

# **Grant Township Board**

## **Meeting Minutes**

May 1, 2017

### **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Grant Township Board held on May 1, 2017, was called to order at 7:00 PM; opening with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance by Stanley VanSingel, Supervisor

### **Present**

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

### **Absent**

Max Mellon

### **Approval of Agenda/Minutes**

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Minutes from the April 3, 2017 meeting, was made by Janet Lesley and seconded by Gladys VeltKamp. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

### **Clerk**

Two after audit bills were received and presented to the board for approval. A motion was made by Janet Lesley to pay the bills, seconded by Edith Elsenheimer. All were in favor and the motion carried.

### **Zoning**

Kim Martens provided a current update on permits issued for the month along with expected items for May. No planning meeting was held in April. The next meeting will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm where the board will discuss solar arrays.

### **Fire Report**

A report was provided by Larry Bisson along with a proposed budget for the upcoming year.

### **Planning Commission**

Not represented this month, updates were provided by Kim Martens.

## **Open Issues**

- Postema Signs provided a demonstration of the signage that they could provide to us along with background on the company, where they are located and estimated cost of electric use per day. The representative provided photos, information on the company that manufactures them, and an estimate. The sign is smaller in size than the one presented by Johnson Signs, with a nearly \$10,000 lower cost. There is a 5 yr. parts and labor warranty. No maintenance agreements.
- **NOTE: 5/2/17** - Jerry Holmes of Johnson Signs called and stated he would like to present the board with an updated estimate after they had someone attend our meeting the night before to gather information on the Postema's bid. They wanted to compare the same size sign in order to be comparable across the board. This bid did include photos and was very close in price. The largest difference found is Labor is only covered for year one and after that time they require a \$500 per year maintenance agreement. Parts are covered for five years.
- The accepted road contracts have been stamped and received back and will be filed accordingly. There has not been a decision made at this time on which roads will be used in 2018 to re-route traffic while M-37 is worked on within the city limits

## **New Business:**

- The Newaygo County Road Commission will hold an open house on May 24<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8 pm. Any board member that wish to attend, all have been invited.
- A letter from the Equalization Department has been received and read at this meeting. They would like to meet with us on May 15. Questions were raised as to what they provide to us. Edie will call to verify and bring to board.
- Edie talked about having a contest using high school art students to design a Township flag. When attending a recent MTA conference many townships participated in a flag ceremony with their individual flags. It was a beautiful ceremony in which we could publicly and proudly represent our township. Edith made the motion to contact the school for a contest, seconded by Gladys. All were in favor and the motion passed.

## **Public Input**

- Township resident, Tess Alyea questioned whether or not the Stop Ahead sign issue had been addressed by the county. At this time, no decisions have been made but it does not look likely that they will be added. She was dissatisfied with this as she shared that TV 13 has asked her to personally review township roads to determine how many may be needed. She feels at least 40 just in this

township alone. Discussion took place regarding a recent fatality and whether or not a Stop ahead sign could have prevented this.

- Mrs. Alyea also shared the recent victories of the local Robotics Team.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 pm on June 5, 2017.