

Thetford Township
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 23, 2107
6:30 p.m
4014 E Vienna Road
Clio, MI 48420

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 Stevens at 6:30 p.m

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Stevens, Clerk Pennington, Treasurer Ayotte, Trustee Congdon, Trustee Gunnels, Trustee Stanke, Trustee Piechnik

MEMBERS ABSENTS: None

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Kenny, Senior Director Shannon Kline and Co Senior Director Pam McIlmurray

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Clerk Pennington to approve the December 12, 2016, Regular Board of Trustee minutes that were presented. Vote 6-0-1, Abstain Trustee Gunnels Motion Carried.

Addition to the Agenda

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Trustee Piechnik to add under New Business, #1, Supervisor Authority Public Act 359 of 1947 and #14 Re-Appoint Public Safety Committee. To remove under New Business #14 Close Session ~ Gus Morris update on litigations. Call for Vote. Motion Carried

Brief Public Comments

Public comments began at 6:36 p.m Ended at 6:40 p.m. Five Comments were received.

- President at this time said we have the right to free speech, would like the board to change the policy to allow people to talk openly at this time.
- Wants to get an update on the Metro Sanitation. Notices that they are still going down Lewis Road, thought they were moving in December.
- Would like the board to look into creative ways to be able to fund a full time Police Department, such special assessment, grant, and state funding. I speak on behalf of the majority of Thetford Residents and we understand that most are on fixed income and low income just hoping it's something you can work on.
- Update on Metro Sanitation ~ we have purchased a building out on 81, thought we would be out by the end of December beginning of January but our contractors are not working fast enough. So it is looking like maybe 2 to 3 months yet. Still don't know what the big complaint is there still is not signs on

Lewis Road that says we cannot drive down it. Even if Tuscola Road in Vienna Township opens up we still have the right to drive down Lewis Road and I will be doing so.

- Read in the paper where the police department in Clio Police Department has 20 spots for people who would be interested in ride along, looking at the jails, crime scene investigation, traffic stops there is an outline in the paper for what it's about. Was wondering if Chief Kenny would be open to do something like that?

Presentation: None

Correspondence: None

Supervisor Report

- County Commissioners are talking about a 911 surcharge probably will go to a vote in May
- Working on a three year road plan with the Road Commission Foreman to spend some of our 50/50 money and hoping that some of it is on Lewis Road.
- Clio Fire Department has chosen a new captain at station two which is Leanne Pennington
- Clio Library is one of the busiet in the county, they are going to be painting downstairs with a \$2500.00 donation that they received from the paper book sales.

Treasurer Report

- November Bank Balance ~ \$189,930.51
- December Bank Balance ~ \$167,759.60

Clerk Report

- Fund balance as of January 19th ~ \$113,081.37
- Contracts for school elections have been signed for the next 4 years (Clio, Mt. Morris, Genesee, Lakeville, Millington, GISD and TISD)
- Thetford Township CDBG funded demo will not be included in the Land Bank HHF list. So we are going another route, the environmental review process has not been completed most likely early February.

Bills for Approval

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

Building Inspector's Report

Accepted

Committee Reports

Police Report

- Month of December had 47 calls 11 of those calls were breaking and entering with State police taking several others. We have suspects and one in custody that we believe is involved with at least 4 so far of the BE. Working with Tuscola County on some suspects.
- Have 4 CSC, Child Protective Services
- Frost Laws are on in Saginaw County and Genesee County is looking on doing that as well.
- If it doesn't look right call 911 not my office.
- Talked to someone on Hurd Road and they are very interested in starting a neighborhood watch like Lewis Road Watch is. Going to get the Rec Hall and hold a couple of meetings like I have done in the past to get them started.

Fire Authority

- Cost Recovery
- Talked about increase on the millage
- New tanker truck is now fixed and has been running to calls
- Clerk Leanne Pennington was promoted to Captain
- 2016 Highlight from the Clio Fire Authority is ready to be viewed. The Clerk has one on her counter and would make copies if you would like one.

