

November 23, 2015

Garfield Township
Regular Board Meeting
November 23, 2015
7:00 p.m.

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Byl, Rottiers, Irwin and Roland. Yarhouse was absent. Also attending the meeting were Garfield Township Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs, Garfield Township Blight Officer Rod Williams, Garfield Township Assessor Brad Beach, Garfield Firefighters Auxiliary President Betty Tessman, County Commissioner Dale Majewski, Road Commissioner Julie Lightfoot, Attorney Bill Fahey, Central Michigan Health Department representative Doug Fitzgerald, Clare County Clerk Pam Mayfield and 15 citizens.

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2015 meeting by Irwin, supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Roland, to accept the Treasurer's Report. All ayes. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Tubbs reported 16 runs, 9 of which were medical, one down power line, 3 mutual aid, 2 personal injury and one structure fire. He also reported the rescue truck was sold for \$1,000 and the completion date for the new fire truck changed from February 2016 to December 22, 2015. The Fire Chief and Mark Fouchey will be going out to South Dakota at the end of December for a final inspection. A fuel issue came up with the sensor leaking on one of the fire trucks; brought in a local diesel mechanic and parts were here within one half hour and installed free of charge. Parts and labor from Apollo would have cost the fire department \$2,000+. Tubbs is looking for other sources in the industry. A Christmas tree was donated from Pohl's tree farm.

Bill Fahey, attorney representing townships for 38 years, gave information regarding services his offices provide to townships.

County Commissioner Dale Majewski provided a brief report.

Doug Fitzgerald, representing the Central Michigan Health Department, provided information on the process to handle complaints regarding violations.

Road Commissioner Julie Lightfoot reported on recent activities with the Road Commission including the snow removal policy, a meeting regarding the Amish buggies on the roads, vehicle registration fees increase, fuel and diesel tax increases, homestead property tax changes, chip and seal projects.

Assessor Brad Beach reported tax bills were waiting to be sent and Board of Review scheduled for December 15.

Blight Officer Rod Williams reported things are getting better with one active case in court and a hearing in two weeks. He also suggested the township consider a Dangerous Building Ordinance and demolition grants that are available through community Development.

There was no Sheriff's report.

Under Public Participation, Garfield Firefighters' Auxiliary President Betty Tessman reported the Community Christmas Party is scheduled for December 12, 2015, the Auxiliary Christmas Party

December 13, 2015 and Winterfest Meeting December 13, 2015. She also asked if there was a possibility of having a light pole installed at Peterson Park. Supervisor Byl will check on that.

Clare County Clerk Pam Mayfield addressed the Board going over details of her responsibilities.

Henry Lehman indicated he would like to rent the hall monthly.

Supervisor Byl reported the following:

- The new fire truck delivery date is delayed and the closing will be when everything is ready.
- He did the Road Commission's ride-a-long and indicated it was very educational.
- Had a meeting with the Health Department and an appointment with the prosecutor.
- Rowe has completed the survey going forward with plans for the Depot.
- Met with Ken Lind regarding the insurance renewal.
- Late charges from Waste Management "€" will pay early if the monthly meeting is scheduled past the due date; otherwise will include with the monthly bills for approval
- The new phone system will be available at a cost of \$1631.35. It will be a standalone system with 6 phones, one of which will be for the fire department.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Irwin, to purchase the new phone system from Telco for not more than \$2,000 plus the monthly ongoing fee of \$100. All ayes. Motion carried.

Under New Business, motion by Rottiers, supported by Irwin to engage with Fahey & Schultz, Attorneys, for the following services:

- Adopt Ordinances
- Identify targets
- Put together a package of forms for targets

All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion following regarding the paint and carpet quotes. Following discussion, the project will continued to be worked on until after the March election.

The Insurance Withholding Program was discussed and County Commissioner Majewski indicated Lincoln Township has the program and that, if a structure burns down, the payoff from the insurance to the owner holds \$10,000 in escrow until the property is cleaned up at which time the money is given to the owner. Discussion followed regarding the amount that is put in escrow and decision to approve entering into the program was tabled for one month.

Motion by Roland, seconded by Irwin, to accept the resignation of Clerk Martha Rottiers, effective December 18, 2015 with regrets. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to appoint Joan Farwell to the Clerk position effective December 19, 2015 by Roland, seconded by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rottiers explained the cost of installation of the quilt block on the Depot was not included in the initial cost of the quilt block, indicating that installation cost will be \$150.00.

Motion by Rottiers, seconded by Irwin, to adopt the IRS required Resolution for Restating 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan. Roll call vote all ayes. Resolution adopted.

Motion by Irwin, supported by Roland to approve bills totaling \$52,087.99. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by adjourn by Irwin. There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.