



OVID TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1015 Baese Court, P.O. Box 136
Ovid, Michigan 48866
Tx: (989) 834-2838
Fax: (989) 834-2710

APPROVED

SUPERVISOR: Gregory C. Palen
CLERK: Claudia Barrett Pluger
TREASURER: Nancy J. Hughson

TRUSTEES: Arlene Pesik
Jennings West

PROPOSED MINUTES OF OVID TOWNSHIP MEETING - JUNE 11, 2020

The regular meeting of the Ovid Township Board was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by the Clerk with Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor Palen arrived at 7:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Gregory Palen, Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, Treasurer Nancy Hughson, Trustees Arlene Pesik and Jennings West

ALSO PRESENT:

Deb Shaughnessy, Mark Holley, Harold Plattenberg, Patricia Hibbard, Eric White, Bob Meredith

AGENDA:

Agenda reviewed by Board. Moved by Jennings to approve the agenda as printed, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

***Public Comments: (7:06 – 7:22 p.m.)**

Mr. Eric White introduced himself and stated where he lives on Wildcat Road. They have lived there for over 20 years. He addressed his concerns regarding vandalism of his land done by the Clinton County Road Commission for 20 years. In the beginning he went to their offices to try and talk with Joe Pulver, which he was never able to. He spoke to Ron Armbrustmacher. This has been an ongoing problem, which he felt he could work out with the Road Commission. There are signs up that say "no spraying," but they continued to spray. He had a lilac tree that was very meaningful to him, and it was ruined by the spray. They continued to spray every year even though

there were signs up. He stated Ron was with him and had witnessed what the Clinton County Road Commission employee said to him.

Mr. White stated he had an agreement with Ron that he would do all the trimming of his trees. He relayed that the most recent situation was two weeks ago, where he spent the day trimming the trees. The next day the road grader came by and lawn bladed and knocked all those trees down. Two weeks ago they came by with the brush hog. There are 60 trees smashed, and one is tipped over. He encouraged everyone to drive by and see the damage that was just done. The bushes are gone. There's a creek and wildlife being disturbed. He said he has more stories of what they've done.

Mr. White proposed that Ovid Township check into privatizing so Clinton County Road Commission will no longer be in Ovid Township. He feels it is time to move them out of the Township so there is no further damage done. He feels someone else could be hired to take care of the road maintenance yearly and do snow removal. He thanked us for our time.

Supervisor Palen commented he would go out and see the property. Discussion continued with input from others that were also present in the meeting.

Mr. Harold Plattenberg inquired regarding chloride on Welter Road. He commented that apparently the Road Commission sprayed Wildcat, Parks and Taft Roads, but when they got to Welter Road, they ran out. They never did Welter. Jennings commented they are going to gravel first and then spray over that. He said he was just informed of that. Discussion continued.

PROPOSED MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2020:

Proposed May 14, 2020, minutes reviewed by the Board.

Moved by Arlene that we approve the minutes from the May 14, 2020, board meeting, as written, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Nancy presented the Board with the bank balances, along with the supporting bank statements and Michigan Class Statements as of May 31, 2020, as well as the corresponding bank reconciliations for each month's bank statement.

Huntington Bank Account Balances:

General Fund bank balance is \$249,703.33.

Tax account bank balance is \$1,546.74.

Delinquent Property Tax account balance is \$184.84.

Payroll account balance is \$22,187.66.

Michigan Class investment account balances:

General Fund is \$132,386.33.

Tax Account is \$.01.

Emergency Services account is \$36,740.24.

Mercantile Bank Emergency Services Account is \$60,290.35.

Journey Federal Credit Union Balances:

Cemetery Account - \$5.00

Tax Account - \$5.00

Nancy stated we have the new Cemetery Account and Tax Account set up at Journey Federal Credit Union, and should be getting our checks soon.

Moved by Jennings that we accept the report from the Treasurer for May, as presented, bank statements, and all reconciliations included for review, subject to audit,

Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

AMEND AND APPROVE BUDGET:

Clerk stated we need to make an adjustment to the South Ovid Cemetery fund for mowing, GL #209-567-801. Discussion regarding how much to transfer.

Moved by Claudia that we transfer \$4,200 from unallocated funds to GL #209-567-801, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

CLERK/BILLS - FOR APPROVAL:

Claudia presented the Check Disbursement Reports from Huntington Bank and Mercantile Bank Emergency Services for approval, and the Revenue and Expenditure Report ending 05/31/2020 for review –

Huntington Bank, check numbers 155 and 156, 10749-10757, payroll check numbers 172-178 totaling \$9,576.91.

Claudia talked with BS&A regarding the two checks for Jennings and Arlene from February's Budget Meeting. They are listed on a separate Check Disbursement Report, Check numbers 155 and 156, for a total of \$246.68. That was the only way to do it, per BS&A.

Mercantile Bank Emergency Services, check numbers 1032 (\$44.05) and 1042 (\$13,188.00) totaling \$13,232.05.

Moved by Nancy to approve Claudia's reports, and payment of all checks from Huntington Bank and Mercantile Bank, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lawn Mowing Bids for Cemetery:

Supervisor Palen reviewed the two bids we received, one from Mow & Snow, and one from Matt Tribfelner.

