

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

August 13, 2019

The regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor VanValkenburg who then led the flag pledge. Present: Supervisor Dan VanValkenburg, Clerk Sue Whitehead, Treasurer Terri Moore, Trustees Mike Kelley and Gordy Whelan. Absent: none. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented. The Treasurer reported income of \$51,518.43 and expenses of \$91,290.79. Additional bills submitted for approval: Consumers Energy-\$129.60 (Converting Mercury Vapor to LED), Sieler's Water Systems-\$44.81 (Salt), Meredith Francis-\$100 (2019 Qualifying Statement), Co. Equal. Dept.-\$3,950.70 (Annual Contract Roll & Map) & \$2,353.51 (2019 Summer Tax Postage & Extra Billing). Kelley moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills submitted for payment. Whitehead supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Township Auditor Meredith Francis presented the 2018-19 FY audit. Francis gave the highest rating "unmodified opinion" for the Township audit. Whelan moved to accept the audit as presented. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Whitehead moved to approve an additional 6-month moratorium extension for large Solar Farms. Whelan supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Zoning Officer Bruce Nickel informed the Board that he submitted the Floodplain documents to EGLE and will follow up with additional information that is needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Kelley moved to name Sue Whitehead as Clerk the contact person for the Business Visa credit card account and as authorized signer for the account. Moore supported. Motion carried 5-0. Former Supervisor Bob Platt was the previous contact person/signer.

1-Land Division Application: Dale & Dee Warner with property at 10495 Carson Hwy, Tecumseh (FR0-113-3000-00) requested to split one parcel of 3.130 acres from the parent parcel. The Land Split Committee recommended approval with contingencies. Whitehead moved to approve the land split as presented with the following contingencies: 1. A complete and accurate legal description of the remaining parent parcel with easements. 2. Identify the remaining acreage. Moore

supported. Motion carried 4-1. Kelley-no. Approval of the land split does not mean zoning compliance.

Board discussed a METRO Act Right-of-Way Telecommunications permit application received from contractor Turnkey Network Solutions representing Everstream GLC Holding Co. The line would run along Carson Hwy into Adrian Twp. Whitehead moved to approve the permit as presented. Whelan supported. Motion carried 5-0. The permit request was for bilateral.

Three P.A. 116 applications were received from J & W Warner Farms for 105 acres located in the 4000 Block of Whelan Rd. (FR0-116-190-5-00), 72 acres in the 7000 N. Adrian Hwy Block (FR0-136-290-5-00), and 66.8 acres at 8901 Elton Hwy, Tipton (FR0-129-1155-00). A question arose as to whether question #13 on the form was accurate if there were any hunting leases on the properties. Whelan moved to table the P.A. 116 applications in order to further research the question on the application. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0. Whitehead will contact the MDA Farmland & Preservation office regarding this matter.

Whitehead moved to extend Frontier Communications METRO Act Right-of-Way Permit request for an additional 5 years from 1/12/20 to 1/12/25. Moore supported. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board discussed that the former Township Hall is for sale, which adjoins Township property. It is zoned C-1. Moore moved to table further discussion until after viewing the building. Whelan supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Supervisor VanValkenburg gave an update stating the Planning Commission appointed as Board Secretary Joel Whelan to replace VanValkenburg, and appointed Clerk Sue Whitehead as Recording Secretary. Joel Whelan will be paid \$40/meeting except in the absence of Whitehead when he will take the minutes and be paid \$50/meeting. Whitehead will be paid \$50/meeting to take minutes and \$50/meeting for the rest of the secretarial duties such as notices, publications, and property notifications. Kelley moved to approve the compensation as indicated. Whelan supported. Motion carried. 5-0. Public Hearings were held on Self-Service Storage Facilities and Storage Definition which were both tabled until the next meeting. Additional Public Hearings held: maximum height on residential buildings was approved from 16 to 25 foot, and the Sign Ordinance was also approved. Both items will now be forwarded to Region 2 Co. Planning Commission for review.

Nickel presented the monthly Zoning Report showing multiple violations. Supervisor VanValkenburg said a dead tree from neighboring property damaged the Franklin Cemetery fence. VanValkenburg met with Life House Ministries and was told they would remove dead trees on their side of the fence. Whitehead received an estimate of \$200 to repair the fence from Adrian-Tecumseh Fence Co.

The Township's deductible is \$500. Whitehead said the fence will be repaired next week.

Co. Comm. Chris Wittenbach contacted Whitehead and gave an update at the county level that the new Sheriff's Administrative office will open in September.

Kelley said he has had a lot of complaints regarding the lack of dust control by the Lenawee Co. Road Commission. He had one request for the Township to provide bag chloride like it did years ago. The salt brine application down the middle of the gravel roads did nothing to alleviate the dust.

Public Comment: Howard Kapp who resides on Pawson Road said the "S" curve on Pawson was washing out and he has been in contact with the Road Commission. Kapp said the dust control this summer is non-existent.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Franklin Township Clerk