

## September 9, 2008

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 as read. The Treasurer reported income of \$8,179.03 and expenses of \$64,626.52. An additional bill submitted for approval: Exxon Mobil-\$60.01 (Cemetery-Fuel). Motion by Sherman, supported by VanValkenburg, to approve all bills submitted for payment. Motion carried. Suspended the regular order of business in order to hold the Fire Protection Hearing: Sand Lake Fire Chief Mark Wilson was present and gave a summary of the past year's expenses, and also covered equipment and training costs, along with community outreach events the department participated in. The actual operating budget for 2008 is \$331,825.35. The dept. will continue to have someone on duty Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to issue burn permits, handle station and truck maintenance, and guarantee daytime coverage. The Fire Chief requested the current 2.5 mils be continued. Whitehead moved to levy 2.5 mils for fire protection for 2008-09. Wibbeler seconded and motion carried. Returned to regular order of business.

Jack Welsh, Republican candidate for Sheriff was present and spoke regarding his credentials to those in attendance.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Tom Fisher, Chairman of the Building Review Committee read a summary of the last meeting (9/3/08). The committee discussed cost estimates to update Tipton School and annual utility and maintenance costs to operate Tipton School. Fisher informed the board that the committee has given direction for the township board to move forward and define firm costs for the proposed new township hall. Fisher stated the committee is adjourned at this time and has no further action planned. A discussion followed.

Whitehead gave a printing cost comparison between The Daily Telegram and The Tecumseh Herald. The printing cost from the Herald was much lower. Resident Mike Davis suggested the minutes be printed in The Daily Telegram so that more residents would have access to the minutes. After much discussion the board stated the township has a long history of printing the minutes in the Tecumseh Herald and it is a lower expense for the township. Bldg. Official Bruce Nickel stated the township website should be up-to-date soon and residents could obtain the minutes from the township website.

Supervisor Platt stated that the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing regarding setbacks for lake properties October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Motion by Wibbeler, supported by Whitehead, to approve the purchase of a weed sprayer for the cemetery with the cost being no more than \$300. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Sherman, supported by Whitehead, to approve a farmland agreement from Larry Ries for the (P.A. 116) Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program regarding 24.1 acres on M-50, Tipton (FRO-121-2200-00). Motion carried.

Motion by VanValkenburg, supported by Wibbeler, to approve the following culvert replacements:

1. Paragon Road (East of Tipton Hwy) \$1,965.30
2. Taylor Road (East of Carson Hwy) \$2,233.10

Motion carried.

Pawson Road resident Howard Kapp suggested limestone be placed on the steep hills on Pawson Rd. to hold the material in place better. During discussion of the roads it was suggested again that salt brine applications be applied immediately after the roads are scraped for more effectiveness.

Whitehead updated the board with a report from Cemetery Groundskeeper Jeremy Ries regarding a community service worker at the cemetery. The individual has put in 20 hours so far out of 40 hours.

Whitehead forwarded to Zoning Officer Bruce Nickel a complaint that was received regarding several properties with junk cars and dilapidated barns. Nickel will look into the properties.

Motion by Sherman, supported by VanValkenburg, to approve the \$75 fee for any township board members to attend a Planning Enabling Act Workshop.

Motion by Sherman, supported by VanValkenburg, to approve one burial (G. Smith) for payment for Cemetery Sexton David Hunt for \$375. Motion carried.

Bldg. Official Bruce Nickel informed the board that if the township is interested plumbing and mechanical inspectors may be available to fill those positions. It would reduce the amount of time residents would have to wait for a state inspector, therefore, offering better service. Cambridge Twp. is also interested. Supervisor Platt stated that Franklin Township is interested too.

Public comment was heard and the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Sue Whitehead  
Franklin Township Clerk