

Thetford Township
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 27, 2016
4014 E Vienna Road
Clio, MI 48420
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 Eileen Kerr at 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Eileen Kerr, Clerk Leanne Pennington, Treasurer Ayotte, Trustee Cousineau, Trustee Congdon, Trustee Stevens, Trustee Gunnels

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Robert Kenny, Attorney Robert Swartwood, Officer Jason Pletscher, Maintenance and Officer Roy Hatchett

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Clerk Pennington to approve May 23, 2016, Regular Board of Trustee minutes as presented. Vote 7-0 Motion Carried.

Additions to the Agenda

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Trustee Stevens to approve Under Unfinished Business number 2. 2080 E Dodge Road and under presentation add Eugene Munsel and Earl Alexander, Metro Sanitation. Vote 7-0 Motion Carried

Brief Public Comments:

Public comments began at 6:34 p.m Ended at 6:34 p.m. No comments were received.

Presentation

Eugene Munsell, a township resident, who is also an employee of Metro Sanitation has viewed a lot of posts on the Thetford Residents Facebook page and he wanted to address some of the complaints that he has read. His boss has asked all drivers to drive 45 mph down Lewis Road. His boss, Earl Alexander, followed one of the drivers that were going faster than 45 mph and fired him. They have also asked the police department that if any of the drivers were speeding then they are to give them tickets not warnings. Garbage trucks and school buses are breaking down the road more than their trucks because they drive on the shoulder of the roads. It sounds like they are going faster because they have empty loads.

Supervisor Kerr ~ asked anyone in the audience if they would like to ask Eugene Munsell or Earl Alexander any questions or share any concerns with them.

- Has 2 boys and lives at Lewis Road and Brynes Drive Very concerned on how fast the trucks are going down the roads and breaking down the roads. Would like to see them change their route. Also, asked about a truck restrictive road, how can we make Lewis Road be restricted to trucks?

Earl Alexander owner of Metro Sanitation ~ he has talked to all the drivers, told them no more than 45 mph and if they get stopped they will be ticketed. That the local police department knows that 45 mph is the speed limit to them. The one that the residents were complaining about he followed him and he was fired.

- I have a petition to turn in with everyone on Lewis Road's signature wanting the road reclassified. (turned petition into the supervisor)

Trustee Congdon ~ are the trucks numbered? Just wondering because if the residents can get a number that way you would know what truck is not following the rules. Cannot believe it's all the trucks.

Eugene Munsell ~ yes, all the trucks are numbered on both the side and in the front

Chief Kenny ~ Vienna Township has an ordinance on reclassifying roads

Attorney Swartwood ~ what is causing all the noise?

Eugene Munsell ~ the empty dumpsters are rattling

Correspondence:

- The Family of Gerald Ferweda
- Voter Service Chairperson for Clerk Pennington in a Voter Registration Drive at Clio High School
- The Family of Alan M Kerr

Treasurer Report:

- End of May 2016, book balance is \$403,501.36
- Summer 2016 tax bills will be mailed out July 1, 2016
- New this year, the Treasurers Department will be able to collect partial payments for taxes
- Applications for deferment will be accepted after July 1st if you qualify

Clerk Report:

- Fund balance as of June 23, 2016 balance \$489,258.48
- AV applications have been sent out, ballots will be sent out this week

- Last day to register to vote is July 5th
- Effective immediately for the City of Clio, Vienna Twp, and Thetford Twp will be under a burn ban including campfires and fireworks

Bills for Approval:

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Supervisor Kerr to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call. 7-0, Motion Carried

Building Inspector's Report:

Was given

Committee Report:

- Police ~ was given by Chief Kenny, accidents are down, Lake Road investigation is still on going the ATF maybe helping with the investigation. Chief Kenny would like to thank Officer Pletcher and Officer Hatchett on picking up extra hours and tasks while he is involved with the investigation. Chief Kenny reminded the residents that if you need the police to please call 911 because we are not always in the office. If the State Police takes a call they do not report back to us, so if you need to know a follow up please contact the State Police post.
- Fire ~ the new truck will be delivered soon
- Business Fee ~the committee of Eric Gunnels, Martin Cousineau and Gary Stevens have not met, hoping to have a report by next meeting.
- Roads ~

General Business:

A. Unfinished Business

1. Transient Business

Treasurer Ayotte would like the Business Fee Committee to look into a permit process and bring it back to the board at the next meeting. The Board of Trustees agreed.

