

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

Agenda Approval-

Motion by JR to approve the agenda as presented. Second-GM, motion carries.

Public Comment-

None

Consent Agenda-

Minutes of 11/9/2015.

Financial report & payment of bills.

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

Township Reports-

Community Policing-the newly appointed community officer is Allison Anderson.

Planning Commission-amendments regarding pond construction and keeping of chickens are being reviewed

Fire Department-Chief Sheridan reported on the monthly calls. Annual physicals have been done and there is a house that will be used for a practice burn. We are having trouble finding people willing to join the department.

Unfinished Business-

Sewer Rate Policy-motion by EK to adopt the policy resolution that clarifies which properties are charged the operation and maintenance fees. Second-JR. Motion carries with unanimous roll call vote.

New Business-

Poverty Guidelines-the policy for poverty exemption of property taxes was reviewed. No changes were recommended. Motion by EK to use the current Federal Poverty Guidelines as the standard for income level. Second DB, motion carries.

Senior Services-tax preparation assistance for seniors will no longer be available locally. Appointments will be available, but only in Grand Haven.

Board Member Discussion-

Election Law Changes-proposed changes to election law that would include elimination of the straight party voting option were discussed. Clerk Redding has contacted our legislators to voice concerns over the negative effects this could have in a Presidential election year.

Adjournment-

Motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Janice Redding

Chester Township Clerk

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