

Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 26th, 2018 7:00pm

- 1. The meeting** opened at 7:00pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner. Board members present were Byl, Roland, Farwell, Yarhouse, and Irwin. Also attending the meeting were Garfield Township Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs; Clare County Commissioner, Dale Majewski, and Rick Outman, from State Senate Office and Brad Beach-Assessor.
- 2. Agenda:** The meeting agenda for the February 26th, 2018 was approved after 4 additions and 1 deletion was made by the supervisor with a motion made by Yarhouse. Supported by Farwell. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
- 3. Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the January 22nd, 2018 Board Meeting was made after correcting line numbers from 14-18 and the start time for the meeting. Motion made by Roland, supported by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried
- 4. Clerk's report:** None
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Motion to approve the report was made by Irwin, supported by Farwell. All ayes, motion carried.
- 6. Trustee Irwin:** None
- 7. Trustee Roland:** None
- 8. Fire Report:** Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs: reported 40 runs for the month, 29-were medical, 2-mutual aids, 2-PDA's 1-PDI, 2-Mutual aides, 1 structure fire, 1 downed line and 3 Misc. Total for the 2018 is 69 runs. Shawn Harmon was released from duty. Mark Fouchey stepped down as Ass't Fire Chief but will remain as a firefighter. Shayne Henry will be the new Ass't Fire Chief, Captain is S J Conroy, Lieutenant is Anthony Chedester and Safety Officer is Sarah Williams.
- 9. Fire Dept. Auxiliary:** Winterfest netted \$4,800 profit. The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on March 31st at 1:00pm at the Depot. Flyers will be distributed.
- 10. Clare County Commissioner** – Dale Majewski left the commissioners meeting report for attendees. The Sheriff received a \$9,000 grant to purchase new vests. Rick Coker was reappointed and Renee Haley, Veterans Affairs is planning a fund raiser-Snowball Dance to purchase a Korean War Statue for the Veteran's Park.
- 11. Rick Outman-Judy Emmons Liaison,** spoke of corrections to the State Budget for \$1.5 Trillion dollars. The recent personal exemption granted by the Federal Government caused a reduction in the Michigan Personal exemptions and the state is going to incrementally increase our state exemption to \$4,900 by the year 2021. The budget has a \$200 million surplus, most of which will be used for road improvements along with the \$150 million already budgeted, so road work expenses allocated this year will be \$325 million and should increase every year. School funding is increasing, along with Special Ed funding. CTE courses are also being focused on. There are "Safe to Tell" and "OK to Say" programs developing in many states as tip lines as protection for our schools. Judy Emmons is at her Term Limit and so Rick will be seeking her Senate Seat in November.
- 12. Brad Beach-Assessor:** Assessments are in the mail. He also explained the two Resolutions required through AMAR and the State to be approved by the Board prior to the Board of Review meetings in March.
- 13. Supervisor Notes:**

- Jennifer Tubbs will be randomly checking Transfer Station bar code stickers for legal property owners/renters. A job description will be written for this new job.
- March Board of Review dates are posted in the paper, on the webpage and on the office door for March 12th and 14th, 2018.
- Consumers Energy will be shutting the power off for about 15 minutes at 1:00AM on the 11th of March. If all the work needed to be done is not accomplished, then they will follow up on March 18th at the same time.
- We have been informed from our insurance carrier that for the Fire Dept. will be reclassified from a Full Time Fire Dept. #7704 to a Volunteer Fire Dept. #7904, which will reduce our premium be about \$250 per year. The fire fighters will have full coverage when they are out performing their duty. Some could possibly be called out to fight wildfires somewhere. If that would happen, then we would change the coverage back to #7704 until they return safely.
- Clare Conservation District has trees for sale if anyone is interested.

14. Public Comments: Joe Stragea: Adjutant for the DAV 105-Public Information Officer expressed his disappointment in the slanderous publicity in the newspapers the DAV building has received, and the closing of the Senior Center because of it. He recounted the many improvements that have been done in the near past. He invited anyone to come and visit the facility and point out what maintenance needs the building has, especially to the County Commissioners and Lori Phelps. He also expressed his feelings on the epic Mass Shootings and the cry out for new gun laws. That will not fix the problem.

Darrel Runyon: Stated he has heard via the grape vine that we no longer have a Sheriff Patrol in our area. Answer. Yes we do, because the Sheriff Dept. must patrol all areas of the county, as well as the State Police, but as an extra cost to the township. The patrol was not working out well for the money it cost.

Gay Ann Messier: Stated to the County Commissioner that there were many seniors in the Lake area who are grieving their loss of the DAV Meal Site. That the Commissioners made a bad decision and what has been done cannot be accepted for seniors-60 and over. Lori Phelps job is to assist them not the opposite. The Clare County Cleaver article on 1-18-2018 was deplorable and slanderous. How can you justify what you have done to these seniors?

Dan Kalahar: The cemetery fence looks great, but many monuments are being damaged by improper use of equipment for snow removal and lawn care. If my Dad's Monument gets damaged, I will hold the Township responsible. The user of the equipment needs to be better trained.

15. Old Business: None

16. New Business:

- a. Resolution 2018-01 dealing with Poverty Income Levels per family size -Township Guidelines. This resolution was passed unanimously by a Roll Call Vote.
- b. Resolution 2018-02 declaring the most recent AMAR Audit Guidelines from the Michigan State Tax Tribunal to wave penalty and interest for untimely filed property transfer affidavits. Resolution passed unanimously by a Roll Call Vote.
- c. Approval to rehire Joe Hart on a part time basis, no more than 20 hours per week. Motion made by Irwin, supported by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried.

17. Approval of Bills: A motion to accept all bills was made by Farwell and supported by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried

18. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm after a motion by Irwin, seconded by Yarhouse. Motion carried