

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

September 12, 2017

The regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Platt who then led the flag pledge. Present: Supervisor Bob Platt, Clerk Sue Whitehead, Treasurer Terri Moore, Trustees Mike Kelley and Dan Van Valkenburg. Absent: none. The minutes were approved as presented. The Board suspended the regular order of business in order to hold the Fire Protection Hearing: Sand Lake Fire Chief Mark Wilson reported that to date there has been 174 calls (fire and medical). The Department is currently using a less expensive and shorter training class for new recruits. The recent photo fundraiser brought in \$3,300 before expenses. SLFD was able to purchase Ipads for each truck which are smaller and less expensive than prior equipment used, and allows data to be accessed by each truck. In the near future the Department would like to replace one fire truck with a refurbished newer model. Whitehead moved to approve 2.5 mils for fire protection for 2017-2018. Moore supported and motion carried 5-0. The Board returned to the regular order of business. The Treasurer reported income of \$12,386.95 and expenses of \$21,170.34. Kelley moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills submitted for payment. Van Valkenburg supported the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed Zoning Text Amendment Ordinance Sec. 4.15 Animals. The proposed amendment text change: Except as otherwise permitted under the Michigan Right to Farm Act. Van Valkenburg moved to approve Zoning Amendment Ordinance #17-2. Moore seconded and motion carried 5-0. The new text will align the ordinance with Michigan's Right to Farm Act.

The Board discussed the Evans Lake Weed Control Special Assessment District which is for 5 years (2013-2017). Treasurer Moore stated the balance of the account was currently at \$51,630.94. The Board felt that there was sufficient funds to cover future treatments for the last year of the SAD and that the 2017 winter tax collection should be eliminated. Moore moved to not collect \$100 per parcel for the Evans Lake Weed Control Special Assessment District for the 2017 winter tax collection due to excess funds. The remaining funds will be used for future Evans Lake treatments. Whitehead supported and motion carried 5-0.

Several Evans Lake residents that were in attendance felt the weed treatment had so far not been real effective.

1-Land Division Application: Alan & Tracey Schafer with property at 806 Pentecost Hwy, Onsted (FR0-480-0370-00) requested to split a 25 foot section from the parent parcel on Sand Lake. The Township Assessor did not recommend the land split. Zoning Officer Bruce Nickel said if approved it would create a non-conforming lot and the proposed parcel would not be contiguous with the house. VanValkenburg moved to deny the land split application. Kelley supported and motion carried 5-0.

The Clerk gave each Board member a Medical Marijuana Facilities informational notice from the Michigan Townships Association . Whitehead read that facilities are already prohibited by state and federal law and will continue to be illegal in a Township unless the Township Board adopts an “opt in” ordinance or can also adopt an “opt out” resolution. A Township is not required to adopt an ordinance or resolution or take any other action to prohibit the facilities.

There was no public comment. Supervisor Platt commented that the topsoil was currently being leveled over the Rover pipeline in the Township.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Franklin Township Clerk