

Supervisor Hebert called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Ganges Township Hall located at the corner of 119<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 64<sup>th</sup> St. Board members present by roll call attendance: Yonkers, Hebert, Reimink, Hutchins, and Gooding.

Yonkers moved, Gooding seconded, to accept the agenda dated 01/08/13 as presented with the change to move 10.E. County Commissioner Report to item 5 and changing 10.E to Library report. Motion carried.

Tom Jessup, County Commissioner, reported the County has implemented a Wellness Program for Employees which has been shown to offset healthcare costs. The completion date for the jail has been pushed back to November.

Karen Fifelski, presented an overview on the horizontal fracking process and how it can impact the water and environment. She suggested the Board look at information from an environmental attorney, in Traverse City, for ways to be proactive and possibly initiate ordinances and a moratorium regulating fracking until more information is available.

**Correspondence - None**

**Public Comments**

John Tilton, 2060 Lake Michigan Dr, addressed the recent 121<sup>st</sup> litigation and read a statement letter recommending the township relinquish all access to Lake Michigan at 121<sup>st</sup> and vacate the easement to Tiltons and Steges, instead of paying the Case Evaluation Award agreed to. This would give Tiltons and Steges private and exclusive use of the 66' right of way, would give both parcels 33' of additional private lakefront and would prevent any public access for any reason.

Sky Suydam, 2032 Lake Michigan Dr, Larry Vihtelic 2026 Lake Michigan Dr, and Murray Olsen, 2198 Lakeshore Dr, all voiced support for John Tilton's proposal.

Herb ~~Sett~~, Seyl, 7003 121<sup>st</sup> Ave, asked what happened to the individuals that originally brought the lawsuit against Tiltons & Steges.

Gooding moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the special meeting minutes of 12/7/12 as presented. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the closed meeting minutes of 12/7/12 as presented. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Gooding seconded, to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes of 12/11/12 as presented. Motion carried.

Yonkers reported the non-reconciled balances as of 12/31/12 as:

General Fund	\$211,902.23
Road Fund	3,572.05
Ambulance Fund	20,604.50
Fire Fund	48,191.16
First Responders Checking	22,523.44
Building Admin.	19,805.29
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 326,598.67</b>

Hebert moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 01/08/13 as presented from the following funds: General Fund: \$14,146.84; Fire Fund: \$20,242.91; First Responder Fund: \$5,949.89; Ambulance Fund - \$1,135.89; Road Fund - \$159,715.70; Building Fund - \$1,167.00 Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chief Compton reported new Trucks 33 and 35 are both ready for service and are at tonight's meeting so the public can see them.

Yonkers moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve a 3 years contract with National Hose Testing, Caledonia, at a cost of .24/ft for hose testing and 1.50/ft for ladder testing. Motion carried.

Ken Zecklin, Safety Officer, provided a written report of 14 runs for the month. First Responder training will be held in Lee Township from 2/19 thru 5/3/13 at a cost of \$500.00/person. Some members of the department will be attending a Pipeline Safety seminar in Holland on 2/12.

Yonkers moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the attendance of 3 people for the First Responder training at a cost of \$500.00/each plus mileage. Motion carried.

Gary Holton, Cemetery Sexton, reported all was fine at the cemeteries.

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded, to accept the bid from Lakeshore Tree Service, Holland, MI, for removal of 3 large pines on the north side of Plummerville Cemetery for a cost of \$1,650.00. Motion carried.

Gooding reported the Planning Commission will meet 1/22/13 for the Election of Officers and a review of the bylaws.

Shirley Newman, Library Representative, reported the Library received a private donation of \$18,000.00, a grant for \$1,800 for the upstairs library and an additional grant of \$10,000 for a new server. The parking lot will be paved in the spring.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS -**

Hebert moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the motion to ratify acceptance and payment of the Case Evaluation Awards as determined by the Case Evaluation Panel at the hearing on 11/27/12, at a cost of \$75,000.00 to the Stege Trust and \$75,000.00 to John and Mary Tilton, with the case to be dismissed upon payment. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Reimink moved, Yonkers seconded, to accept the application of Lawrence Nolan, 2066 Fawn Dr, as a Ganges Township Firefighter effective 1/8/13. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jim Birkes, 2344 70<sup>th</sup> St, asked for a copy of the 121<sup>st</sup> motion.

Tom Benson, 6074 Mallard, announced there will be several meetings to discuss fracking; Fennville Library 1/22, Douglas Library 1/23, Glenn Community Center 1/24 and Fennville Library 1/30 and asked people to spread the word.

Shirley Newman, 6621 121<sup>st</sup> Ave, thanked the board for their efforts to protect the public's rights regarding the 121<sup>st</sup> road end access.

John Tilton, 2060 Lake Michigan Dr, stated the Board made a bad decision in not accepting the offer from the Tilttons & Steges.

Gooding moved, Reimink seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Yonkers, Clerk