

CHESTER TOWNSHIP MINUTES-Regular Meeting

July 11, 2016

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 JR to approve the agenda as presented. Second-DB, motion carries.

Public Comment-

None

Consent Agenda-

Minutes of 6/13/2016.

Financial report & payment of bills.

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

Township Reports-

Audit Report-Auditor Patrick Mutchler presented the audit report for FY2015-16.

Community Policing-monthly report was presented

Planning Commission-TG presented a review from the last meeting

Fire Department-Chief Sheridan reported on the monthly calls. A bid has been submitted for a truck being sold by Ferrysburg department.

Unfinished Business-

Forfeiture Property-a message from Ottawa County Treasurer, Brad Slagh was presented stating that there was no action that the Township could take that would speed up the process of forfeiture for an "orphan" parcel created by errors in the deed.

New Business-

Consumers Energy Franchise-a renewal contract for the franchise had been provided by Consumers. Some changes were recommended by the Township attorney. CE representative, Rick Houtteman will review the changes and advise.

Budget Review-the 1st quarter budget figures were reviewed. Motion by TG to amend the budget for the purchase of office filing cabinets and additional hours for the building department staff due to increased activity. Second-EK, motion carries.

Senior Services Proposal-JR presented information from Four Pointes on the services they provide to seniors and the costs associated with them. This will be reviewed further following the millage election.

Safety Trailer Storage-a request to approve placement of a cement pad at the fire station for storage of the safety trailer was found to violate the zoning ordinance as the lot coverage already exceeded the 30% allowed. Storage of the trailer at the Township Office property was suggested. JR objected to the practice of government exempting itself from laws. Motion by GM to approve the request as there was less chance of vandalism at the fire station and it did not set a precedent for non-governmental properties. Second-EK, motion carries 4-1.

Personal Property Tax Reimbursement-we will not be filing for reimbursement of lost revenues as the amount we might qualify for would be less than the cost of preparation of the request form as it would require the assistance of an accountant.

Board Member Discussion-

Gooding Street will be closed between Kenowa and 8th Avenue beginning on July 12.

JR will be applying for a grant from the insurance carrier for improvement of the park fencing.

JR is attending a training on July 27 for cemetery management.

TG suggested a letter of appreciation to the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department.

Adjournment-

Motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Janice Redding
Chester Township Clerk

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