

REYNOLDS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2016

Clerk Sholty called the regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 pm., Pledge of Allegiance was given. Pastor Dan Wolters from Grace Community Church, Howard City, MI gave the invocation.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clerk Sholty, Treasurer Stevens, Trustee Eversole and Trustee Kindel.

Clerk Sholty: Motion: Nominate Aaron Kindel to moderate the meeting. Motion by Stevens, 2nd by Kindel, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was given.

CONSENT AGENDA: Montcalm County Sheriff's Deputy, Luke Sawyer, presented the Sheriff's Report, Zoning Administrator, Arthur Ross presented Zoning Report, and Planning Commission Chairman, David Kohn presented the Planning Commission Report. Trying to draft language for the Right to Farm act and very important for resident participation.

Motion: Approve consent agenda consisting of December 10 Board meeting minutes, Police Report, Fire Report, Zoning Report, Planning Commission Report, Treasurer's Report, Library Report, and the Township's monthly bills. Motion by Sholty, 2nd by Stevens, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, motion carried.

BUSINESS TO REVISIT: Open Supervisor position. Motion: Appoint Aaron Kindel as Supervisor for the remainder of the term. Motion by Sholty, 2nd by Stevens, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, motion carried.

Treasurer Stevens: Aaron Kindel appointed to Supervisor, leaves an open Trustee position. Motion: Appoint Dave Saucier (previous applicant) as Township Trustee. Motion by Eversole, 2nd by Kindel, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Fred Sellers, District Supervisor & Dean Hazle, DEQ were present to discuss Kass property. DEQ always encourages that issues be resolved at a local level. Since the Township had taken action, and contacted the DEQ, the DEQ thought if they stepped in, without township involvement, the issue would be resolved by the owner, as what usually happens 99% of the time. In their opinion, cleanup will not happen by the owner as there is no compliance with any court orders. There is no money in DEQ budget to help with this sort of solid waste dumping cleanup. DEQ will contact the EPA to explore more options.

Residents expressed many concerns, mainly if there is water & land contamination. DEQ representatives acknowledged residents' concerns and is exploring options for water and soil testing. The Township Board will also explore options with Trustee Eversole taking the lead with top priority being water and soil.

Motion: Approve Fence Zoning Ordinance Amendment #A2016-0114-01Z. Motion by Stevens, 2nd by Eversole, Roll Call Vote: Stevens – Aye; Eversole – Aye, Kindel – Aye; Sholty – Aye. Ordinance declared adopted.

Motion: Township Board Meeting Schedule for 2016 to remain the 2nd Thurs. of every month at 7:00 pm. Motion by Sholty, 2nd by Eversole, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

February 4th, there will be a Public Joint Special Meeting with the Township Board and Planning Commission Members. Mr. Kurt Schindler from the MSU Extension office and Attorneys will be present to discuss the "Right to Farm Act" and how it affects the community.

Motion: Donate \$500.00 to the Howard City Winterfest. Motion by Kindel, 2nd by Sholty, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, motion carried.

BOARD COMMENTS: Trustee Eversole addressing a concerned resident: Everything has gone really well here tonight, and everyone has been very cooperative, here. We could get to the point where we could point fingers, and could start back in 2009 when the junk ordinance was created, after 2009 some other things happened and then some folks took Mr. Kass to court and put things in motion, and so on. We could spend all our energy and time and upsetting each other by pointing fingers. We have an issue, let's just sit down together, brainstorm, and figure it out, which is what we've been doing, without casting blame. This Board is for this area and they are doing their best, and I am going to try to do my best just like these folks and all the residents that come to these meetings. We could let what one person has done, ruin our relationships, but that's not the way to get things done. Let's work together and get things done.

Clerk Sholty: February 9th, Budget Public Hearing will take place, notice to come.

Meeting adjourned: 8:53 pm. Motion by Sholty, 2nd by Stevens, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Next Board Meeting: February 11 at 7:00 pm., 215 E. Edgerton St., Howard City. For more information, call the township office at 231 937-6739 or check our website at www.reynoldstwp.org.