

Supervisor Creager called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Board members present: Dianne Berenbrock, Troy Goodno, Ed Kelly & Jan Redding.

Agenda Approval-

Motion by JR to approve the agenda as amended. Second-EK, motion carries.

Public Comment-

None

Consent Agenda-

Minutes of 1/11/2010 & 2/1/2010.

Treasurer's report & payment of bills.

Motion by EK to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Second-JR, motion carries.

Township Reports-

Attorney Bloom reported on recent court decisions regarding uncapping of property and medical marijuana. Fire Dept.-there was discussion of how to proceed with selling the truck that was recently replaced with a new vehicle. Chief Sheridan would like to sell raffle tickets. The Board will look into regulations for raffles and include this item on the agenda for the next budget workshop. The Chief described some additional improvements that would be done to the new truck. Motion by RC to increase the capital outlay budget for equipment by \$8500 to cover the costs of the improvements. Proceeds from the Pancake Breakfast and the sale of the old truck would be used to reimburse the fund. Second-EK, motion carries.

Old Business-

Conklin Drain District-a map of the parcels to be included in the Conklin Drain district was received from Ottawa County Drain Commission and reviewed. Motion by TG to recommend to the ODCD that all parcels be assessed equally for the improvements that were completed and that the assessment be spread over 2 years. Second-EK, motion carries.

Generator-after reviewing all the bids RC made a motion that we accept the proposal from HighPoint Electric for a 30KW generator at a final cost of \$12,400 with trade-in. Second-DB, motion carries.

New Business-

Energy Audit-the results of the energy audit were reviewed. It was decided that the cost savings did not warrant the investment that was required in order to qualify for the grant monies.

Pillars of Honor-this group is working to identify Civil War era veterans and replace the headstones. They asked if the Township would pay for any cement footings that would be needed. Motion by TG to pay for the installation costs for Civil War veteran headstone replacement at any of the Township cemeteries. Second-RC, motion carries.

Big Springs Access-RC will contact the property owner next to the cemetery to request our maintenance worker be allowed to use their driveway to get equipment back to the cemetery.

Conklin Post Office-the change in business hours and operations for the post office was discussed. Options for mail delivery and bulk mailings in case of further cuts were reviewed.

Road Maintenance Plan-a 3 year plan by Ottawa County for road repair and maintenance was reviewed. Motion by RC to accept the proposal and contract with Ottawa County to complete the work. Second-DB, motion carries with 1 nay.

North Ottawa County Council on Aging-JR reported on a meeting with NOCCOA board members, representatives from neighboring Townships and the City of Coopersville, and community members. It has been proposed that the NOCCOA no longer handle the recreational activities for seniors, but continue to provide aid with home care, prescriptions, tax preparation, etc. Additional meetings will be held to discuss options for implementing the new arrangement.

Millage Renewal-the fire department millage will expire at the end of 2010. It was recommended that a renewal request be included on the August primary ballot. Chief Sheridan will discuss with his

department whether or not to request a second millage for equipment purchases.

Budget Workshop Dates-special meetings will be held on February 15, March 1 for budget preparation, and on March 29 for public hearing and adoption.

Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment-there is an opening on the Zoning Board of Appeals that needs to be filled. RC will contact potential appointees.

Ambulance Contract-there was discussion of the contract fees paid to Rockford Ambulance. After meeting with representatives from Rockford Ambulance and looking into what other township do, it was decided that we will continue to use Rockford as our primary provider in the Township, but contract payments may not be continued. We were assured that no decline in service would occur if the contract was cancelled. Final decision on the contract will be made at the next budget workshop. DB will get sample resolution for designating a primary provider for ambulance service.

Board Member Discussion-

MTA Conference-JR & DB discussed the educational sessions that they attended during conference.

Census-the Census Bureau will be holding interviews for workers at the Township Hall. Additional workers for Chester Township are needed.

Adjournment-

Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. by RC. Second-DB, motion carries.

Janice Redding

Chester Township Clerk

(Any document referenced in these minutes is on file in the Clerk's office)