

Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 27th, 2020 7:00pm

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Board members present were Byl, Roland, Yarhouse, Farwell, and Irwin absent. Also, in attendance was Fire Chief Tubbs.

Agenda: The meeting agenda for April 27th, 2020 was approved with a motion by Roland, seconded by Yarhouse. All ayes.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes March 23rd 2020 was made by Yarhouse and support from Farwell. All Ayes. Motion carried. The Public Hearing for Gray Lake SAD minutes were approved with a motion by Farwell, seconded by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried

Clerks report. Fund balance report for March was reviewed and a motion to approve by Yarhouse, Supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: No report.

Fire Dept. Report: Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs reported in March 63 YTD for 2020. There were 22 incidents for the month: 16 Medical; 2 Mutual Aids, 1 PI, 1 standby, 2 downed trees. Then for April 24 runs: 12 medical, 1 tree down, 4 Mutual Aids, 5 illegal burns, and 2 Power lines down, for YTD 87 Runs. New Applicant is Britany Chedester for only medical runs. She is an MA and passed the physical. Motion to approve made by Yarhouse, Supported by Byl. All ayes. Motion carried.

Blight Update: 2 properties at Bluff Lake are being bulldozed. A new problem on Debbie Dee; Have issued tickets to a resident and yet nothing is done, so will reissue and the cost gets doubled. Need to get the corner by old Post Office cleaned up. Making a word.doc for the issuance of citations.

Supervisors Notes: 1) USDA Grant update. Jackie Morgan very impressed with help on the application, which is complete, but has an extended due date, due to COVID-19. 2) MDNR Grant is finalized and we will be receiving the final reimbursement. The treasurer reported we did receive a check for \$23,587, today.

Friends of Garfield Township: Barbara Lijewski, president, reported as of December 2019 the group raised \$5,556 and had donations of \$5,125. The schedule for 2020 is a Bike Ride on 6-13, Witbeck's Hot Dog Sale on July 2nd and 3rd; and the Treasurer in the Trunk Sale on September 12th. The Jay's Bake Sale is on hold as of now because of the virus.

Candidates: James Lard gave a quick synopsis of his qualifications for a Trustee position in the township.

Public Comments:

JOE STRAEGA: Upset with the short legal Special Meeting Notices of 18 hours. 24 hours is not enough notice. There is stuff circulating the Coronavirus is a scam. Not true, use common sense and keep us all safe.

RAY (BUTCH) LOFTON: We need the backhoe, (now on loan) for business. We are overwhelmed with trash. Can compact trash from 6 to 4 containers with the backhoe, saving the township money. Plus, we can also push brush back further and not have to use Green Scape to do it. This is our busy season.

Old Business: a) Cold Springs. Supervisor attended the Road Commission (RC) meeting to explain our situation with Cold Springs. Three parties need to be involved with a resolution- the R C, the resident and the township. The erosion from the ditch is very bad. Toppings don't want a lawsuit.

?? Doesn't the RC want to be involved?? The presentation the supervisor made will be on the RC's meeting agenda next month. Ideally, things will be worked out with all parties involved. Possibly an attorney letter is necessary. Fix it soon!

b) Transfer Station (TS). Backhoe cost is \$18,000. Could sell the John Deere (JD) to cover the cost. Backhoe is ideal for both the cemetery and transfer station. Really don't need both machines. JD is not powerful enough to move debris. Backhoe has a great reach for use at TS. TS looks great. Green Scape is keeping mulch for moving debris. Rick uses his trailer to move the JD. JD- FMV seems to be \$28,000 plus. Who would buy it? Butch has some leads. The assessor may know of places to sell the JD. Roland acted to table the decision to act on the backhoe until the May 18th Board meeting.

c) Fire Dept well. Sept 19-2019. Need a new well. Research other Fire Dept for well sizes. It takes 40 minutes to fill the Pump truck with current well size. Bids are coming in from well drillers, C&R, Moore and Dancer, for same size well and larger. Larger well would need a 3-Phase motor and electrical service. Would cut time down to 5" .. 3D Electric and Seiter will bid on electrical service. Currently drawing water from the lake. May need to get DEQ involved, if a new well is needed. The well will be on the Budget Meeting agenda.

d) Exploding Targets. The party has done several compromises to alleviate the problem.

New Business:

1) Par Plan Insurance. On July 1st we will switch the Workman's Comp insurance. Same cost. They need to know if we have had any law suits. None.

2) Tax Tribunal; We have received law suits from the brothers on Gray Lake about the SAD. We must file with the Tax Tribune in Lansing by May 5th, 2020 They will lit litigate the matter. If the brothers win, they will not have to pay the assessment.

Approval of Bills: Farwell made a motion to approve bills for \$33,209.84, supported by Yarhouse. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Roland, Supported by Yarhouse. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm

David Byl, Supervisor

Joan E Farwell Clerk