Nancy explained that after our last meeting Ben Butcher contacted her, and he said he did not intend to mow the South Ovid Cemetery the whole summer. He was planning to mow only in May so it looked nice for Memorial Day.

Matt Tribfelner's bid is a total of \$3600, which listed how many mowings per month. Mow & Snow were willing to mow on an as needed basis. Board discussed the bids. Moved by Supervisor Palen that we accept Matt Tribfelner's bid for South Ovid Cemetery mowing. Further discussion regarding this and listing it in the Newspaper again. Supervisor Palen said Motion failed for lack of a second. More discussion and possibly tabeling this until July 9th meeting. Nancy commented we should make a decision now because it needs mowing.

Supervisor Palen restated his Motion that we accept Matt Tribfelner's bid for South Ovid Cemetery mowing, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

Flagpole Replacement Parts:

Claudia presented a catalog and commented we need to fix some parts on our Flagpole. The Flag needs to be secured. We need a retainer ring and a Flag arrangement with snaphook. We need a new Flag also.

Moved by Claudia that we purchase a new Flag and the needed replacement parts, Seconded by Nancy. All in favor, Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2020 Census – Deb Shaughnessy:

Deb said at this time she didn't have anything new to report.

New Hall Rental Guidelines:

Supervisor Palen commented last month we took the new Hall Rental Guidelines home to review so we could act on them this month.

Moved by Claudia that we adopt the new Hall Rental Guidelines as written, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

Laptop for Clerk:

The clerk has no bids on a laptop yet.

Surveillance Cameras Update – Jennings:

We received a bid from New Look Data and Computer for \$2,870.72. The bid and what equipment is included was in everyone's packet to review. Nancy was filling out the Grant Application, and it said we needed a resolution. We were under the impression we only needed a motion, which we did. Since the deadline for the grant is over, we can possibly try again in the fall.

Robert Meredith – Dog Complaint:

Supervisor Palen told Bob there were a couple of his neighbors that he never did get a chance to talk to about the dogs. He did talk to Animal Control about them.

Bob commented he stayed a couple extra months in Florida. His son mowed his lawn, and the dog attacked the lawn mower tire. He bit it. His son went over and talked with the neighbor about the dog being aggressive. The neighbor feels his dog only bothers Bob. He stated he had movies of Bob aggravating the dogs, which he couldn't find at that particular time.

Bob said the dogs have been good. He said they haven't been barking. They don't have muzzles on them. He doesn't know if they have bark collars on them or what they've done. They just lay around, he said.

Discussion continued regarding dogs, junk cars on properties, the storm coming through, et cetera - visiting.

***Public Comments:**

No further public comments.

REPORTS:

Assessor Mark Holley –

Clinton County has been slow in getting the Agricultural Study going that Mark is involved in, so he started the 20 percent review of property in our Township. He is about halfway through it. Everything is going well. That's the good news.

The bad news is our Governor decided that she is going to reopen the Board of Review. She is reopening March Board of Review, which has never been done in our State's history ever before. She's claiming that people did not have due process because of the COVID virus. We have to have a July Board of Review where the public is welcome to come and appeal their taxes again. The law does not state what that Board of Review is supposed to look like or how long it should last. It's a lot of work. Mark is proposing that we hold it for one hour on the third Tuesday of July, which is the mandatory date. It would be July 21st from 12 noon to 1 p.m. Every township in the State has to have their meeting that day, and it's only the one day. Reopening March Board of Review is going to cause equalization to be messed up. Final equalization has already been done for the entire State.

Mark has had quite a few taxpayers coming into his office with questions over the last couple of months. They have expressed they like having a local assessor to come and talk to with their questions.

Supervisor Palen stated we have a land division in limbo right now. It involves three generations.

Library – Nancy supplied us with the Library Board Meeting minutes from May 5, 2020, the Special Meeting minutes of May 19, 2020, and the financial documents. They reopened for people to call in or email and ask for books, and then they take them out to their cars when they arrive. They are open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. They are going to keep those hours through the first week of July. They will see what the COVID numbers are and go from there.

OMESA - Trustee Jennings reported the Chief and Assistant Chief want to pour concrete on the other side of the building for parking. The cost would be \$47,000. The Board felt it would be best at this time to wait on doing that. The fall of 2022 the building will be paid for.

Supervisor Palen commented he thought the Chief and/or Assistant Chief may show up at one of our meetings to see if the two townships, Ovid Township and Middlebury Township, could finance it. Supervisor Palen and Jennings walked around the building, and there's a lot of water there. It all dumps off the roof. They feel that should be addressed before any paving. There's gravel there now. Discussion regarding this and only the two townships paying for this.

CAASA – Supervisor Palen commented there's a CAASA Meeting on the 18th, and he will be gone. He asked Deb to cover it. They are working on developing an employee benefit system for the paramedics, EMT's and drivers. EMT's come and go. They are trying to come up with an incentive to encourage them to stay. There's various laws regarding how much an employer can contribute. It's about three percent of payroll. Monthly payroll has been averaging about \$33,000 monthly. A three percent contribution would be \$1,000 a month.

Board Comments:

None.

Adjournment: Supervisor Palen adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk