

May 13, 2008

The regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board was brought to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Platt, who then led the flag pledge. Present: Platt, Whitehead, Wibbeler, Sherman and VanValkenburg. Absent: None. The regular minutes from the previous meeting were changed to read: John Krueger was also re-appointed to the Planning Commission Board for a 3 year term. The special minutes were approved as read. The Treasurer reported income of \$993.22 (Int.) and expenses of \$11,922.53. Additional bills submitted for approval: Accident Fund-\$1,077 (Workmen's Comp.) and Burnham & Flower Agency-\$4,150 Annual Liab. Ins.). Motion by Sherman, supported by Whitehead, to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills submitted for payment. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Sherman updated the board regarding the hand pump at the Mills Cemetery and feels it may be repairable.

Wibbeler attended a Recycling Coalition meeting and reported that a recycling drop-off center in the Irish Hills is still being looked at.

NEW BUSINESS

Lenawee Co. Drain Commissioner Steve May was present and spoke regarding needed maintenance on the Thielan Drain that was established in 1927. May explained that to exceed the statutory limit of \$2,500 per total miles or fraction of mile of the drain per year for maintenance would require township approval. May answered questions from the residents who were present regarding the amount assessed against property owners in the drainage district and that it would be assessed over a 3-year period (2008-2010). A Township Resolution authorizing the Thielan drain maintenance expenditures in excess of \$2,500 per mile was presented and followed by a roll call vote: Sherman-yes, VanValkenburg-yes, Wibbeler-yes, Whitehead-yes, Platt-yes. Resolution passed unanimously 5-0 and Supervisor declared it adopted.

1-Land Division Application: Ronald Noel with property at 8516 O'Dowling Drive, Onsted (FRO-822-00960-00) requested to split two parent parcels of 15 acres each to create two new parcels. Motion by Wibbeler, supported by VanValkenburg, to approve the land split as presented. Motion carried. Approval of the land division does not mean zoning compliance.

Wibbeler stated that in order to collect summer taxes the county had to be notified by January 1st of that intention, therefore, the county will collect the summer taxes for this year.

Wibbeler informed the board that property and tax information from the Lenawee Co. website will no longer be available to the public at this time due to an increased operation cost.

The board decided to continue using the existing lawnmower (500 hours) at the cemeteries and Jeremy Ries (Cemetery Groundskeeper) will look into obtaining a weed sprayer for the lawnmower.

The board discussed possibly amending the cemetery ordinance regarding the number of cremation burials allowed per grave. Whitehead will look into a cemetery computer software program.

The board will meet May 15, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. with Todd Daily of Daily Engineering to discuss building design for a future township hall.

Sand Lake Fire Chief Mark Wilson was present and informed the board that the fire stations will be staffed and open to the public to issue burning permits Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. It will not be staffed on weekends or holidays. The fire department phone number is 431-2800 and is operating on a trial basis. Wilson also stated the department is in the process of creating new burn permit regulations.

Howard Kapp of Pawson Rd. was present with complaints regarding a soft spot near the subdivision on Pawson Rd. (near Nortley Hwy).

Motion by Sherman, supported by VanValkenburg, to keep the township liability limit at \$3,000,000 at a cost of \$4,150 per year and include the invoice as an additional bill for May. Motion carried.

Public comment was heard and announcements were made and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Franklin Township Clerk