2. 2080 East Dodge Road

Supervisor Kerr had talked to Mr. Simmons and his attorney earlier in the day to get an update. The attorney told Supervisor Kerr that the title still is not cleared but it will be soon. The attorney was made aware that a resident wanted the house on the agenda for discussion. Mr. Simmons and his attorney did not want it brought up and knew that the title issue was not the fault of the township.

Dave Gann ~ I believe that the township should share in the attorney cost on getting this titled cleared. Mr. Simmons put a bid on this property under the impression that it was cleared. He has a buyer ready to buy but doesn't want to sell it yet until everything is good. Mr. Gann claims that Mr. Simmons just wants this over with. Understands that it was a learning experience.

Supervisor Kerr explained to Mr. Gann that we have done a lot with finding the co-owner, tracking her down, getting her to sign off, been on the phone to the county to give them as much information as we can help.

Attorney Swartwood added that he also has talked to Mr. Simmons attorney and they have worked out together how to fix this, and that it's going to take time but it will happen.

Supervisor Kerr asked for a roll call to see if the Board of Trustees felt that they should help with the attorney costs on clearing the title at 2080 East Dodge. Everyone on the board all voiced their opinion and felt that we have done a lot to help to secure a clear title; unfortunately, the title is not clear yet, but his attorney feels it will be. It was also mentioned that during the closing the paperwork specifically says this property is sold "as is" and no warranty is issued. Mr. Simmonds will have an opportunity to more than double his money and we wish him well. Mr. Simmonds has been a gentleman to do business with during this process.

B. New Business

1. Plante Moran

Motion by Treasurer Ayotte, supported by Clerk Pennington to approve Plante Moran at \$120.00 an hour to do year-end accruals. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Treasurer Ayotte, supported by Clerk Pennington to approve Plante Moran to do the year-end audit at \$15,950.00. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

2. New Water Rates

Motion by Supervisor Kerr, supported by Trustee Cousineau to raise that rate to \$5.57 per 1000 sq ft. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

3. Police Car Loan

Motion by Supervisor Kerr, supported by Trustee Gunnels to borrow \$38,000.00 from the Sewer Fund which will go into the Police Fund in the purchase of the new Police Truck and equipment with a 2% interest. The loan will be paid off in quarterly payments in the amount of \$3750.00 until paid off. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Treasurer Ayotte, supported by Trustee Cousineau to amend the police budget capital improvement \$31,741.41 and amend equipment \$7,035.36. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Attorney Robert Swartwood will draw up the agreement

4. Hire Chase Beecher as seasonal maintenance personnel

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Trustee Cousineau to hire Chase Beecher at \$8.50 an hour. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

5. Dennis Miller, Township Assessor

Motion by Trustee Congdon, supported by Supervisor Kerr to accept Dennis Miller resignation letter. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Clerk Pennington, supported by Trustee Cousineau to place an ad in the paper for level 3 Township Assessor with wages based on experience. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comments

Stared at 8:03 p.m, Ended at 8:11 p.m. There were three comments received from the public.

- Thanked the board for listening, glad he came to the meeting and listened to some of the residents' complaints regarding Metro Sanitation. Going to talk to his boss and see if and how they can compromise with the residents. Would like to thank the police and fire department. Would like to see the board get a 1 or 2 mill on for full time police department.
- Running for township trustee, has a Facebook page and signs in her car if anyone would like one
- Thinks the board thinks she is a joke, wants an ordinance for Lewis Road that says no heavy trucks, doesn't think we are helping

Supervisor Kerr ~ thinks she should stay positive, felt that this meeting was a good one with Metro and the residents and believe together we can compromise. Doesn't understand your comment that we are not helping, I thought that we are.

Chief Kenny ~ cannot enforce something that is not there.

Board Member Comments were received

Announcement:

Township will be closed July 4, 2016 and reopened on July 5, 2016 at 8:00 a.m

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m

Leanne Pennington, Clerk
Thetford Township