

Township Board meeting Minutes

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Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting
October 28, 2013
7:00 p.m.

The meeting opened at 7:00 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 Dave Majewski, Road Commission Member Eddy Garver, Deputy Clerk Joan E. Farwell, Garfield Township Assessor Brad Beach and 19 citizens

Minutes were corrected as follows: Total Bills and Wages for September including Payroll EFT Transfer of \$101,561.82 corrected to \$83,799.44 and an addition made to the situation with the John Deere tractor to read that the radiator broke, overheated and blew the motor. Motion by Yarhouse, seconded by Irwin, to approve the minutes as corrected. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

Fire Chief Tubbs reported 32 runs, 26 of which were medical, 1 structure fire, 1 mutual aid, 2 down trees, 2 miscellaneous fire (1 RV and 1 accident). He also reported on the following:

- Thanked Ralph and Jeanie Stewart for their help in getting the word out about Trunk or Treat.
- There has been a change in payment for fuel for the fire department. A Sunoco credit card is recommended.
- Two new applicants for the fire department, one cadet, one volunteer firefighter.
- There were two activations of the fire department security system over the weekend, possible breaking and entering or equipment issue.
- SJ Conroy and Kevin went to Spartan Chassis truck facilities to tour and get some quotes.
- Meeting here on November 3 at 10:30 with the Crooked Lake Improvement Association, Fire Department and Auxiliary to discuss the fishing contest.

Motion to hire Damien Harmon as a cadet on the fire department by Rottiers, seconded by Irwin pending background check and physical. All ayes. Motion carried.

Buying fuel locally was discussed and suggestion made to apply for a credit card with Sunoco. Following discussion, motion by Rottiers, seconded by Irwin, to apply for a fuel credit card with Sunoco. All ayes. Motion carried.

County Commissioner Dale Majewski gave a brief report.

Road Commission Member Eddy Garver gave a brief report

Garfield Township Assessor Brad Beach reported that he and Byl have been updating the solid waste and that there will be a cost of \$500 to update BS&A to add mapping to the program.

Motion to pay \$500 for the mapping program with BS&A by Yarhouse, seconded by Rottiers. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Participation

- Mark Salchert, representing Voelker Implement, gave details of three proposals for purchase of a John Deere tractor and the cost of helping to dispose of the old one, indicating that the township may be able to get \$8,000-10,000 for the tractor at auction. Additional expenses would be \$500 for the transfer of the tractor to the auction for disposal and \$200 to convert the attachments from the old tractor to the new one. He also indicated that it would be possible to go back to replacement of the tractor on a regular basis at a cost of \$1800 per year. Discussion followed regarding a two-year rollover and Mark indicated he will bring the information regarding a two-year rollover and the agreement for two-year rollover with amount to the next meeting.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Irwin, to purchase the 2013 John Deere 3320 tractor at a cost of \$18,943.42 and pay the \$500 to transfer the tractor to auction for disposal and \$200 to convert the attachments to the new tractor. All ayes. Motion carried.

- Rich Reuter, representing the Crooked Lake Improvement Association, reported that the largest single issue at their meetings is blight. He indicated that they are hopeful that the initiative will continue within the confines of the budget.
- Mike Schultz, Perch Lake resident, indicated that he hopes the blight problem on his lake will be worked on and specifically asked about travel trailers being moved on property and requirements.
- Kim Irwin, Lake Firefighters Auxiliary President, provided information regarding the Trunk or Treat scheduled for October 31, 2013 at the Depot from 5-8 p.m. and the meeting between the CLIA, Fire Department and Auxiliary on Sunday,

November 3, 2013 commencing at 10:30 a.m.

Supervisor Notes

- Byl reported he attended a supervisor's workshop last week and would like to attend the annual MTA meeting scheduled in January at Traverse City.
- Information regarding a new program for the transfer station was discussed indicating that there is a need to have a way to identify residents who have paid taxes to have access to the transfer station
- Hand-outs were given out at the Transfer Station last week regarding the Halloween Trunk or Treat, Christmas decorating and requesting volunteers to help decorate for Christmas.
- An application for a grant for tire removal had been completed.
- Nuisance report had been updated and provided to the board.
- Depot use dates had been provided.
- Proposal received from Rick's Excavating for the West Beach work at Eight Point Lake.

Motion by Yarhouse, seconded by Rottiers, to approve the proposal from Rick's Excavating for the work at West Beach for \$2700.00. All ayes. Motion carried.

Maintenance Supervisor Bill Scheall reported on projects accomplished for the month.

Deputy Clerk Joan Farwell gave an update to the Board on the status of the cemetery program as follows:

- 1670 records entered of people with deeds. Out of 1670 records, 20 are still reserved, 475 sold with no one buried, 302 possible reclaims, 856 buried, 90 available sites. She also indicated that 4500 inputs have been accomplished which included building the cemetery records, mapping, and entering the occupants.

Old Business

- The John Deere item had already been acted upon.

Byl reported that the contract with Waste Management is in the process of being renegotiated and that he is checking with Stoddard on recycling for oil.

New Business

- A Blight Officer for Garfield Township was discussed. Suggestions to prepare for that possibility were:
 1. A new blight ordinance
 2. Job description
 3. Payment
 4. Advertise for
 5. Time limit of position
 6. Cost of \$7200, mileage and memory chip

Board members felt there should be a special meeting to address the topics listed.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Yarhouse, to schedule two special meetings for Monday, November 4 and Monday November 11, 2013 commencing at 7:00 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Byl reported that the township newsletter will be available soon.

Following discussion, motion by Irwin, seconded by Yarhouse, to approve bills and wages of \$60,201.91.

Motion to adjourn by Irwin. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.