

Supervisor Meerman 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 DB to approve the agenda as amended. Second-GM, motion carries.

**Public Comment-**

H. Dietrich-asked for consideration of a boardwalk on the east end of Crockery Lake.

**Consent Agenda-**

Minutes of 9/8/2014.

Financial report & payment of bills.

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

**Township Reports-**

Ottawa County-Commissioner Fenske reported on County Commission meetings and activities.

Community Policing-GM presented the monthly report.

Planning Commission-no meeting was held in September. The October meeting will continue the review of special use standards.

Fire Dept-Chief Sheridan reported on department activity.

Ottawa County Treasurer, Brad Slagh, gave a presentation about the handling of properties with delinquent taxes. He explained the process used for tax foreclosure, and how the land bank works.

**Old Business-**

Henry Street-a draft copy of the letter to property owners that about the Henry Street easement was presented for approval. Motion by TG to proceed with the letter. Second-EK, motion carries.

Conklin Street Lights-discussion continued regarding the special assessment district created to fund the street lights in Conklin. The Township tax revenue currently contributes 10% to the costs (which represents about 3 of the 31 lights), with the remainder being paid by property owners in the district. It was requested that Township contribution be increased to cover more of the lights. Board members disagreed about the benefit to the Township at large, versus the benefit to the individual property owners. The intersection lights in the outlying areas of the Township were placed to aid in traffic safety, while the lights in Conklin were felt to benefit primarily the residents living in Conklin. Motion by GM that the lights located at Main & Sehler, Main & Miller, Sehler & Conklin, Miller & Daggett, and Daggett & Harding be designated as intersection lights to be paid for out of Township funds. Second-TG. Motion carries 3-2.

**New Business-**

Contract for Snowplowing-bids from 2 operators were reviewed. There was a discussion of problems that occurred last year with the driveway and access to the trash container not being well maintained. Motion by EK to award the contract to current contractor, Ritz Snowplowing. The written agreement will stipulate clearly what work needs to be done. If an agreement cannot be reached, the other proposal may be accepted. Second-GM, motion carries.

Quarterly Budget Review-budget figures were reviewed. There will need to be amendments made to line items for Board members education and travel if they decide to attend the MTA conference in Grand Rapids in January. No other amendments are needed at this time.

Eaves troughs/Parking lot-drainage problems in the parking lot and insufficient eave troughs were discussed. A proposal for additional gutters at a cost of \$690 was reviewed. An excavator will be contacted to make a proposal for working on the drain. Motion by JR to accept the bid from DeVos Gutters and work with the excavator to evaluate the drainage problem and possible solutions. Second-TG, motion carries.

Farmland Preservation Applications

Beuschel-motion by EK to recommend approval of the application for partial termination of the agreement on 70-01-22-400-006 located 21379 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. Second-JR, motion carries.

Ritz-motion by EK to recommend approval of the application to put parcel 70-01-33-300-024 into an agreement. Second-GM, motion carries.

Fireworks Legislation-a letter was received from Senator Glenn Anderson asking the Board to pass a resolution of support for legislation that would restore the ban on aerial and explosive fireworks. The issue was discussed and tabled.

**Board Member Discussion-**

Board Appointments-several appointees' terms will expire at the end of the year. GM will present nominations at the next meeting.

Traffic Counts-a report was presented showing traffic counts for the Township. Most showed a reduction in traffic.

**Announcements-**

10/15 Farmland Preservation Workshop at Township Office

10/31 Quarterly meeting with Ottawa County

12/1 MTA Dinner

12/8 Legislative Update meeting

**Adjournment-**

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Janice Redding

Chester Township Clerk

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