

**Franklin Township**  
**November 9, 2011**

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: Bob Platt, Sue Whitehead, Nancy Wibbeler, Dan Van Valkenburg and Doug Sherman. Absent: none. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read. The Treasurer reported income of \$6,553.41 and expenses of \$31,875.17. Additional bills submitted for approval: Thomas Woodworking-\$300 (8 Rope Stands) and Lenawee Co. Road Commission-\$1,097.35 (2<sup>nd</sup> Salt Brine). Sherman moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills submitted for payment. Van Valkenburg supported and motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The board discussed the old township hall property. Township Attorney Schaedler has informed the board that high legal fees could be incurred to try to transfer the federal park grant from its present location to other township property. Another option discussed was to separate the tennis court area from the old township hall property through a land division, and the township would retain ownership of the tennis court.

Additional electrical work is needed in order for the township hall sign to be lit at night. Wibbeler moved to approve Radant Electric to light the township sign for \$1,000 or less. Van Valkenburg seconded and motion carried.

Sherman will install a drop-box outside the front door of the township hall in order to increase convenience for township residents

**NEW BUSINESS**

Van Valkenburg presented a proposed amendment to Article III of the Zoning Ordinance of Franklin Township by the addition of Section 3.05 (District Regulations) to prohibit uses for enterprises or purposes, whether permitted or conditional uses in any district, which are contrary to federal, state or local laws or ordinances. A lengthy discussion followed as to how this affects Medical Marijuana issues. Van Valkenburg moved to approve the Zoning Amendment (Section 3.05). Motion died due to lack of support. Sherman moved to postpone a decision on the proposed amendment until the next board meeting. Whitehead seconded and motion carried 4-1. Van Valkenburg-No.

Van Valkenburg presented a proposed amendment to Article III of the Zoning Ordinance of Franklin Township by the addition of Section 12.03.12 Mixed Use As Conditional Use that would allow the conversion of the upper floors of existing commercial buildings for single and multiple family dwellings subject

to certain conditions. Whitehead moved to adopt Ordinance #11-1 Mixed Use As Conditional Use zoning amendment. Wibbeler seconded. Roll Call Vote: Sherman-yes, Wibbeler-yes, Whitehead-yes, Platt-yes, VanValkenburg-yes. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

VanValkenburg presented a rezoning request for the old township hall property at 4041 Monroe Road consisting of 1.1 acres from R-1 Residential to C-1 General Commercial. VanValkenburg moved to adopt Ordinance #11-2 Rezoning Amendment approval. Sherman seconded. Roll Call Vote: VanValkenburg-yes, Sherman-yes, Wibbeler-yes, Whitehead-yes, Platt-yes. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

A snow removal schedule was received by Sommers Lawn and Snow based on snow depth with a minimum fee of \$35. The board agreed to continue with Sommers' snow removal services for the new hall, old hall and cemetery for 2011-2012 winter season.

During public comment Joyce Fisher of Pentecost Hwy thanked Sand Lake Fire Chief Mark Wilson for a recent call the department responded to for a gas leak on Pentecost Hwy.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Sue Whitehead  
Franklin Township Clerk