

February 9, 2010

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: Platt, Whitehead, Wibbeler, VanValkenburg and Sherman. Absent: None. The minutes were approved to read mechanical and electrical specs instead of bids. The Treasurer reported income of \$51,210.34 and expenses of \$24,452.20. One additional bill submitted for approval: The Tecumseh Herald-\$52.96 (Feb. Printing). One payroll item was submitted: Mary Jo Miller, Dep. Treasurer-\$40 (4 hrs. x \$10/hr.). Sherman moved to approve all bills for payment including payroll. VanValkenburg seconded and motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Platt informed the board that he and Twp. Assessor Tim Voorhees, Bd. of Review Chairman Tom Fisher and Trustee Dan VanValkenburg met with the Co. Equalization Director Marty Marshall and presented a recent real estate sales study for Franklin Twp. The group discussed a need for a reduction in property assessments. The township has since been notified that their will be an 8% reduction in property assessments for 2010 residential.

Dailey Engineering forwarded drawings and a letter to the board outlining the status of the project concerning the proposed new twp. hall. The board will hold a special meeting to meet with Todd Dailey to further discuss the drawings and other questions concerning the proposed project on February 23, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the twp. hall.

NEW BUSINESS

Wibbeler presented the following township audit bids:

1. Donna Baker & Assoc. -\$3,700 + \$400 Fiscal Report
2. Robertson, Eaton & Owen-\$3,850 + \$400 Fiscal Report

Wibbeler moved to accept the bid from Donna Baker & Assoc. for a grand total of \$4,100. Whitehead seconded and motion carried.

Board discussed Cohen Park's sprinkler system. Underwood's Nursery previously maintained the sprinkler system for \$350/yr. The board discussed possibly hiring someone to teach the township cemetery groundskeeper how to maintain the sprinkler system in order to cut costs. Wibbeler will look into the matter further.

The March regular monthly board meeting will be held Monday, March 8th instead of Tuesday, March 9th due to the Board of Review public meetings

that will be held at the township hall that evening.

VanValkenburg will attend the Lenawee Legislative Dinner on Feb. 6th.

Property owner Carol Hall questioned whether there was a township ordinance restricting large dairy operations? Supervisor Platt responded that the Department of Environmental Quality regulates those operations and their manure management plans. CAFO'S (confined animal feeding operations) are determined by the total number of head of cattle and Platt did not feel we had any dairy operations in the township that were large enough to meet those requirements at this time.

History Palooza will be held March 13th from 11:00-5:00 at the St. Joseph's Shrine hall. Anyone interested in displaying historical pictures or information about Franklin Township is welcome to participate.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Franklin Township Clerk