

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

September 11, 2012

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 \$518.74 and expenses of \$43,881.02. Additional bills submitted for approval: Safety Systems-\$84 (3rd Qt. Lease) and A-1 Fence-\$550 (Cohen Park Gate). Sherman moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and all bills submitted for payment. Whitehead seconded and motion carried. The regular order of business was suspended in order to hold the Fire Protection Hearing. Fire Chief Mark Wilson gave a power point presentation informing those present that the department has a \$324,549 operating budget plus the department does fundraising. There are 35 firemen presently on staff. 187 calls have been made thus far in 2012. Wilson stated that the largest share of the budget goes to training and equipment, and the department is able to purchase equipment upgrades through grants. The Fire Chief said he would like to continue with the present fire millage. Whitehead moved to levy 2.5 mils for fire protection for 2012-2013. Wibbeler supported and motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

An estimate of \$800 was received from Thomas Woodworking for an 8 ft. long 40" in height table with wheels to be used for election voter application use. The board will look into a less expensive table.

The board received a request to donate a grave in the Franklin Cemetery for a soldier from the civil war era to be used in memorial only. The board agreed not to honor the request due to the soldier's name already appearing on the civil war monument in the cemetery and to not set a precedent.

The board is interested in attending an informational meeting with Columbia Township regarding the People Channel. It is a government access channel that is no longer operating. Whitehead will contact the Township Clerk for a date.

The limestone application has been applied to Pawson Road.

The grant program through the Par Plan was discussed.

VanValkenburg stated that the upcoming Planning Commission meeting will be discussing details for a possible Noxious Weed Ordinance and civil infractions for existing ordinances.

VanValkenburg moved to proceed with purchasing a screen and projector for the hall meeting room to use for presentations. Sherman supported and motion carried.

The Treasurer inquired about the Dangerous Building Hearing held on September 5, 2012 regarding a vacant home on Pentecost Hwy. Supervisor Platt stated that the representative has 30 days to submit a plan to the Hearings Officer.

NEW BUSINESS

The board reviewed a Farmland Agreement through the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program from Larry Ries regarding (FRO-102-4750-00) 28 acres in the 2000 block of Service Road. Whitehead stated that the Lenawee Conservation District has approved the application. VanValkenburg moved to approve the P.A. 116 application. Sherman supported and motion carried.

A request was received to hold a weekly yoga class in the meeting room at the township hall. After some discussion the board agreed that the request did not fall into the allowances for hall use such as educational workshops and business meetings.

Platt announced that an informational meeting for the Tipton Post Office will be held at the township hall October 9, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss operational changes.

Co. Commissioner Chris Wittenbach was present and updated those present at the county level. Sherman inquired where the funds for the new aerial maps were acquired? Wittenbach responded that the funds came from the Equalization Dept. and was set aside for the program.

Public comment was heard and the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Franklin Township Clerk