

# **FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP**

## **July 11, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Clerk Whitehead who then led the flag pledge. Whitehead then appointed Trustee Kelley to preside over the meeting in the absence of Supervisor Platt. Present: Clerk Sue Whitehead, Treasurer Terri Moore, Trustees Mike Kelley and Dan VanValkenburg. Absent: Supervisor Bob Platt. The minutes were approved as presented. The Treasurer reported income of \$14,733.19 and expenses of \$23,536.88. Three additional bills submitted for approval: Lucas Law-\$495 (Legal Fees 5/22-6/27/17), The Daily Telegram-\$65.25 (BOA Printing), Tecumseh Herald-\$85.88 (Printing). VanValkenburg moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills submitted for payment. Whitehead supported and motion carried 4-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Board held a long discussion regarding the proposed RV Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment (Article IV & XXI) regarding RV storage and length of occupancy (Sec. 4.16 & 4.16a) that was tabled from the June meeting. Township Attorney Lucas approved the wording for the proposal that was being discussed. The Waterstradt's who own lake property at 531 Pentecost Hwy stated there is a hill on their property which does not allow any recreational vehicle to be placed behind the front face of their dwelling (single family residential) per how the ordinance is written. Nickel suggested a variance could be applied for through the Board of Appeals in this situation. Whitehead moved to amend the Recreational Vehicle Zoning Text Amendment Ord. #17-1 (Sec. 4.16) to read: the occupancy of a Recreational Vehicle not to exceed a maximum of 14 days during a single calendar year. Effective 30 days after publication. Moore seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: VanValkenburg-yes, Moore-yes, Whitehead-yes, Kelley-no. Motion carried 3-1.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Franklin Township Acting Assessor Jaime Barra was present and reviewed a proposed Poverty Exemption Guidelines with the Board for use with the Board of Review for property taxes. Barra explained part of the application would include an asset test and the poverty guideline is 1 ½ times the federal standard. If an applicant qualified and was approved the exemption would be in effect for 1 year and then the property taxes would return to the regular taxable value. Whitehead moved to approve the 2017 Poverty Exemption Guidelines and add: Property

owner cannot own any other land. The guidelines will be effective immediately. Moore supported and motion carried 4-0.

Whitehead informed the Board that an employee's vehicle has been damaged at the cemetery and a repair bill of \$1,135.47 has been turned into the Township. Due to Michigan being a no fault state the Township's insurance company stated it will only cover the deductible of \$250 leaving a balance of \$885.47 and the employee would need to file a claim with his own insurance company. After some discussion VanValkenburg moved to deny the repair bill and pay the \$250 deductible to the employee. Moore supported and motion carried 4-0. The Board felt the employee needed to seek reimbursement of the bill through his insurance company as recommended by the Township's insurance company. Moore supported and motion carried 4-0.

Kelley updated the Board that the driveway of Joe Ohlman who resides on E. Whelan Road is still getting washed out from runoff on the road. The Board commented that the Lenawee Co. Road Commission has tried several times to remedy the situation.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Sue Whitehead  
Franklin Township Clerk