

West Branch Township
Board Meeting
August 9, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Veeder opened regular meeting with the pledge to the flag at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Veeder, Buhlman, Hodgins, Philbrick and Mollard

Public Present: Bruce Reetz, Ron Zarem, Nyla Blanchard and Ray Franz

Motion by Veeder, second by Mollard to approve the Agenda with additions of: Correspondence-Corrective Action Plan Letter and New Business-SRE Painting Invoice. Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Motion by Philbrick, second by Hodgins to approve minutes of 7/12/17. Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Reports:

Commissioner Reetz stated the County will be approving the State Child Care Budget and MSU has a new program director.

Mollard presented Expenditures. Motion by Philbrick, second by Veeder to approve bills as presented in the amounts of: (101) General Fund \$48,317.09 (592) Sewer/Water \$6,583.81 (600) Water #2 4,124.22. Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Mollard stated Audit adjustments have been entered and balanced with the audit and cash accounts and she also provided the first quarterly budget to the board.

Philbrick had nothing to report.

Hodgins stated he has received many positive phone calls concerning Simmons Road.

Buhlman stated she reviewed the bank accounts and everything is in order. She stated the residents on Simmons road are happy with the road completion. She attended a joint DDA meeting where sign placement was discussed; a Merchants meeting where sidewalks were discussed and noted she began the Planning/Zoning class provided by MSU Extension.

Veeder had nothing to report.

Correspondence: Corrective Action Plan letter from State of Michigan.

New Business

Nyla Blanchard stated her concerns about 2 burial parcels her parents are buried on. She is the beneficiary of the parcels and feels the intent was for additional family to be buried there. It appears by the Deed and size the parcel cannot accommodate additional burials. Due to very poor documentation of these older parcels, the board is willing to work with her.

Motion by Buhlman, second by Mollard to sell Nyla Blanchard a 10x4 and 4x4 burial parcel located beside her parents for \$200.00. (The Deed will detail size and intent.) Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Emergency repairs of the cemetery roads have been completed at a cost of \$2300.00.

West Branch Commercial – Veeder updated the board concerning the Planning Commission review of Conceptual Plans for Phase I and II for property across from Walmart/McDonalds. There was discussion concerning what the DDA can do to promote businesses in this area.

Ogemaw County Fair board flag raising ceremony will be held at the fairgrounds on August 14, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

Real and Personal Tax Refund: Payment received in January for winter taxes was recently found. A late penalty was charged and the Treasurer requested the township refund \$338.78 back to the tax payer.

Motion by Philbrick, second by Veeder to refund the amount of \$338.78 to the tax payer. Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Motion by Philbrick, second by Hodgins to accept SRE invoice for \$400.00 to paint the poles at the entrance to the township hall. Voice vote: Ayes – all.

Unfinished Business

Sewer/Water Bills: Veeder presented billing analysis on Wolfgang, Stone Mountain and Marge Noffsinger

Motion by Veeder, second by Buhlman to adjust Connie Wolfgang’s for the last year to \$431.50. Per Township policy this is a one time waiver fee. Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Motion by Veeder, second by Philbrick to adjust Stone Mountain’s January billing to \$509.70 contingent that they purchase a new meter. Per Township policy this is a one time waiver fee. Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Motion by Buhlman, second by Mollard to adjust Marge Noffsinger’s billing for the last year to \$240.00 contingent she reimburses the Township for cost of the new meter. Per Township policy this is a one time waiver fee. Voice vote: Ayes – all. Motion Carried.

Assessor Contract – Veeder still waiting to receive State AMAR Report.

Ordinance Enforcement Procedures will be tabled until the September 13, 2017 meeting. The changes will be made within the Township’s Policy and Procedures.

Sewer Back Up – Veeder updated Board on the issue from July 6, 2017 in the business loop. He indicated Quality Inn costs have increased to nearly \$100,000.00 and their insurance will cover only \$10,000.00. Veeder will continue to keep the board updated.

Public Comment: Ray A. Franz announced he is running for the 35th State Senator position that will be open on January 1, 2019. (Booher, who currently holds this position, will have reached his term limit).

Motion by Philbrick, second by Mollard to adjourn meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Draft Date: 8/14/17

Cheryl Mollard, West Branch Township Clerk

Approved Date

Ryan Veeder, West Branch Township Supervisor