

**Township of Thetford  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
Board of Trustees  
October 26, 2015  
6:30 P.M.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board of Trustees.

There was a moment of silence in observance of all military past and present.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kerr at 6:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Supervisor Kerr, Clerk Pennington, Trustee Gunnels, Trustee Cousineau, Trustee Stevens, Trustee Congdon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Treasurer Ayotte

**STAFF PRESENT:** Chief Robert Kenny, Attorney Robert Swartwood

Supervisor Kerr said at this time I am going to have the presentation now because Attorney William Fahey needs to go to another meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

William K Fahey, Attorney of Law from Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes PLC Mr. Fahey reviewed PA 33, which deals with the creation of a Special Assessment District for Public Safety. He reviewed what the board had accomplished, namely: 1. Created a special assessment district within the entire township for police and fire services 2. Approved special assessment roll for police and fire services for levy later this year and 3. Determined to place on the ballot in 2016 the question of levying special assessments for police and fire services in 2016 and later years.

Further discussed the petitions that have been circulated as insufficient, due to the total number of unaccounted for petitioners.

Took a break 7:09 back at 7:25

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Supervisor Kerr to approve the September 23, 2015 Public Hearing Special Assessment with the correction on page 20 changing hairs to years. Vote 6-0 Motion Carried.

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Supervisor Kerr to approve the September 28, 2015 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Vote 6-0 Motion Carried.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

Trustee Stevens wanted to add under unfinished business number 2. Plante Moran Auditing report discussion

Motion by Trustee Stevens, supported by Trustee Congdon to add under unfinished business number 2. Plante Moran Auditing report discussion. Vote 6-0 Motion Carried

**BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Public comments began at 7:32 p.m. Ended at 7:40 p.m. Two comments were received from the public.

- Wants to know who our maintenance gentlemen are now because I have been complaining for three months now about this light and nothing has been done with it. Was there approval of the civil engineer and William K Fahey to come out to talk about Public Act 33? I mean it was very informative but I hear we have no money so where was it approved to come in here to do this? Since when the people petition something to put on the ballot we go into all this problem to find land owner and who doesn't? That is disenfranchising those who vote in this township, they shouldn't have to prove what they own.

Supervisor Kerr ~ our maintenance men are Mike Chilson and Ron Ball, we are looking at LD lights, there was a program with Consumers and we thought it was free but it was \$40,000. The attorney was my idea to come and talk to everyone about Public Act 33, and I am allowed to spend up to two hundred dollars and he is one ninety an hour. About the civil engineer you are absolutely right it was not approved by the board, but when we got the petitions for Public Act 33 we had to hire a civil engineer that is the only thing that could happen. I asked the attorney why the people who circulated the petitions didn't hire the civil engineer, he said that is not the way it works the way it works is that the township must hire the civil engineer in a timely fashion and get this all taken care of. That's part of the township's responsibility on how it responds to the petitioning process. Now, if you see the first page the engineer says that this is raw statistic data, if you want additional analysis it is \$500 to \$1000 dollars more. Then I will ask the board but I doubt that we will need that report, because we have what we need to know the petitions were insufficient. You heard what he said I didn't write the law that is Public Act 33, it is what it is. The reason why I wanted him here is for him to explain the process.

- Wanted to talk about North Morris Estate and has a concern that some residents at North Morris Estate are having problems with the manager standing by the mailboxes intimidating the residents.

Supervisor Kerr ~ I will ask the Building Official Stuart Worthing, Police Chief Bob Kenny and Christina Hall the Manager of North Morris Estates to the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to report on the progress or lack thereof at North Morris Estates..

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

## **SUPERVISOR REPORT:**

Discussed the wonderful Halloween Party. Thanked all the volunteers who made it happen on such short notice. Thanked the Senior Center for the cake walk...

The Petitions were insufficient.

The new police Tahoe is already and all equipped. This replaces the Tahoe that was involved in an accident.

## **CLERK'S REPORT:**

As of October 21, 2015 Fund Balance ~ \$240,661.96, which does not include \$150,000 which was borrowed from the sewer fund, which makes the actual fund balance: \$90,661.96

Received the reimbursement check from the May 2015 Election for the amount of \$5,142.91.

Due to the treasurer being sick and the pre-approved bills needing to be paid. The deputy clerk had already signed the checks and I had to sign above her name and then had the deputy treasurer signed them, also. We needed to have one elected official and the deputy sign. So there are three signatures on the checks.

## **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

Motion by Trustee Cousineau, supported by Trustee Congdon to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call Vote. Vote 5-1 Nay ~ Trustee Stevens. Motion Carried.