General Business

A. Unfinished Business

B. New Business

1. Supervisor Authority Public Act 359 of 1947

After much discussion from the board.

Motion by Trustee Piechnik, supported by Trustee Stanke to table Supervisor Authority Public Act 359 of 1947 until February meeting. Call for Vote Motion Carried

2. Board of Appeals ~ Appointments

Motion by Supervisor Stevens, supported by Clerk Pennington to appoint Jeremy Kline as a member for the Board of Appeals. Call for Vote Motion Carried

Motion by Supervisor Stevens, supported by Treasurer Ayotte to appoint Rachel Stanke as the Board of Trustee representative to the Board of Appeals. Call for Vote Motion Carried

3. Park and Rec ~ Appointment

Motion Supervisor Stevens, supported by Treasurer Ayotte to appoint Rachel Stanke to the Clio Park and Rec. Call for Vote Motion Carried

4. Accept Kari Gilbert resignation letter from Planning Commission

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Trustee Congdon to accept the resignation letter from Kari Gilbert from the Planning Commission. Call for Vote Motion Carried

5. Planning Commission Board ~ Appointments

Motion by Supervisor Stevens, supported by Trustee Stanke to appoint Michael Fromwiller to the Planning Commission. Call for Vote Motion Carried

Motion by Supervisor Stevens, supported by Treasurer Ayotte to appoint Ralph Henry to the Planning Commission. Call for Vote Motion Carried

The previous action requires removing Laurel Coe, the present chair, from the Planning Commission.

6. CDBG Signature Card

Motion Treasurer Ayotte, supported Trustee Congdon to authorize Clerk Pennington and Supervisor Stevens to the CDBG signature card. Call for Vote Motion Carried

7. Cost Recovery ~ information only

Supervisor Stevens this is an issue that is caused when our firefighters are called out on unnecessary calls. Such as illegal burn somewhere along that line.

Trustee Piechnik it's a \$500.00 cost, minimum \$500.00 cost policy

Trustee Congdon the cost can go up from there as well. It includes some of the cost of a truck and 5 guys that occurs on a fire scene such as an open burn. You can stop some of that if you call the number and it says don't burn then you don't burn. Just a recording.

Treasurer Ayotte cost recovery ordinance was just passed and you can get a copy of that in our office with the Clerk.

Open burn is only brush

Trustee Piechnik asked about size of fires getting permission before burning.

Supervisor Stevens if there is any questions with burning permits or you get a bill from cost recovery come and talk to me. I will look at any situation there is and hope we can resolve it. Just letting you know there will be bill sent out if it is an illegal fire.

8. Increase of wages for the Employees ~ minimum wage increase

Supervisor Stevens by law the minimum wage increase so there was nothing we could do to change that. So this is just letting you know that we have done so.

Township has two employees that are at minimum wage so they received a \$.40 increase.

Clerk Pennington would like to see all employees to receive an increase of \$.40 to keep up with minimum wage.

Supervisor Stevens my opinion is that not all employees deserve a raise at the same time and it should go by merit raises. I can understand raising minimum raise because of poverty level I can see that but all employees I cannot justify that with the budget.

Clerk Pennington if you don't increase the rest of the employees pay rate pretty soon the minimum wage employees wage will be higher than some of our employees.

Supervisor Stevens we will look at each one and the ones that deserve raises will get them and the ones they don't want. That's how the real world works.

Trustee Piechnik wants a workshop

9. Consumers Energy

Trustee Gunnels it's a five year plan, they have made an extended parking lot, raised top soil, made retention ponds, swales and made berm around the property to keep noise and dust down for the surrounding residents. Residents asked about trees being planted on the top of the berm, they were not sure if they were going to be able to but I have notice that they have done so. Consumers wants to be good neighbors and I believe that they are and doing everything they have promised.

