

Grant Township Board

Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2016

Opening

The regular meeting of the Grant Township Board was called to order, opening with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM on September 12, by Stanley VanSingel, supervisor.

Present

Stanley VanSingel, Gladys VeltKamp, Edith Elsenheimer, Janet Lesley and Edith Walton

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Minutes from the August 1st meeting, and Treasurers report for August was made by Janet Lesley and seconded by Edith Elsenheimer. All were in favor with the exception of Edith Walton and the motion carried.

Zoning

Kim Martens provided zoning activity for the month of August and gave a brief overview of the last Planning Commission meeting and hearings held on August 18.

Fire Report

No Fire report was given this month.

Treasurer

Edith Elsenheimer informed the board that a CD came due and was cashed in and deposited into the general fund. It is necessary at this time to move 100K to the Road fund to cover current jobs. A motion was made by Janet Lesley, seconded by Gladys VeltKamp authorizing the move of the funds. All in favor and the motion was passed.

Wednesday is the last day for taxes to avoid late fees and her home and office have seen an increase in activity in anticipation of this date.

Clerk

Gladys provided two after audit bills for consideration. One for additional Election storage containers and the other from Newaygo County Road Commission for completion of the Paw Paw project. A motion to approve the payment of these bills was made by Janet Lesley, seconded by Edith Walton. All were in favor and the motion passed.

An update on the cemetery records now being worked on by Melissa Cunningham was given. It was brought up to the attention of the board that two new computers are needed effectively continue with updates as only one computer is currently able to handle the new software for cemetery records. Kim Martens computer is outdated and in need of replacement. One estimate has been received and another will be received by the end of the week.

Edith Walton also mentioned the need for new storage files for Kim's office. Edith then made the motion to purchase the new computers and needed storage files. Edith Elsenheimer seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Open Issues

Mellema Nursery has completed the replacement of the shrubbery in the front of the building.

Wedging has been completed on area roads and are currently awaiting seal and stripes.

Tom Williams has looked at the mail slot and will replace with a larger one before ballots start coming in for the Nov. 8th election.

New Business

Gladys read a letter received from Newaygo County Road Commission regarding a lane closure and work to be started in May of 2018. The suggested detour would be 128th St to Willow then north to 112th St, then west returning to M-37. After much discussion, Gladys will ask the road commission to attend a future meeting to discuss alternatives.

A bid of \$225.00 was received for the cleaning of all the windows of the hall. Cleaning will be done the week of September 19.

It is time to replace the current mower at the cemetery as the current one is now 10 yrs. old. Roeters will be sending in an estimate.

Ray Berends has informed us that the trees along the road at the cemetery are in need of trimming to avoid accidents due to poor vision. Stan will contact the county as the said trees are located in the right of way.

Edith Elsenheimer expressed concern regarding a new sign for the front of the building. Edith and Gladys will gather estimates before the next meeting.

Public Comment

Edith Walton expressed concern regarding the omission of the residents name in comments from last month's meeting minutes. The following statement has been amended in those minutes: *Comment was once again made by resident, Tess Alyea regarding the installation of 'Stop ahead' signs at all intersections in the township due to a recent accident. This is something that needs to be taken up with the county road commission and was the advice provided to the resident.*

Edith also expressed concern regarding the need for senior gathering locations in Grant. She has been talking to the Commission on Aging who has expressed needs to her. She discussed an upcoming MTA meeting for firefighters and was directed to contact the Fire chief to share this information. Edith also shared that she learned a lot of useful information and recommends the MTA cemetery book to others

Ed Lang expressed senior meal needs for this area as the closest meal location is Newaygo. He also asked if there had been any more discussions regarding funds for the poor people of the township, not just for lots but for the funeral itself. He was informed of the feedback received at a recent cemetery meeting where when our current resident price of \$25 per lot was discussed, it was almost unheard of. Other prices are \$100 and upward.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm by Stanley VanSingel, supervisor. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 pm on October 3, 2016.

Minutes submitted by: Gladys VeltKamp, Clerk