

REYNOLDS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2013

Supervisor Fisk called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was given. Assistant Pastor Jorge Ballivian of Grace Community Church gave the invocation.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Fisk, Clerk Sholty, Treasurer Stevens, and Trustee Smith. Absent: Trustee Kindel.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public Comment was given.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion: Approve consent agenda consisting of Police, Fire, Zoning, Library and Treasurer's Reports, Monthly Bills, and May 9, 2013 regular meeting minutes of the Board. Motion by Stevens, second by Sholty, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, motion carried.

Motion: Correction on agenda item #1 to change direction on Tamarack from West to East of County Line. Motion by Stevens 2nd by Sholty, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, motion carried.

Discussion: Further discussion on uncertified portion of Tamarack Rd., East of County Line. Trustee Smith checked with S. Michael Scott from Montcalm County Road Commission to see if this road was an uncertified county road or private road. Confirmation was given it is in fact an uncertified county road.

Motion: To move forward with getting more information on Tamarack road and getting bids.

Motion by Smith, 2nd by Sholty, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, motion carried.

Discussion: Supervisor Fisk asked Assessor Dennis Wright to bring the Board up-to-date on the Assessing Department. Dennis explained record cards have not been kept up to date, there are problems. He worked out a plan and presented it to the County Equalization Department and a State representative to get new pictures, correct effective ages, and look at the classes of homes. Their recommendation was a complete reassessment of the township. He explained that would be very costly for the township and they agreed to work with us. Right now the class of homes and effective ages are way off. Trustee Smith: Is there pressure coming from somewhere? Assessor Wright: No there is no pressure, but my job is to make the assessing roll correct. It's Impossible to make it correct with the shape it is in right now.

Trustee Smith: You heard some of this from the County then? Assessor Wright: The County was aware of it, yes. Assessor Wright: All we are going to do this year is get pictures of everything – residential check the class of the home and the effective age. 3/4 of your Township homes have an effective age of less than 10 years when some of them are over 50 years old, so it makes a big difference in assessed values. Assessor Wright: you have roughly 1877 residential parcels and I believe about 1550 are improved parcels. To get that done would be \$3.50 per parcel. Trustee Smith: What about businesses? Assessor Wright: We have discussed a complete re measure of all commercial/industrial also and I submitted that for \$11.50 per parcel.

Trustee Smith: Where we don't have the right age that means their taxes will go down, right? Assessor Wright: There's a chance, I can't guarantee it but I have done about 300 parcels because I wanted something to take to the Equalization Department to show them and 95% of the ones I have done, there has been a decrease in assessed value. You will benefit from it anyways for one reason your record cards will be straightened out. We have very few pictures. I'm not wandering about people's property; I'm just getting a picture, comparing the class that is already recorded and effective ages. Supervisor Fisk: This is something we need to get done; we need to get our assessment files compliant with the State. There are a lot of parcels that don't have pictures; some of the record cards are way out of date, or missing. It is difficult to look up information. We get phone calls from people wanting information on a parcel, we are supposed to have that information on file, and it is difficult to give them accurate, up-to-date information without having the proper files.

Motion: Move forward and bring the Assessing Department up to date, contracting with Dennis Wright. Motion by Smith, 2nd by Stevens. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Motion: Adopt Reynolds Township Principles of Governance. Motion by Sholty, 2nd by Smith, Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Board Comments: Trustee Smith asked Supervisor Fisk to bring us up to date on the cleanup at the party store on Reed Road and 46. Supervisor Fisk: We have cited them for the loose debris, and they have picked that up. I have been in contact with the owners and their attorney. Apparently, the insurance company is holding up the cleanup efforts on the demolition and they are using that, to get a settlement. What we're going to do is have Art deem the building unfit and start the "State Housing Law" on them which is quite a process, it takes time to manage this, I'd rather do it a different way. The owners are about to sue the insurance company and we would like to have our attorney weigh in and try to get a settlement on the cleanup to get it done as fast as possible. We're working on it. Wish I could snap my fingers and make it go away, but we have to follow the State Law.

Trustee Smith: Inspected Kass property and noted progress in the cleanup with 6 loads going out and the plastic nearly cleaned up. Mr. Kass wants to put up a fence and has all the materials; waiting on our approval. Supervisor Fisk: inspected the Kass sight as well and verified the progress.

Supervisor Fisk: 39.49 tons of debris, nearly 79,000 pounds was collected at the Reynolds Township Clean-up Day.

Meeting adjourned: 7:52 pm

Next Meeting: July 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., 215 E. Edgerton St., Howard City

For more information call the township office at 231-937-6739 or check our website
www.montcalm.org/reynolds.asp