10. Vienna Township

- Tuscola Road is now open to allow trucking route

Took a break from 7:43 p.m – 7:49 p.m

11. Budget Workshops Dates

- February 7, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m
- February 13, 2017 @ 5:00 p.m
- February 21, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m
- February 27, 2017 @ 5:00 p.m before the Board of Trustee meeting.

12. Attorney Contract

Supervisor Stevens will be getting with Attorney Michael Gildner to discuss the contract and get him to sign it.

Trustee Congdon asked if the contract is the same as we had for Attorney Swartwood

Supervisor Stevens said yes it is

Clerk Pennington would like that the attorney would be at the meetings for the next 6 months so that he will be able to meet the board and get the feel of what is going on.

Supervisor Stevens said he was planning on the first couple but will take it under advisement.

13. Employee Complaints

All complaints are to go to the supervisor

14. Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset

Motion by Treasurer Ayotte, supported by Trustee Congdon to accept the 2017 tax year Poverty Exemption Resolution and March Board of Review Meeting Times and Dates. Roll Call Vote 7-0 Motion Carried

Dates are Monday, March 13, 2017, 1:00-8:00 p.m

Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 9:00-1:00 and 2:00-7:00 p.m

15. 2016 Hardship ~ 9158 Maplewood Dr

Motion by Clerk Pennington, second by Supervisor Stevens to approve the 2016 hardship on special assessment, garbage \$123.00 and public safety \$75.00 on parcel 17-33-552-030. Roll Call vote 7-0 Motion Carried

16. Re-Appointing Public Safety Committee

Motion by Treasurer Ayotte, supported by Clerk Pennington to re-appoint Dennis Bloss, Kevin Lawrence and Peggy Castle to continue to work on the public safety committee and to get with Clerk Pennington when they will be holding meetings to be able to get them posted. Call for Vote. Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comments

Public comments began at 7:58 p.m Ended at 8:07 p.m. three comments were received.

- The Red Book is that reference to laws? The houses that are condemned on Genesee and Lake Road can the fire department do training with them? Get with Metro and I am sure my boss would help with dumpsters.

Trustee Congdon it's the Michigan Township Association Authorities and Responsibilities

Clerk Pennington we are looking into it, the Genesee Road will not be able to be trained in it is falling apart and very dangerous, the one on Lake Road will be able to need to investigate farther due to foundation is cracked, we have been looking into it because we will have to bring other stations in due to no hydrants in the area. Would have to tank water. We have one in Vienna Twp that we are looking to do training into but a hydrant is right there.

- Would like the board to revise the rule about being able to speak anytime not just what's on the agenda, I know you have been unhappy about that rule as well. There has been a so called push by corporate interest on medical marijuana, adopting licensing act, get the township to set an ordinance, there are a lot of patients and caregivers that are providing medicine for their medical patients. It's going to be years before that happens. Would like Thetford Township to adopt a discriminating policy or ordinance to reinsure the caregivers won't be thrown in jail.
- Many people are protesting, some of my fellow Americans forgot how to proper protest, so from this podium I am going to show how it is done. I have an issue that I have put in front of you. You all got a board packet (not the Clerk) a lot of pieces of information. I don't see it on the agenda to bring it up to talk about. I guess the attorney was supposed to come here from the insurance company and didn't. That's one of his tactics, he made me drive to Detroit twice no call, no show. I am fed up with our government, our systems, our courts, our criminal justice system, fed up with our legislation, legislation branch. We have foreigner, foreign country that come to our county and talk to our state legislature for laws on how we Americans should live. I am disgusted with that, I am disgusted with a lot of things. I want you all to be assure that my disgust is going forward on this podium. Read the documents, the factual documents, present facts not opinions. I am not complaining about solutions, I am giving you solutions. We still need to discuss policy issues and they need to be corrected.

Board Member Comments were received

Announcement: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m
Leanne Pennington, Clerk
Thetford Township