

Township Board meeting Minutes

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February 24, 2014

Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting
February 24, 2014
7:00 p.m.

The meeting opened at 7:04 p.m. with Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Byl, Yarhouse, Rottiers, Irwin and Roland. Also attending the meeting were Fire Chief Tubbs, County Commissioner Dale Majewski, Garfield Township Assessor Brad Beach, Garfield Township Blight Officer Rod Williams and 10 citizens.

The minutes of the January 27, 2014 were corrected to read, "approve bills and wages of \$28,482.55." Motion by Irwin, seconded by Yarhouse, to approve the February 24, 2014 minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Roland, to accept the Treasurer's Report. All ayes. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Tubbs reported 20 runs, 13 of which were medical, 2 mutual aid, 1 miscellaneous fire (gas leak), 4 accidents. He also thanked the community for supporting the winter festival on Crooked Lake on Saturday, February 22, 2014.

County Commissioner Dale Majewski gave a brief report.

Garfield Township Assessor Brad Beach reported he is still working on pricing for the mapping program and that assessment change notices had been sent.

Public Participation

- Kim Irwin, President of the Lake Firefighters Auxiliary, reported profit from the Winter Festival was \$1300+ after costs and gave details of the event.

Correspondence

- The Michigan Chloride proposal has been received and reflects a \$.15 increase per gallon for this year. The deadline for acceptance is May 9, 2014.
- Byl reported the nondiscrimination policy had been posted as required by the State in order to be involved in the Federal Surplus Property program

Supervisor Notes

- Fire Department light fixture installations are almost complete. Discussion followed regarding liability when not having it done by a contractor and should it be inspected. Risk has been eliminated with the new lights. A check will be made with the county electrical engineer regarding the guidelines for requiring a permit and update will be provided at next month's meeting.
- Byl provided a brief update of the blight situations in the township.

- Aqua Clear pellets – Byl provided information regarding the possibility of using the Aqua Clear pellets for Cold Springs and Peterson Park beaches to improve the lake for swimming. Motion by Rottiers, supported by Irwin to spend \$324 for 50# of pellets. All ayes. Motion passed. Byl will check to see if we need to post a warning.
- We have been denied our grant application for generated power for the fire station and township hall. The next grant cycle is April 2014 and will try again.
- Byl gave a recap of the MTA conference and encouraged the board members to attend some of them.
- The Blight Officer will be scheduled for 15 hours per month and Byl will be putting a plan together initially coordinating what has already been done and will report at the next meeting. Rod Williams is scheduled to start March 1, 2014.
- The Waste Management bill has been reduced 60.2% down from 2012 and 48.9% down from 2013.

Old Business

- The John Deere tractor was sold for \$7525.60.
- Discussion regarding the floors in the township hall being refinished and an original-style mopboard being installed. The goal would be to redo in May or June keeping in mind that the hall may be rented more during those months because of showers and graduation parties.

New Business

- Rottiers reported that we will be sending out request for bid letters to four auditing firms in our area.
- Rottiers updated the board on the next step moving forward with the Pontem cemetery program. Information regarding the cost will be provided at next month's meeting for approval.
- Rottiers provided information regarding direct deposit with the goal of having it in place for the March payroll.
- The fire truck replacement information was provided. Fire Chief Tubbs reported on the approach taken to acquire the bid for a new fire truck at a cost of \$450,760.00. He indicated that the proposal fits the needs of the community for the next 20 years. Discussion followed regarding specifications and financing. Following discussion, a motion to approve the recommended specifications sheet as presented by the Fire Chief for a Class A fire engine by Rottiers, supported by Yarhouse. Ayes: Byl, Rottiers, Yarhouse, Roland. Nays: Irwin. Motion carried.

Motion by Irwin, supported by Yarhouse, to approve the bills and wages for February of \$31,631.33. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Irwin. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.