

November 10, 2009

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 from the previous meeting were approved as read. The Treasurer reported income of \$34,968.63 and expenses of \$32,138.96. One additional bill was submitted for approval: Lenawee Co. Printing & Purchasing-\$48.74 (PC Envelopes). Sherman moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills for payment. VanValkenburg seconded and motion carried. Lenawee Co. Road Commissioner Don Isley was present and spoke regarding projects the department is currently working on and maintenance money for the 22 townships in the county. Isley stated it is predicted that the townships will see a 5% reduction in maintenance funds in 2010. Isley informed the board that Franklin Twp. has 15% of its maintenance fund left at this point and some other townships have 1% remaining. Supervisor Platt reminded Commissioner Isley that Franklin Twp. has already paid for some road scrapings this year and the Road Commission is not to use Franklin's maintenance funds for any other township. Isley responded that management makes those decisions not the Road Commissioners. Platt stated he would only be interested in a road millage if the state repealed the gas tax. The taxpayers should not be taxed twice. VanValkenburg commented that the annual road commission meeting with all of the townships at once does not allow individual attention to each township.

OLD BUSINESS

Wibbeler reported that after further research she would not be seeking a MI Energy Efficient & Conservation Block Grant for the proposed new twp. hall due to the complexity that was required.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Platt presented the following bids from the Co. Road Commission:

1. North of 11700 Carson Hwy - Culvert Replacement \$2,433.87
2. South of 10878 Wisner Hwy - Culvert Replacement \$2,304.98
3. 3 Weeks of Brush Chopper Work – NW Quadrant \$12,136.04

Sherman moved to approve both culvert replacement bids and table the brush chopper bid until the December meeting. Wibbeler seconded and motion carried.

VanValkenburg presented the board with a draft of the proposed updated land use plan the township planning commission has been working on. It is required to be updated every 5 years. The planning commission will review it at their December 1st meeting, and the twp. board will review and discuss any comments at the December 8th twp. board meeting.

Sand Lake Fire Chief Mark Wilson spoke regarding MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System). It is a state-wide mutual aid plan that through a signed resolution with adjoining municipalities will provide resources during a disaster when called upon outside of its own mutual aid agreement to another jurisdiction. It allows resources from other townships and makes available federal funding for training. Wilson asked the board to review the proposed agreement and then discuss it at the December board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Property owner Gary Hall asked Fire Chief Wilson if the federal funding for training is tied to Homeland Security? Wilson responded not that he is aware of. Hall questioned Road Commissioner Isley why the county mowers mow the snow in the ditch when supposedly brush chopping in the winter? Isley had no comment.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Franklin Township Clerk