

REYNOLDS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2015

Supervisor Fisk called the regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 pm., Pledge of Allegiance was given. Pastor Frank Taylor of Deerfield Bible Church gave the invocation.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Fisk, Clerk Sholty, Treasurer Stevens, Trustee Kindel and Trustee Smith.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was given including an invitation to Board members to a Michigan Tree farm tour of Moose Tree Company put on by Montcalm County Forester, conservation office, through a grant with DNR.

CONSENT AGENDA: Deputy Luke Sawyer presented the Montcalm County Sheriff's Department Police Report, Zoning Administrator, Arthur Ross presented Zoning Report, and Planning Commission Chairman, David Kohn presented the Planning Commission Report.

Motion: Approve consent agenda consisting of August 13, 2015 regular Meeting of the Board minutes, Police Report, Fire Report, Zoning Report, Planning Commission Report, Treasurer's Report, Library Reports, and the Township's monthly bills. Motion by Stevens, 2nd by Sholty, Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, motion carried.

BUSINESS TO REVISIT: Polling Place ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance. Clerk Sholty would like to pursue grant money that is available through the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) for changes/repairs. Bids, pictures and applications are needed. Motion: Get bids for renovations at the Township Hall to make it handicap accessible for elections. Motion by Sholty, 2nd by Smith, Ayes: 5, Nay: 0, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: A response is requested by Montcalm County Drain Commissioner, whether to continue with their review of storm water design for commercial development in our township passed by resolution in 2002. Discussion if this is needed/not needed, options and the Township Board's biggest concern is impact this may have on growing small business in our community. Motion: Opt out of minimum storm water design review, and handle each situation on a case by case basis. Motion by Stevens, 2nd by Smith, Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, motion carried.

Discussion appointing a Deputy Supervisor (Sherry Fisk) at no further expense to the township. This would allow Supervisor Fisk to focus more on township business and better serve the residents as his schedule is changing.

Supervisor Fisk: I don't like wasting everyone's time on things that should have been taken care of in the office, but there has been a lack of cooperation. We, as elected officials, have an obligation to the residents that minutes and information are correct so people aren't confused when reviewing them. Planning Commission Members are not "Board Members." Legal opinion is they need to be referred to as "Planning Commission Members".

August 6th Planning Commission discussed a kid's flag contest and requested \$250 for prize money from Planning Commission budget. A letter was sent to the Township Board asking this be considered. Supervisor Fisk responded (e-mail) with an agenda denial, thanking all the planners for their hard work, liked the unique idea, but could not support money coming from taxpayers and suggested raising private funds for the contest, and even offered to contribute in his response. Return correspondence from Planning Commission Secretary, Robert Richards noted resentment from the Supervisor toward the Planning Commission.

Supervisor Fisk: "I find it very hard as a Township Supervisor, to collect taxes, take the taxpayer's hard-earned money and just give it away. It is against my principles to do that. I go out of my way to compliment the work the Planning Commission is doing in our community. I resent the fact; someone would say my feelings toward the Planning Commission are resentful. It's simply not true."

White Pine Trail Update: 40 miles of White Pine Trail will be paved with asphalt in phases as funding becomes available. Improvements on Rice Creek & Tamarack Creek Bridges will move forward in 2016.

Supervisor Fisk read DEQ letter updating Board on Kass property cleanup.

BOARD COMMENTS: Supervisor Fisk: Audit is nearly completed, and the township's state revenue sharing will be retained. Clerk Sholty addressed residents' questions why something was not done sooner regarding Audit documents. Act 431 states there must be a separation of duties. Unlike an office setting, there is not a "boss" amongst Board Members. The boss for each elected official, are you the residents. A board member is not responsible for producing another elected official's document as each official is "head" of their elected office. Documents were not produced; to be in compliance with Act 267, Open Meetings Act, a public "Special Meeting" was held so the auditor could address the Board.

Meeting adjourned: 8:40 p.m. Motion by Sholty, 2nd by Kindel, Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, motion carried.

Next Meeting: October 8 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.