



OID TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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

TRUSTEES: Arlene Pesik
Jennings West

APPROVED MINUTES OF OVID TOWNSHIP MEETING - DECEMBER 13, 2018

The regular meeting of the Ovid Township Board was called to order at 7 p.m. by the Clerk, Claudia Barrett Pluger, with Pledge to the Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, Treasurer Nancy J. Hughson, Trustees Arlene Pesik and Jennings West.

ABSENT: Supervisor Greg Palen (Arrived at 7:50 p.m.)

ALSO PRESENT:

Steve Kirinovic, Deputy Zach Smith, Ed Tyler, Kam Washburn, Mike and Diane Dowler

APPOINTMENT OF MEETING MODERATOR:

Clerk Claudia called for an appointment of a meeting moderator until Supervisor Palen arrives here from Ohio.

Moved by Jennings to appoint the Clerk as the meeting moderator, Seconded by Nancy. All in favor, Motion carried.

AGENDA:

Agenda reviewed by Board. Moved by Nancy to approve the agenda with the addition of the Appointment of Meeting Moderator, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

PROPOSED MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 1, 2018:

Proposed minutes reviewed by Board. Moved by Jennings to approve the November 1, 2018, minutes as printed, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

November, 2018, the following are the balances, along with the supporting bank documents.

Huntington Bank Accounts:

Delinquent Property Tax account balance is \$129.14

Tax account bank balance is \$4,896.43

Tax Disbursement account balance is \$3,888.93

General Fund bank balance is \$157,312.26

Michigan Class investment account balance is \$304,507.10

Mercantile Bank Emergency Services Account is \$64,374.10

On the back of the Mercantile Bank Statement is the Quick Tax Disbursement report showing funds disbursed from July 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018.

A lot of winter taxes have already been received.

Treasurer's reports submitted, subject to audit.

AMEND AND APPROVE BUDGET:

Clerk stated we needed to make some Budget adjustments as shown on the Agenda.

Moved by Nancy to approve amendments to the Budget as recommended by the Clerk,

Seconded by Jennings, Move a total of \$6,425 from unallocated funds to the following:

SOM Water Testing, GL #101-265-932 (\$25); Election Inspectors, GL #101-262-702

(\$400); and Repairs and Maintenance, GL # 101-265-930 (\$6,000).

All in favor, Motion carried.

CLERK/BILLS - FOR APPROVAL:

Claudia's Check Disbursement Report discussed and reviewed by the Board.

For approval – Huntington Bank, Check numbers 10307-10331 and numbers 10659-10678 totaling \$85,502.57.

Mercantile Bank, Emergency Services, Check number 1008 totaling \$39.65.

Moved by Arlene to accept the Clerk's report and authorize payment of all bills,

Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Auditor Steve Kirinovic, Stevens, Kirinovic & Tucker, P.C.:

Mr. Steve Kirinovic went over the Audit and letters to the Board and answered the questions that were presented to him. Steve commented the financial report is consistent with what has been seen in the past. He commented that everything is in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Moved by Nancy that we accept the March 31, 2018, Audit Report, Seconded by Jennings.

All in favor, Motion carried.

Steve also shared with us that their firm is merging with Costerisan Manor. They will be having some training classes that the Clerk and Treasurer will be able to take advantage of. Steve will contact Nancy next week.

Snow Removal Bids:

There were two snow removal estimates, one from Matt Holmes of Ovid Outdoor Power, Inc., and one from Marshall Baker of Maximum Pride Lawn Care. The Board reviewed and discussed both estimates.

Moved by Nancy that we accept Maximum Pride Lawn Care's proposal for snow removal and salting as necessary, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

Board of Review Appointments:

This is the time of year when new appointments to the Board of Review need to be made.

Moved by Claudia that we appoint Shane Applebee, Jack Powell and Larry Koch to the Board of Review for the next two years, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

New Phone System:

The Board discussed switching to DayStarr. According to what they presented to us, they would be considerably lower than Frontier. Jennings commented with the new Fire Hall there were other amounts added in. We were not told that and will check into it.

Moved by Nancy that we switch to DayStarr provided there are no additional fees or penalties, and we don't have to sign a contract, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

Windows Update for Treasurer:

Nancy checked with I.T. Right into upgrading Windows. The Clerk would not upgrade at this time because of being compatible with the Elections ePollbook, which has Windows 7. I.T. Right gave a quote of \$249 for 2019 Microsoft Office Home and Business.

Moved by Claudia to update Microsoft Windows in the Treasurer's computer, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

Budget Hearing Date:

Discussion regarding when to have the budget hearing.

Moved by Claudia that we set the Budget Hearing for the same day as our next Board meeting, January 10, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

Supervisor Palen arrived at 7:50 p.m.

Recreational Marihuana Ordinance - No. 2018-01:

Discussion regarding prohibiting recreational Marihuana establishments in Ovid Township. These establishments include retailers, growers, processors, secure transporters, safety compliance facilities and microbusinesses - mom and pop shops. Moved by Jennings that we approve Ordinance No. 2018-01, Prohibition of Recreational Marihuana Establishments, Seconded by Arlene.

All in favor, Motion carried.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Jennings West, "Yes."

Trustee Arlene Pesik, "Yes."

Treasurer Nancy J. Hughson, "Yes."

Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, "Yes."

Supervisor Gregory C. Palen, "Yes."

Everyone present. No one voting "No."

Resolution Adopted.

Marihuana Ordinance Enforcement Officer:

Discussion regarding this. Since the recreational Marihuana is so new and laws are still being made, the Enforcement Officer will be tabled at this time.

