

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

October 13, 2020

The regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board was called to order by Supervisor VanValkenburg at 7:05 p.m. Present: Supervisor Dan VanValkenburg, Clerk Sue Whitehead, Treasurer Terri Moore, Trustees Mike Kelley and Gordy Whelan. Absent: none. The minutes were approved as presented. Whitehead submitted a budget comparison and stated that the Deputy Clerk Fund was over budget due to three elections this year. After some discussion Whitehead moved to amend the budget and transfer \$1,500 from the Contingency Fund to the Deputy Clerk Fund. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0. The Treasurer reported income of \$54,614.97 and expenses of \$11,484.13. No additional bills were submitted. Whelan moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills submitted for payment. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Supervisor VanValkenburg announced that long-time Electrical Inspector Dick Curtis had submitted his letter of resignation effective October 30th. The Board thanked Curtis for all of his years of service and the great job he has done for Franklin. Building Official Bruce Nickel said it has been great working with Curtis. Whelan moved to accept Curtis's resignation letter as presented. Moore supported. Motion carried 5-0. Brian Lewis introduced himself to the Board and said his qualifications are a Master Electrician and licensed Plan Reviewer who currently inspects for five other jurisdictions. The Board proceeded to ask Lewis questions. After some discussion Whitehead moved to approve Brian Lewis as the new Electrical Inspector for the Township effective October 30th. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Marcy Brown, VP, Retail Branch Administrator for County National Bank spoke to the Board and outlined what County National has to offer the Township. Currently, the Township does banking with Premier Bank (formerly First Federal). No action was taken.

The Board reviewed a proposed Greater Irish Hills Region Recreation Plan consisting of 14 local units of Government. Adoption of the joint recreation plan allows eligibility to apply for Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grants for the development of recreational facilities. At this time the Board will seek more information.

MDOT contacted Franklin about installing overhead lighting at the carpool lot on M-52 just north of M-50 based on user feedback that the lot is too dark. Due to ACT 51 MDOT cannot pay for overhead lighting on non-freeway roads, however, MDOT offered to pay for the installation of the lighting if the Township

will pay for the energy and maintenance costs. Moore moved to approve the Township paying for the energy and maintenance costs if MDOT covers the cost of installation for the overhead lighting at the carpool lot. Kelley supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Whitehead moved to continue with Adams Property Services to provide snowplowing for the Township Hall and Franklin Cemetery for 2020-2021 at the same rate as the previous year. Moore supported. Motion carried 5-0.

Moore moved to adopt a Resolution for Consumers Energy Company to make changes in the lighting service as provided in the Standard Lighting contract dated 5/15/2019, and cover the replacement and installation of a LED luminaire for the street light at 9259 Tipton Hwy. Whitehead supported. Motion carried 5-0. The Resolution authorizes the Clerk to act on behalf of the Township to authorize the change. The monthly energy charge for 1 luminaire is approximately \$7.97 per month based on current rates. The Township will receive a separate monthly bill. Whitehead will contact Consumers.

Nickel reviewed new zoning requests and went over zoning enforcements he is working on.

Supervisor VanValkenburg attended the recent dedication ceremony for Taylor Road Park, it is a county park located in Franklin Township. Recent improvements include a new parking lot, nature trails and a viewing area.

VanValkenburg and Moore discussed with the Board the need for a Maintenance Mechanic for the Township Hall and for maintaining lawn equipment. Moore moved to create a Maintenance Mechanic position for \$25/Hr. and appointed Victor Whitehead to the position. Kelley supported. Motion carried 4-0. Whitehead abstained from the vote.

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

Sue Whitehead, Franklin Township Clerk