## **BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:**

Was presented

## **COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Reports from the following committees were reviewed:

- Fire
- Police ~ for the month of September responded to 117 calls, Chief Kenny gave a report
- Roads ~ 95% of Thetford roads are in poor, condition
- Water and Waste
- Senior Center

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

### **A): UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **1): Discussion on protocol on handling restricted funds**

When collecting restricted funds are we collecting for next year or this year? Are we spending the money before we get it? If that's the case we are already broke.

Clerk Pennington is going to call the auditors and ask the concerns we have and bring it back to next month's meeting

#### **2): Plante Moran Auditing report discussion**

Trustee Stevens had a question on page 27 "Full-time, permanent employees are granted three sick and two personal days each year. Any unused personal days may be accumulated for maximum of 50 days over a 10-year period, at which time, if unused, will expire. I believe we have someone that is going to be gone more than 50 days.

Clerk Pennington ~ we had a special close session meeting regarding this Supervisor Kerr ~ please come and set up an appointment with me and we will go through it again together. I have all the necessary documentation.

### **B): NEW BUSINESS:**

**1): Petitions – the petitions were insufficient and therefore will not be put on the ballot. The special assessment fees have been placed on the tax rolls for winter 2015.**

We discussed this in presentations

#### **2): Transportation Improvement program Genesee Planning Commission**

With Thetford Township and Genesee County Road Commission

- 4 culverts in poor condition
- Paradise ~ Catch Basin

Supervisor Kerr is going to apply for this grant. Information Only

#### **3): Budget Adjustments ~ Police**

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Supervisor Kerr to move \$3,974.00 from 301.200-702.300 (Motor Carrier) to 301.100-702.300 (Part Time). Roll Call Vote 6-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Supervisor Kerr to move \$5,000.00 from 301.100-702.325 (Overtime) to 301.100-702.300 (Part Time).

Roll Call Vote 6-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Supervisor Kerr to move \$3,200.00 from 301.100-702.840 (Holiday) to 301.100-702.300 (Part Time).

Roll Call Vote 6-0 Motion Carried.

#### 4): **Grant Finder Approval**

Discussion waiting for invoice. Cost will be \$333.00

#### 5): **Replacement of Cemetery Stone**

Cemetery Stone was hit by a lawn mower and has a big chip in it.  
\$600.00 to replace through Mumford/Hudson Funeral Home

Tabled to next meeting waiting on Insurance Company to get back to us to see if our insurance covers replacement.

#### 6) **2016 GCRC Paving**

Pave 1.75 miles of Vassar Road from Dodge Road to Frances Road,  
sharing cost with Forrest Township.

Tabled to next meeting waiting on the resolution between both townships.

#### 7) **Medical Marijuana**

- Commercial Properties

Chief Kenny would like the board to look at commercial Medical Marijuana, there are three places right now that have been calling and asking questions. He has told them that he would have to get back to them regarding restrictions, site plan and security.

Supervisor Kerr ~ just this afternoon Dennis Bloss had come into the township and he had gone to a Planning Commission day class regarding this issue having pre-approved restrictions. This would be a great thing for Trustee Gunnels and the Planning Commission to start looking at.

#### 8) **Police Advisory Committee**

Supervisor Kerr is going to start collecting a list of board members and residents that may be interested in being involved in the Police Advisory Committee.

**BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Started at 8:26 p.m, Ended at 8:30 p.m with two comments

- I represent and partner with High Caliber Meds. We have been operating since April in Thetford Township. As my partner explained earlier, when the chief was up here, we have brought a sample ordinance with us tonight. We work with an attorney out of Howell that works with the Michigan Cannabis Grower Association, which helped draft the language that will hopefully be law in the next month or so in Lansing. This ordinance will bring legal entices, it will bring a tax base to the township with either the growers, who will pay 3% tax on their sales along with sales tax that is spent in their dispensaries. So we would like to offer this sample ordinance tonight. The chief is right being safe in this business is everyone's concern. Our building has the state of the art security system so that we make sure we don't have any security issues. We are proud to do business in Thetford, for we believe we are doing the right thing. We were on the 10 o'clock 66 news last Monday night, being known as a safe dispensary, on packaging and making our patients transporting properly. We follow the laws to a T. We want this township to be safe, too.

Supervisor Kerr accepted the ordinance that they had brought.

- I am a partner with High Caliber Meds, I have also been a resident in Thetford, for 25 years. My family are residents. Mark Talerico is a resident here so we are staying in Thetford Township. We have different Thetford residents that come in for medical reasons. We don't carry edibles for they are illegal. If you go to others they do, we are the only ones that don't. We stay completely within the law.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Leanne Pennington, Clerk  
Thetford Township