

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

December 10, 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 were approved as presented. The Treasurer reported income of \$62,211.92 and expenses of \$12,794.57. Additional bills submitted for payment: Jacqueline Benedict-\$75 (Clean Hall-Dec.), Nextel-\$51.99 (Treas. Internet), Consumers Energy-\$57.04 (LED Acct.), Visa-\$318.45 (Misc.), Exxon Mobile-\$100.05 (Grounds/Cem.-Fuel). Kelley moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills presented for payment. Whelan supported. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Township Assessor Max Griffin was present and requested the Board change vendors for printing the Assessment notices and Personal Property notices to KCI out of Grand Rapids. Historically, the Lenawee County Equalization Dept. has always printed the notices. The Board asked what would be gained by changing vendors. Griffin said it would allow him to have more control. The County Equalization uses Centron now for printing. The KCI proposal for assessment notices was \$1,200.68. Last year the Township paid the County \$1,037.81. The KCI proposal for personal property notices was \$367.50. Last year Griffin printed them himself for roughly \$100 and planned to do so again this year. After some discussion Whelan moved to remain with the County printing the assessment notices at this time since no real cost savings. Whitehead supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Board reviewed a proposed State Construction Code Ordinance #19-6 Amendment. The amendment changes the terms for the Construction Board of Appeals Board from 3 years to 6 years. Whitehead moved to adopt Ordinance #19-6 effective immediately. Moore supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Board discussed the monthly Zoning Report issues and progress with Zoning Administrator Bruce Nickel.

Whitehead moved to approve Supervisor VanValkenburg to attend an MTA training workshop in Frankenmuth for \$132. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0.

It is an all day workshop in January that will cover Board of Review and Board Responsibilities.

The Supervisor gave an update received from Co. Commissioner Wittenbach stating the remodeling of the old Courthouse is soon to begin.

The 2020 Census will be starting to gather information at the first of the year.

Sand Lake Fire Chief Mark Wilson said the department has received new radios that were paid for through the 911 fee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Karpo who resides on Wyman Road was present with assessing complaints. Karpo questioned the Assessor as to why his family farm that has been listed as AG for 65 years has now been reclassified as Residential. Karpo stated the homestead exemption was also removed. Roger Brooks was present and had concerns regarding his classification and the SEV of his property near the corner of Tipton Hwy and U.S. 12. The Board acknowledged there have been many complaints regarding assessing issues since the reassessment was completed. Assessor Griffin said certain issues would need to be addressed at the March Board of Review, and any correction of a homestead exemption would need to be addressed at the July Board of Review.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Franklin Township Clerk