

Johnstown Township Minutes

13641 South M-37 Highway. Battle Creek Michigan 49017

Regular Board Meeting – June 9, 2021 – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Barb Earl, Clerk Sheri Babcock, Treasurer Karmen Nickerson
Trustee Deana Powell, Trustee Jeff Warren

Visitors: 8 (eight)

Agenda: A motion was made by Powell to approve the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Warren.
All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comments (3 minutes per person):

- A resident from Fine Lake was present and voiced concerns about speeding traffic on Hickory Road by Fine Lake. Hickory Road is a class A road, but doesn't necessary meet the qualifications for a Class A road due to the road being very narrow and no lines. This was also discussed at a recent meeting of the Fine Lake Association. They would like to explore options with the Township Board on ways to handle this situation. It was decided to invite the Road Commission and Sherriff Dar Leaf to attend next month's meeting to discuss in more detail.

Minutes: A motion was made by Powell to approve the minutes Regular Board Meeting of May 12, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report – Karmen Nickerson

- Summer Tax bills will be sent out by the 1st of July. Tax bills due by Sept. 14th
- CD interest rates are up slightly
- Parking Lot update – everything is done with the exception of the pavers which was a sub-contract job. They will be following up with the sub to make sure it is on the schedule to be done. They have submitted a bill for the work already done and will re-bill for sub-contractor work when it is done.

A motion was made by Warren to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Clerk's Report – Sheri Babcock

Budget Modifications: A budget modification is need for the Fire Dept. in the amount of \$350.00 for dues paid to the Barry County Medical Control Authority. After a hiatus of three years, BCMCA and EMS Advisory Council are reinstating the dues' structure beginning June 1, 2021. I added the 206.336.732.000 account for Dues and Subscriptions to the Fire Depts. Chart of Accounts. We need approval of the following budget modification:

Increase	206.336.721.000 Dues and Subscription	\$350.00
----------	---------------------------------------	----------

A motion was made by Powell to approve the budget modification increasing the Fire Dept. fund 206.336.721.000 by \$350.00 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Revolving Fund:

I have set up the 246.000.000.000 Revolving Fund in the chart of accounts with the necessary fund balance account and cash account. I will still need to follow up with BSA set up the pooled account info and then will proceed with the transfer to that account as authorized in last month's board meeting.

Elections:

AV applications will be mailed out on Saturday, June 12th for the August 2, 2021 Election for Hastings School district only.

Grants and Reimbursement:

The reimbursement request has been submitted to the County for the May 4th election for payment from K.R.E.S.A.

Assessor's Report – Joyce Foondle

- Building permits listing provided
- Inspections have started on agricultural improved properties not previously visited. Letters sent out to properties on Baseline Rd, Sheffield Rd, and Budd Rd.
- One land division
- Michigan Tax Tribunal – a petition has been filed for Steven Ross, and the attorney has been notified.

Fire Report – Fire Chief Pete Dunn

- 37 incidents in May for a total of 198 incidents year to date.
- 27 MFR in May, 150 MFR year to date.
- Training: Drivers course training and MFR operations
- Personnel changes: None
- Current Membership: 22 Active, 6 probationary, 2 cadets.
- Department Activity: Waiting on one part to be able to start new truck modification.

Next Quarterly Meeting of the Township Board and JFD Officers is July 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Report - Bruce Campbell

- County Commissioners approved a contracted Solid Waste Recycle Coordinator;
- Harvest Point development of Thornapple Manor has started ground preparations;
- Barry County Emergency Order update;
- Possible changes in meeting times to allow more community participation;
- A resident asked about follow-up on Bridge work on North Avenue. Still seeking information on this and will report back.

Old Business:

- **Sleepy Hollow:** Last month the discussion ended with asking the residents to go back to the Road Commission for options to reduce the cost due to concerns that residents may not be able to afford the proposed estimate of cost. No additional contact from residents at this time.
- **Fire Chief Applicants:** We have received two resumes for application for Fire Chief's position and would like to schedule interviews for the week of June 21st. A board trustee expressed a concern that one of the applicant's may have an omission from his work history. Also concerned why he didn't follow through with his application to join the fire department here in the past. A Fire Officer also expressed concern coming from the fire fighters over the hiring policy of the township to include running an ad in the newspaper for this position. The reason for the policy was due to recommendations from MTA and the Insurance Company's Risk manager. We would like to hold the interviews on Wednesday, June 23rd at 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. The meeting will begin at 5:30.

Old Business: (continued)

- **Long Lake Ordinance Update:** We have received petitions for making a change to the Long Lake ordinance to change the time to restrict high speed boating from 7:30 p.m. (from 6:30) to 10:00 a.m.

Petitions have been turned over to the assessor for certification. We will begin looking at the process to make these changes. It was determined that only lake front resident petitions are needed.

- **Hall Rentals:** With recent restriction being lifted, we will resume hall rentals effective July 1, 2021. A motion was made by Powell to resume hall rentals effective July 1, 2021, seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

New Business:

- Cemetery Repairs/improvements: Estimates needed to work on roads, plant trees, explore possible purchase additional land at Banfield cemetery;
- American Rescue Funds: Continuing to monitor process and keep up with updates;
- Walnut Ridge – ready to send over to the lawyer to start notices, resolutions and publications.


Pay Invoices and Payroll:

A motion was made by Powell to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 60,803.34 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Citizen's Comments: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Warren to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Attested to by:
Barbara Earl
Supervisor



Sheri Babcock, Clerk