

# **FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP**

## **January 14, 2020**

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. Whitehead presented a Budget Comparison Report for review. Whitehead moved to amend the budget and transfer from the Contingency Fund \$4,000 to the Computer Fund and \$11,000 to Cemetery Expenses. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0. The Treasurer reported income of \$15,603.53 and expenses of \$18,956.88. One additional bill submitted for payment: VISA-\$479.27 (misc. supplies). Kelley moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills presented for payment. Whelan supported. Motion carried 5-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Supervisor VanValkenburg gave an update on the MTA Workshop he recently attended in Frankenmuth. Topics covered were Board Responsibilities and Board of Review.

Board was reminded that the annual Township/Lenawee Co. Road Commission (LCRC) meeting will be held Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at LCRC Headquarters.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Due to the March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary Election the regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board will be held Thursday, March 12, 2020. The Board also approved the 2020 meeting dates for the year.

Co. Commissioner Wittenbach was present and spoke about the upcoming 2020 Census, and that the old courthouse will soon begin renovations. The Register of Deeds office and the County Clerk's Vital Records will be closed February 4 and 5 in order to move into the Public Defenders Building across the street.

Whitehead moved to renew the appointments of Jason Hess and Vern Fry to the Construction Board of Appeals for 6-year terms. Moore supported. Motion carried 5-0.

VanValkenburg and Whitehead attended a joint meeting with Cambridge Township and the Lenawee Co. Road Commission to discuss the condition of O'Dowling Drive. LCRC said if a project was approved, they would crush the

base, shape it, and then re-surface it. There are 52 lots in Franklin and 49 lots in Cambridge. It was estimated that \$240,000 of the project was in Franklin Twp. and \$180,000 was in Cambridge Twp. Discussion was held on how other Township's have been funding subdivision road improvements through special assessment districts. Culverts would be replaced as needed. Patrick Colter who resides on O'Dowling Drive was present with questions regarding improvements to the road and if the LCRC would be contributing funds toward the road.

Whitehead submitted two quotes for new Election equipment. A quote from IT Wright for \$885 for a new HP Electronic Pollbook Laptop with Windows 10 Pro. Moore moved to approve the EPB laptop purchase for \$885. Whelan supported. Motion carried 5-0. The second quote was from Dominion Voting through Election Sources for an ICP Tabulator with ballot box for \$5,295. Kelley moved to approve the Tabulator for \$5,295. Whelan supported. Motion carried 5-0. The 2<sup>nd</sup> tabulator will be used for back-up for the main voting tabulator and when an Absent Voter Counting Board is used during high volume elections.

Zoning Official Bruce Nickel reviewed the monthly Zoning Report with the Board stating there were some boundary line adjustments he was working on. At 6650 Pawson Road a citation ticket was issued due to blight. Some clean-up has occurred. Nickel wanted the opinion of the Board as to whether to take to court. The Board was in agreement that no additional costs be incurred. At this time the property has been improved. Nickel said there will be a pre-trial court date January 28<sup>th</sup> for two additional properties, one located on U.S. 12 and one on Coller Hwy, due to blight and not responding to citation tickets. It was noted the former Bear's Lair property on U.S. 12 still has roughly 800 tires that need to be removed.

Nickel will seek quotes for a new computer due to needing to upgrade to Windows 10 for Building/Zoning Use at the Township Hall.

Under public comment Pawson Road resident Howard Kapp requested the Board contact the LCRC to cut the hill on Pawson and create a ditch for water run-off. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Sue Whitehead  
Franklin Township Clerk