

Grant Township Board

Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2018

Opening

The regular meeting of the Grant Township Board was called to order on January 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM by Stanley VanSingel, supervisor, opening with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Stanley VanSingel, Gladys VeltKamp, Edith Elsenheimer, Janet Lesley and Max Mellon

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Minutes from the February 5, 2018 meeting, was made by Janet Lesley and seconded by Edith Elsenheimer. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Clerk

No after audit bills to present this month.

Zoning

Kim Martens provided a current update on permits issued for the month along with expected items for the upcoming month. The next planning meeting will be held on March 15, 2018 to review the latest draft of the solar ordinance.

Fire Report

Max provided updates from the last fire meeting including the sale price on old truck, update on new truck and upcoming pancake supper

Planning Commission

Report provided by Kim Martens.

Open Issues

- No old business

New Business:

- B.O.R – organizational meeting – 3/6/18 at 6:30 pm
- B.O.R – open meeting – 3/13/18 - 1:30 – 7:30 pm

- Lawn Mower for Hall is in need of work. Discussed repair or replace and asked Max if he would gather estimates on mowing services for Township Hall and Cemetery. We are currently contracting out a service to mow part of cemetery at this time.
- Review of Emergency Service Fees Ordinance – example of latest need for service for a downed line. How many fire staff and number of hours were used. When reviewed a few months ago, we had asked that the department keep track for one year to see how many times these services were needed. Grant Township is paying the Fire Department additional funds at this time, Consumers Power pays a large Tax to the Township. Is it in our best interest to start billing them for every service provided?
- Stan suggested that we have Tim Martis re-stake all Hess Lake easements and add signs to make public aware of ownership
- A new computer purchase for Jeanne LaValle as her current one would not support her new software programs needed to complete her work. Price for computer and back up drive is \$973. A motion to approve purchase was made by Janet Lesley and seconded by Max Mellon. All were in favor and motion approved.
- Annual Township Clean Up day will be scheduled for the 1st or 2nd Saturday in June.
- Gladys presented a proposal from Rose to treat the building for ants. We were given a price of \$225.00 for a one-time treatment or \$39.95 for monthly service. A motion was made by Edith and seconded by Gladys, to have a one-time treatment now and review for monthly services at a later date.
- One of our CD's was just renewed with an increase from ½ % to 1 ½ %. When the next one renews, we will be splitting and moving to another financial entity.
- We are still in need of 1 person for the Planning Commission and 1 person on the Zoning Board as an alternate. A suggestion was made to post publicly.
- The board will hold their annual budget meeting on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 9 am.
- The Clerk and Treasurer will be attending the MTA conference in Traverse City – April 23 – 26th. No other board members are participating this year.

Public Comment

- A member of the audience questioned if others had been approached by companies wanting to purchase land for large Solar Arrays. Also questions on our current ordinance and what the current verbiage is and if we cover large array farms. Response to audience is that the Planning Commission is currently working on the ordinance and that these commercial arrays are being addressed.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 2nd