

# **Grant Township Board**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**June 3, 2019**

### **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Grant Township Board was called to order on June 3, 2019 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 May 6, 2019 meeting, was made by Janet Lesley and seconded by Edith Elsenheimer. All were in favor and the motion carried.

### **Clerk**

No after audit bills were presented this month.

### **Zoning**

Kim Martens provided a summary of permits, variances and land division requests received over the last month. There was also a request from County Drain Commissioner for a copy of any ordinance available regarding sand and gravel mining. Kim has addressed this with him.

The next planning meeting will be held on June 20, 2019 at 7 pm where the board will continue review of the Township ordinances. At the meeting held on May 22, the board made it through review of Section 3 and some items beyond. Changes are sent to the planner to review and send back with any suggestions.

### **Fire Report**

**Max** provided an overview and again emphasized that the large increase in runs is affecting the budget. One area is the State and Federal regulations that govern the amount of training that all firefighters must attend is very expensive. These are items not reimbursed by any agency. The last training was over \$1000 for books alone.

Max also thanked Larry Bisson (who was in audience) for his years of service on the fire board.

Stan also thanked Larry for his services and provided an overview of his years of volunteer services to the Fire Board, Township Board, Conservation club, 4-H, Turkey Federation etc. His greatest legacy is 4 children, 15 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

### **Planning/ Zoning Commission**

Report provided by Kim Martens. There will be a ZBA meeting this month (June 27<sup>th</sup>) to review a request for a solar array.

### **Old Business**

- Stan provided an update on the sand and gravel operations. Paperwork has been provided from the owner that shows it was purchased as a recycle pit which would make them in compliance for all the activities that have been observed by neighbors. Concerns were expressed regarding the height of the berms and the digging taking place under them causing cave ins. It was also requested to have the company post no trespassing signs to avoid any potential risks.
- The updated cemetery ordinance and pricing change was handed out to board members to review last month. Today a copy of the sexton job description and annual pay was added to review. Janet voiced concern with the verbiage of 40 yrs. max for ownership before reverting back to the township. Gladys spoke with Cliff who explained that this is state mandated but the township does not have to reclaim at that time, only if they choose to do so or have not had any updates, correspondence from owners and there is a request for using these lots if abandoned. There are process requirements that must be followed before a reclaim can take place. Gladys made a motion to approve the changes to the ordinance and job description as written, seconded by Max. All in favor and motion approved. Gladys will send to paper for next weeks edition which will allow changes to go into effect as of July 12<sup>th</sup>. New cemetery ordinances with amendment changes

### **New Business**

- A letter was received from the Dept of Public Works regarding the need for funds to maintain recycling operations. As we had previously donated to this operation until billing stopped, the board felt that we should once again support this effort. Janet made a motion to send \$2000 to the Fremont Foundation which will be matched, seconded by Edie. All were in favor and motion passed.
- A letter was received from the Census Bureau for 2020 participation. Gladys will fill out and submit our willingness to participate.
- The board discussed the need for weed control for cemetery and township lawns. As the chemicals have shown to damage headstones, it was agreed to forgo any treatments at this time.
- Stan met with a State road commission representative to review damages incurred during detour and see how much the state will be responsible for financially. They have agreed to pay 30% of the repairs, the county will pay 20% leaving the township to pay 50% or \$100K for the two roads involved. It will be an additional \$12K for the end of 104<sup>th</sup> St. Stan also submitted the remainder of his suggestions for repairs for the 2019 year. Estimated cost to Township for all work needed this year is \$645K. The board budgeted \$600K and will have funds available to cover. After review and questions regarding total costs were completed, Gladys made a motion to approve the road work as suggested, seconded by Max. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- Taxes will go out July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The next meeting will be held Monday July 1<sup>st</sup>. at 7 pm
  - This meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm

**Minutes submitted by:** Gladys VeltKamp, Clerk