

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

February 12, 2008

The meeting of the Newton Township Board was called to order at 7:07 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2008. Those in attendance were Adams, Aldrich, Clutter, Radcliff, and Laupp.

The agenda was approved.

Public Comment: There was discussion of the meeting in Burlington Township with the Farm Bureau regarding the classification of property from agriculture to residential. The Supervisor will research having the representative from the State Tax Commission come to Newton Township to discuss further with the public.

Minutes: Motion by Radcliff/Clutter to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2008 meeting with the following additions: under Cemetery (Janet Seedorff has volunteered to be on the Cemetery Committee.) under New Business (The Supervisor received letters from four applicants for the open position on the Planning Commission, Ron Marlatt, Clay Maichele, Gary Hicks, and Lynda Kadrovack.) and under Old Business (The Supervisor will review and report back.).

CARRIED

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer requested that in the future the checks listed on the Check Register Report be held until after approval by the board at the monthly meetings to pay them. Motion by Radcliff/Laupp to approve payment to Calhoun County Treasurer for \$1,481.08 and added to the Check Register.

CARRIED

Motion by Clutter/Radcliff to approve payment of \$27,754.56 for disbursements.

CARRIED

Receipts for January totaled \$38,116.83 less WEB page \$19.95. Total disbursements totaled \$27,754.56. Cash on Hand balance is \$333,480.39. Motion by Radcliff/Laupp to accept the Treasurer's Report.

CARRIED

AMSA Report: There was discussion on the Central Dispatch surcharge being financed by some of the surrounding area but not all. We pay AMSA on a quarterly basis for Dispatch. The surcharge on your phone bill is now \$.60 instead of \$.65 is also for Central Dispatch.

Assessors Report: The board of Review Notices will be going out the 28th of February and the Board of Review meeting will be on 3/10/08 and 3/12/08 by appointment. Reports from the Assessor were read by the Supervisor. The Consumer Price Index will increase for everyone 2.31%.

Cemetery Report: Discussion on the Cemetery Ordinance will be tabled until next meeting.

Community Building: There was a workshop last week on 2/5/08 to cover several subjects such as the layout and efficiency of the office and the updating of the Policy and Procedures. There will be a workshop next month on 3/4/08 to continue. There is leaking in the basement due to the contour of the landscape to the east of the building. There was an emergency need for furnace repair at the cost of \$616.53. We will continue with the contract we have for snow removal but not for salting. The 2 basement doors on the south side of the building will be repaired or replaced.

Fire Department Report: The Dept. responded to 18 calls in the month of January – 1 structure, 3 mutual aid, 10 medical, 1 false, 2 weather related and 1 misc.

A request to purchase 25 pair of Extrication Gloves for \$998.75. Motion by Clutter/Laupp to approve the request.

CARRIED

A request to add Chad Barnes to the firefighters payroll. Motion by Clutter/Laupp to approve the request.

CARRIED

New Business: At the last meeting there was discussion on the Policies & Procedures regarding the number of signatures required to move funds from one account to another and that the Supervisor would review and report back. The State of Michigan doesn't require 2 signatures, but they do have requirements we must abide by to put preventative measures in place of internal control policies to minimize risk. The Townships accounting firm strongly recommends 2 signatures to move funds. The City of Battle Creek is planning to do a Fly-Over Area of the City of Battle Creek which will cost around \$99,000.00 for the contractor to fly over and take these digital images. To do the entire AMSA area it is an additional \$26,000.00, which would be \$4,300.00, with a 10% fluctuation, per township. Motion by Clutter/Aldrich for the board to support the purchase of areal maps for \$4,300.00 to be budgeted out of the next years budget.

CARRIED

Old Business: We are doing monthly risk assessments on our policies and procedures and will be continued for the next few months on the 1st Tuesday of the month for the next 6 months.

Planning Report: Trustee Radcliff read the minutes from the last Planning Commission meeting. The meetings for the year 2008 have been decided on as 4/1/08, 7/1/08, and 10/7/08.

Roads Report: There have been several questions as to why we can't get F Drive S. resurfaced and also Division Drive, and the Treasurer would like it addressed at the next budget meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm.

Mary Aldrich, Newton Township Clerk