

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 13, 2020

Garfield Township Hall

1138 W Erickson Road, Linwood, MI 48634

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the Supervisor, James Dubay at 6:01 p.m.

Public attendance was 8 (via teleconference).

Roll was taken, James Dubay, Gerald Rivard, Karen Snyder, Leroy Day, and Connie Fantozzi present via teleconference.

The Pledge was said in unison.

Motion made by Rivard/Day to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion made by Snyder/Rivard to approve the March 7, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rivard/Day to approve the March 28, 2020 Settlement Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Day/Snyder to approve the March 28, 2020 Budget Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report read by Snyder. Motion made by Rivard/Day to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried. Dubay to turn in signed settlement to Treasurer.

Motion made by Dubay/Day to pay the bills. Motion carried.

Northern Bay

Updates are coming in regularly from NBA by Dubay and are being distributed as received regarding COVID-19 issues with the ambulances.

Fantozzi updated Board on bill received from NBA for the township which was given to Snyder for clarification due to some date errors on the bills submitted. Quarterly bills received 12-2020, March 2021, June with no year and September 2020. Dubai advised that he is working with NBA but so far it does appear that we are paid through til December 2020.

Planning Commission

No meeting

Fire Dept February Runs

12 runs for the past month

7 medical

5 fire (1-mutual aid from Beaver, Mt Forest & Pinconning/Fraser; 1-mut aid from Pinc/Fraser & Beaver; 1-mut aid from Beaver & Mt Forest; 1-mut aid from Beaver, Kawkawlin, Pinc/Fraser, Mt Forest & Auburn; 1 fire strictly Garfield Township)

first aid

well being check

Wires down (less than 1 hour)

Personal injury (car accident)

Carbon monoxide alarm

Cancelled

Brush fire

mutual aids cancelled in route

March Runs

3 runs for the month

1 Medical

2 Fire (we provided mutual aid to Pinconning/Fraser on one and to Beaver)

Fantozzi advised Becky H that February minutes had not yet been received (still only have the minutes that are identical to January 2020). Becky advised she has not yet been to the Fire Dept to handle this issue.

Snyder brought up Satkowiak bills from 2 fires that Becky H had turned in. Snyder advised that these bills should not be coming to the Fire Dept or the Township but submitted by Satkowiak to the homeowners insurance. Dubay advised they had always used Satkowiak for this as he is local. Snyder pointed out the Garfield truck left an active fire to go get back hoe (or other equipment). Fantozzi advised that this arrangement should be done via a written contract written by the lawyer.

Brad advised Rescue truck has a transmission leak and he will be working on it at Wielands. Other 2 trucks need exhaust work. Motion made by Rivard/Snyder to proceed with repairs. Roll call vote: Snyder-yes; Rivard-yes; Day-yes; Fantozzi-yes; and Dubay-yes. Motion carried.

Road Commission

No meetings at the present time

Correspondence

none

Public Comment

None

OLD Business

Trash Bids Dubay has put this off due to COVID-19

NEW Business

Park and Hall Both are closed and no rentals being taken at this time. People are still allowed to use the trails to walk while maintaining 6 foot social distancing. Playground equipment is not to be used.

Fire Dept asked about groundskeeper not working now due to COVID-19 and shouldn't be paid to sit home. Dubay advised that groundskeeper is considered salary and is paid

nowhere near what the work he does is worth. Therefore, groundskeeper pay will start as usual this spring. Discussion held on exactly what the groundskeeper does in addition to 'just' mowing which also includes renting the park, opening/closing the bathrooms (and cleaning them), weed wacking, leaf blowing, cutting up of trees, painting, redistributing cleanup dumpsters for pickup etc. Question asked why bathrooms are not open and discussion held on the fact that they are winterized and will be until the plumber comes to hook them back up. Dubai advised how the outside toilets work and what kind they are and the fact that they are taken apart with antifreeze put in over the winter. Fantozzi advised that the bathrooms are not open as a general rule. Groundskeeper opens them for park rentals and ball games and then returns to close/clean them.

Fire Dept apology to Clerk and rest of Township Board

Fantozzi stated her opinion of this item and reasons why this should be done. Question asked by Fire Dept personnel and answered on budget meeting. Support given by Snyder, Dubai. Rivard and Day declined to offer support.

Removal of Brad Hoffman and Rebecca Hoffman from positions at Fire Dept.

Per Dubai, when COVID-10 is over, there will be a meeting open to the public to go over issues with the Fire Dept. wherein these might be worked out. Fantozzi also brought up issues with bills being submitted in constantly changing fashion and not always legibly.

Snyder brought up the items she had instructed Clerk to maintain on the new budget and reiterated that the proposed wage increases for Chief, Asst Chief, and Secretary were removed as Snyder indicated that MTA stated the Budget meeting is not the place for this type of discussion. It needs to be brought up with the Fire Dept first. During the wage discussion, Neumeyer stated firmly he had not wanted to be Asst Chief does not want to be Chief ever.

Public Comment

Groundskeeper requested guidance from Dubai regarding starting at the park now or waiting until later and what work he could start with. Dubai advised to get the equipment ready, blades sharpened, oil changed, etc.

Misc Board

Dubay read resignation letter from Fantozzi (resigning as Clerk). Questions in letter clarified. Motion made by Day/Rivard. Motion carried (Fantozzi abstained). Snyder and Dubay offered thanks to Fantozzi for the work given so far. Resident also offered thanks to all the Board for the jobs they are doing.

Adjournment

Motion made by Snyder/Rivard to adjourn. Motion carried (Fantozzi abstained). Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Connie Fantozzi, Clerk

Date