed a second accessory building. The judge involved in this case told Mr. Bunce if he obtained a variance to allow the building, that would be the end of it. The township has been in and out of court regarding the dispute between these neighbors many times. Mr. Smith wondered if we could waive the \$300 application fee for Mr. Bunce to apply to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variance, should he decide to pursue this. David Rabe made a motion to waive the \$300 fee for a ZBA hearing regarding the building in question. Second by Brenda Eilers. Freye, yes; Lombard, yes; Rabe, yes; Smith, yes; Eilers, yes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Comments - The pitbull issue referred to in the March 13, 2017 minutes appears to be resolved. There was a preliminary hearing and the ticket is being held.

Adjournment - 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Freye, Clerk