

Johnstown Township Minutes

13641 South M-37 Highway. Battle Creek Michigan 49017

Regular Board Meeting – Feb. 9, 2022 – 7:30 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Absent: None

Visitors: Nine (9)

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): None

Minutes: A motion was made by Warren to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of Jan. 12, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Powell to approve the minutes of the Special Preliminary Budget Planning Meeting of January 27, 2022 as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Barry County Planning & Zoning – Code Enforcement Officer – Jack Ward

- Barry County has approximately 205 open complaints in the county. Johnstown Township has approximately 21 or about 10% of the total county complaints.
- Planning and Zoning is adding Woodland to Jack's work load so resources will be stretched even further.
- Review and questions presented on our current open complaints. One new added by phone call of today.
- Discussed frustration on both sides with seeming little or no progress in some of these cases.

Treasurer's Report – Karmen Nickerson

- Monday, Feb. 14th is the last day to pay property taxes at the township without 3% penalty
- Property taxes with an additional 3% penalty can still be paid at the township until Feb. 28th.

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

W-2's: Uploaded to SSA by Jan. 31st

1099's: Issued and mailed by Jan. 31st

BOR Training: 3 of the 4 members are scheduled for either virtual or in-person training. Books were purchased for each participant. One additional book was purchased to be kept in the conference room as reference resource or used by the Assessor.

Eligibility to Incorporate as a Charter Township: We received a mailing from the State of Michigan that requires immediate action. Upon receiving this Notice of Eligibility to Incorporate as a Charter Township, the board needs to publish a Referendum in the newspaper within 15 days. This notice has to be published regardless of the decision to incorporate or not. This referendum notice is scheduled to appear in "The Reminder" on Saturday, Feb. 12th and again on Feb. 19th.

Once the ads are placed, we can adopt a resolution opposing incorporation, or adopt a resolution of intent to incorporate and wait at least 60 days to see if we receive petitions of disagreement, or, adopt a resolution submitting the question of incorporation to electors or take no action. If it is our decision to oppose the Charter status, it is recommended that we at least adopt a resolution of opposition and file that with the State. This will satisfy all the requirements as needed.

A motion was made by Powell to proceed with the option to adopt a resolution of opposition to the Charter status and publish the ads as required. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

May Special Elections: This election will now include proposals from Delton, Hastings, and Gull Lake Schools. We are not required to use an AV counting board for this election, but may do so. Due to the number of AV Applications to be sent out, we will want to run a separate AV counting board. This will be set up by resolution by the Election Commission at a later date.

Budget Modifications:

Expenditure Modifications:

Fire Dept.

206.336.722.000	Pension	Increase	\$ 195
206.336.932.000	Maintenance Vehicles	Increase	\$ 116
206.336.970.000	Capital Outlay	Increase	\$ 420
			\$ 731
206.336.950.000	Educ & Training	Decrease	-\$731

Assessor:

101.209.801.000	Contractual Services	Increase	\$ 380
101.209.802.000	Office Supplies	Decrease	(\$ 380)

Treasurer:

101.253.726.000	Office Supplies	Increase	\$ 360
101.253.703.000	Deputy Treasurer	Decrease	\$ -360

Revenue Modifications:

Walnut Ridge:

541.000.450.000	Special Assessment Principal	Increase	\$20,000
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A motion was made by Warren to approve the budget modifications as printed. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Assessor Report – Joyce Foondle

- Building permits report for last month – 2 new permits
- L-4022 showing the 2022 values
- Land Divisions – one approved land division
- Michigan Tax Tribunal – nothing new

Fire Report – Fire Chief Chris Jozwik

- 38 incidents in the month January
- 32 MFR calls in the month of January
- Training: Annual Association Meeting with Election of new officers.
- Personnel Changes: none
- Current Membership: 19 active members, 2 cadets
- Department Activity: Pancake Breakfast to be held on April 2nd

Next Quarterly Meeting of the Township Board and JFD Officers is April 4, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Report - Bruce Campbell

- Approval of 2022 County Commissioner Assignments to Boards/Commissions
- Meeting times are still being considered. May consider 3 meeting times staying the same and one per month possible changing to an evening meeting.
- ARPA funds – changes to revenue loss allowing for more options for uses. Suggested that townships should consider applying for round 2, if they haven't applied in round 1.
- New Equalization Director

New Business:

- Next Budget Meeting – scheduled for Feb. 28, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Will be posted in display and on the web site.

Old Business:

Long Lake: Email confirmation was received from Fort Custer confirming that the sign for Long Lake will be updated to show E.S.T. so the hours will change during D.S.T.

Sleepy Hollow: Petition signatures have been coming in but are not verified at this time. The clerk will update the listing and provide updated information asap.

Clear Lake Weed Control: As previously discussed, PLM will not be able to give an estimate on cost until the exotic weeds begin their growth in June. They hope to hold an informational meeting in July with residents from both Johnstown and Baltimore township.

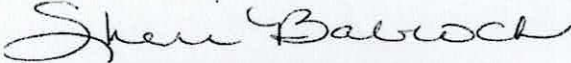
Pay Invoices and Payroll:

A motion was made by Warren to pay the bills in the amount of \$33,716.52 as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Citizen's Comments: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Powell to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Attested to by:
Barbara Earl
Supervisor



Sheri Babcock, Clerk