

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

June 12, 2018

The regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Platt who then led the flag pledge. Present: Supervisor Bob Platt, Clerk Sue Whitehead, Treasurer Terri Moore, Trustees Mike Kelley and Dan VanValkenburg. Absent: none. The minutes were approved as presented. The Treasurer reported income of \$50,445.81 and expenses of \$22,427.87. Additional bills presented for payment: Meredith Francis, CPA-\$4,400 (2017-18 Audit), Jacqueline Benedict-\$75 (June/clean hall), SDS-\$135 (Citrix update at hall), Consumers Life-\$300 (Board annual AD&D), The Exponent-\$30 (Electrical permit stickers). VanValkenburg moved to approve the Treasurer's report and all bills presented for payment. Kelley supported and motion carried 5-0.

Township Auditor Meredith Francis, CPA presented the 2017-18 audit for the financial year ending March 31, 2018. Francis explained the audit procedure to those present and gave an "unmodified opinion" adding there were no changes needed. Whitehead moved to accept the audit for the 2017-18 financial year. Moore supported and motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Platt stated the new lawnmower arrived for the cemetery. The field work for the Township-wide reassessment has been completed.

Nickel gave an update on the former Bear's Lair property on U.S. 12. A list of items still needing action for clean-up has been forwarded to the property owner's attorney.

VanValkenburg said the Planning Commission is continuing to work on a sign ordinance and large solar farms.

NEW BUSINESS

A special public hearing was held at 7:15 prior to the regular board meeting to discuss a proposed 425 contract between Cambridge Township and Franklin Township for a conditional transfer of property. The purpose of the agreement is to transfer six lots on Loch Erin between the two townships for economic development. Franklin would receive two lots (17 & 18) and Cambridge would gain 4 lots (15, 16, 19, & 20). Moore moved to approve the 425 contract and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the contract for Franklin Township. VanValkenburg supported and motion carried 5-0. The parcels transferred from Franklin to Cambridge are: FR0-822-0200-00, FR0-822-0190-00, FR0-822-0160-

00 and FR0-822-0150-00. The parcels being transferred from Cambridge to Franklin are: CA0-822-0170-00 and CA0-822-0180-00.

The Board reviewed a land enhancement request from the Cox Trust and Estate of Guy Cox for property (FR0-520-0090-00) located at 4056 Monroe Road, Tipton. Tipton Community Church wishes to purchase the property. There are unpaid taxes on the property. Whitehead moved to approve the land enhancement of the rear division of the existing parcel of .48 acres and authorize a letter with contingencies issued to the Cox's attorney Denis Jodis. The approval is contingent upon all of the unpaid property taxes be paid up to date to Franklin Township at the time of closing of the property indicated, and the parcel must be tied together with the existing church property. VanValkenburg seconded and motion carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed a Farmland and Open Space application from LeRoy & Fran Sieler with property at 2222 W. Monroe Road, Tipton (FR0-126-2080-00). Whitehead stated the Lenawee Soil Conservation and Region II Planning Comm. reviewed the application and both recommended approval. Whitehead moved to approve the P.A. 116 application for 49.68 acres for 10 years as presented. VanValkenburg supported and motion carried 5-0.

Voters approved in November 2017 the Lenawee County ballot proposal to renew the property tax limits set in 1968. This would allow Franklin Township to raise the 2018 millage rate from .7907 to a maximum of .9994. Supervisor Platt stated with the reserve funds Franklin currently has that he was in favor of leaving the millage rate at .7907. Moore said money should stay in the taxpayer's pockets. Whitehead felt the millage rate should also stay at the lower rate. Moore moved for the Township to collect .7907 mils for 2018. Kelley supported and motion carried 5-0. It was noted that the rate can be changed in the future.

Paving bids were received from Slusarski's and K & B Asphalt for the Township hall parking lot and Franklin Cemetery drive. The Board decided to table the bids until the July 10th meeting when all bids will be received.

Whitehead presented a fireworks permit application received from Kirk Silveira for July 4th at Evans Lake. Whitehead said all documents required had been submitted. Kelley moved to approve the permit for Fireworks other than Consumer or Low Impact to Kirk Silveira. Whitehead supported and motion carried 5-0.

Under public comment Howard Kapp who resides on Pawson Road suggested chloride would be more effective for dust control instead of the Lenawee Co. Road Commission's salt brine. The chloride would have to be purchased by the Township. Franklin is #1 on the salt brine list this year and to date has not received any dust control. Supervisor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Sue Whitehead, Franklin Township Clerk