Furnace Conversions/Natural Gas - Propane:

Discussion regarding conversion of the furnace and getting more propane. We have had conflicting advice regarding what we need to convert. We also have to decide on the water heater.

Moved by Arlene that we wait until Spring to convert the furnaces, or until the Clerk and Treasurer get a definitive answer regarding conversion orifices, and go ahead and get more propane if need be, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

MTA Conference - April 1-4, 2019:

Registration begins January 2, 2019, for the Michigan Township Association (MTA) Conference in Grand Rapids. Then hotel registration opens January 14, 2019.

Moved by Claudia that we approve payment and register the Board members that would like to go, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

South Ovid Cemetery:

Clerk stated that Jennings had made a Motion in the November meeting to table the **DRAFT** Cemetery Ordinance until February 2019.

Supervisor Palen commented he would try to have a draft ordinance ready for the January 2019 meeting. Nancy talked to Dave Wyrick regarding the survey they need to have done.

There was a burial situation; however, South Ovid Cemetery has a policy at this time of no winter burials, which, is very hard on a family.

REPORTS:

Deputy Zachary Smith - Clinton County - Deputy Smith talked about the legalization of Marijuana, and enforcing the new law is the challenge facing law enforcement. There is an expectation of an increase in vehicle accidents. The biggest thing possibly happening because of Michigan passing this is like Colorado where the crime rate has escalated.

Frauds are up quite a bit. A lot of people are getting these phone calls. Some are calls to grandma and grandpa from kids saying they've been arrested and need money to be bailed out. Other calls have been from someone saying they are from Consumers Energy. There are Green Dot money cards, Google play cards, iTunes cards, and the list goes on.

There have been around 780 car/deer accidents this year so far, which is up from last year.

B&E's - In September there were 17 houses within like a month-and-a-half span in the southwestern part of the County. He hit one house up here. They were able to track him. He had a tether. He was a Direct TV salesman and went house to house is how he was robbing. He never went to a house that had a dog or cameras or alarm system.

Deputy Smith discussed the need for a stop light on M-21 and Hollister Road, and the accidents. He realizes the struggle in trying to get the State of Michigan to put a light there.

Things in Ovid Township have been pretty quiet according to Deputy Smith.

Assessor Diane Dowler - Diane commented the Consumer Price Index has been announced for 2019, so the taxable value will go up 2.4 percent.

Board of Review was Tuesday, December 11. There was one item to act on. The State of Michigan is encouraging all townships and cities to have their Board of Review go through some training. There is one through the State on February 12, 2019, in Okemos. Diane wasn't sure if Clinton County was having one or when it would be. MTA also has them all over the State.

There is a House Bill out there that hopefully passes that will change the disabled veterans income tax/property tax credit. The townships and counties would get their money back. This Bill would take the burden off the local governments and put it on the State level.

There were quite a few land divisions processed this year. There might be a couple more.

County Commissioner - Kam Washburn -

Kam reported on the Election. The same two Commissioners were re-elected. It was a very tight race in Bath and Watertown Townships.

Clinton County passed the 21.7 million dollar fiscal budget with 72 percent being from property taxes. Clinton County is one of the only counties that does not levy additional millage for operations. They have always operated on the 5.8 mils.

The City of St. Johns had a stake in the new courthouse to house City offices in the lower level. They had a land lease. They helped finance everything. The City does not have the need anymore for all the space they took at that time, so the County bought 1444 square feet back. The City has opted to move a number of offices to other buildings in St. Johns. This area will house the indigent legal services offices as mandated by the State of Michigan.

LARA will be working on the promulgated rules for the recreational Marihuana passage.

Kam also reported that the Health Department for Montcalm, Gratiot and Clinton Counties would like to have the County pass an ordinance. Basically, anyone who is not on a municipal sewer system would have to have their septic system inspected every ten years. If it was out of compliance, it would have to be brought up to compliance. The State is looking into a State-wide ordinance. Michigan is the only state that does not have a State-wide ordinance on septic systems. This has been tabled until the middle of next summer to see what action the State of Michigan and Legislature take on this issue, and also what the other two counties are going to do.

Kam said Clinton County Road Commission was very pleased to have taken Ovid Township Board members on a road tour of the Township roads that need work done.

Library - Nancy commented they had furnace problems, and they had to be replaced, which was quite costly, as noted in the Minutes. They have discussed the possibility of getting new computers.

Nancy supplied us with copies of the Librarian's Report, and the Board Meeting Minutes from the November 13, 2018, meeting, and also the minutes from the Special Board Meeting of November 21, 2018, along with the monthly expense trackers.

CCTOA Meeting - Claudia - Claudia commented there is now a new Board for CCTOA. The Sheriff spoke at the meeting regarding the new Marihuana issues that will have to be worked out. He encouraged all townships and cities to do an ordinance.

OMESA - Trustee Jennings reported we have our new building and a temporary occupancy permit. Trustee Jennings also commented how County Commissioner Kam Washburn was very helpful in answering several questions he had regarding some issues at the fire hall.

CAASA - Supervisor Palen stated Elsie/Duplain will be joining, so there will have to be new by-laws. All 11 entities will have to act on them. The new building expansion project should be started in the Spring. It was hard to find a contractor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Supervisor Palen discussed with the Board a thought he had on the new fire hall for dedication and asked for opinions. He hasn't talked with OMESA or anyone else yet.

Adjournment: Moved by Claudia that we adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk

Gregory C. Palen, Supervisor