

**Township of Thetford
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Board of Trustees
September 28, 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, Treasurer Ayotte, Trustee Gunnels, Trustee Cousineau, Trustee Stevens, Trustee Congdon

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Attorney Robert Swartwood

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Trustee Cousineau to approve the August 24, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Vote 7-0 Motion Carried.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comments began at 6:31 p.m. Ended at 6:33 p.m. One comment was received from the public.

- This question is for the Treasurer all the items that are under the sewer mean they are owed back to the sewer. And if we are in so hard on money why are we buying water?

Treasurer Ayotte ~ yes, it does

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

PRESENTATIONS:

The Woodland Hills Homeowners Association was concerned with their high number of power outages and the board requested Consumers Energy to address their concerns. Kevin Keane and Kyle Desser from Consumers Energy spoke on the subject of power outages. They admitted that this area serviced by the Neff Road substation had significant number of power outages. Consumers Energy has recorded every time an outage occurs or an interruption occurs longer than 5 minutes. During Christmas 2013 Neff Road substation was out for 4 days and 1 hour, there were others out for 8 days. Their records show in 2014 Neff Road Substation had outages in February, April and

July, which were all weather related as were outages in August 2015. Consumers have ordered a tree trimming company to start doing major tree cutting for the purpose of clearing lines. They have also started putting some additional standard fuses in between other fuses so that not so many people will be out of power if there is another weather related occurrence.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Since during the special assessment public hearings many residents addressed the issue of having the ability to vote for the special assessment the supervisor would like the board to look into putting that question on the ballot in May 2016. The question would be "shall the special assessment be levied?" It would be a simple and direct ballot question that requires a yes or no vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

At the end of August 2015 ~ adjusted book balance is \$195,676.86

Treasurer Ayotte, during board comments, made the board aware that she is putting \$100,000 in delinquent sewer bills on people's property taxes.

CLERK'S REPORT:

As of September 23, 2015 Fund Balance ~ \$198,465.21 which does not include \$150,000 which was borrowed from the sewer fund, which makes the actual fund balance: \$48,465.21.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL:

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Treasurer Ayotte to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call Vote. Vote 7-0. Motion Carried.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Was presented

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Reports from the following committees were reviewed:

- Fire – discussions are ongoing on how to fund the \$700,000 truck.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

A): **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

B): **NEW BUSINESS:**

1): 2015 Tax Rate Request L-4029

Motion by Treasurer Ayotte, supported by Clerk Pennington to approve the 2015 Tax Rate request L-4029. Roll Call Vote. Vote 7-0. Motion Carried.

2): Center Road Culvert – Center Road between Lake and Farrand has been closed by the Genesee County Road Commission due to sever structural damage, which deems the road to be unsafe.

The cost for repair, labor, engineering costs and labor is \$250,000.00. Thetford Twp share is \$62,000.00. The township does not have the money so the road will remain closed until further notice.

3): Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate

Motion by Treasurer Ayotte, supported by Trustee Counsieu to appoint Jeremy Kline as alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Vote 7-0. Motion Carried.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Started at 7:09 p.m, Ended at 7:20 p.m with five comments

1): To give an update on what he sees at North Morris Estate. He had sent some of the board members a picture of a pile of garbage that is still there, appears that the demo crew that was contracted is no longer there, Kristina Hall is now in charge of day to day operations, Julie Wilson is the CEO and he has talked to her about his concerns, In his opinion he believes that the park manager is harassing residents in the park that are trying to clean up their houses; to him it looks like there are 30 houses that need permits.

2): Petitions are out and being signed, with the comment that the supervisor made about putting the question on the May 2016 ballot during the supervisor's report. Do I still turn in the signatures and who do I turn them into?

Supervisor Kerr ~ yes, you may turn them into the Clerk when you have enough signatures. The supervisor and the clerk will verify them.

3): Had a meeting with the Chief of Police this morning. Would like the board to know that a complaint came in about the people that were going around getting the petitions signed are harassing the residents and won't get off residents' property until they sign them. Thinks that is it sad that the petition walkers are doing this to the residents and the board needs to know what is going on out there.

4): Thanks, Supervisor Kerr, Treasurer Ayotte and assuming Clerk Pennington on the hard work on getting the numbers out to the residents in reference to the Public Safety

Special Assessment. Also thanks to the four board members that voted to keep our police and fire.

5): Concerned on how dark the signs are at the Center Road Culvert, would like to see if we can get reflectors, blinking lights just something to bring notice to it so no one hits it. Why don't we bid out the project? The price just seems very high at \$250,000.

Explained that there are certain things we would be able to bid out and some we are not allowed to bid. In this case this is the Road Commission's job and they have to do the work.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Leanne Pennington, Clerk
Thetford Township