

LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
March 11, 2019

Purpose of the meeting: Regular monthly meeting of the Lockport Township Board.

Members Present: Mark Major, Mike Friesner, Beccy Friesner, Tammy Babcock, Theresa Gherna-Ankney, Paul Bungart, Doug Kuhlman, Rhonda Wright

Members Absent: Melissa Major, Dale Hutson

Call to order: The March 11, 2019 meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mark Major at 7:00 p.m.

Mark Major lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Tammy made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Mike seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Approval of Minutes: Paul made a motion to accept the February 11, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Mike seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Public Comments: No public comments.

Chief Carl Holcomb:

- A. Chief Holcomb offered praise for Station 1 (Centreville Fire) personnel and their response time. Station 1 and Station 2 (Three Rivers) will be holding joint trainings later this year.
- B. Station 2 new fire engine has arrived and he invited everyone to stop by the station to see the new truck.
- C. The department has seen an increase in transfers since the recent changes at Sturgis Hospital. LifeCare is also busier and Station 2 has helped with coverage in the county. They will be looking at any further changes made at Sturgis Hospital before making any personnel or equipment increases to cover increased calls.
- D. Tammy asked about old fire hoses being used in local school districts to block doors from opening in a potential deadly situation. Chief Holcomb said they could be used for this purpose but at this time they will not be used locally.

Enforcement Officer Report:

- A. Mike Haydon is busy with blight complaints.
- B. No building permits in the township have been requested year to date.
- C. Doug presented a letter regarding animal kennels within the county. There is an increase in kennels being used as dog breeding facilities. Zoning ordinances are in place; however, the ordinances do not define what a kennel actual means. He presented an Ordinance to impose a limited moratorium on the development of dog kennels and dog breeding facilities. A moratorium means no permits will be issued for nine months. Tammy made a motion to approve the Ordinance to impose a limited moratorium on the development of dog kennels and dog breeding facilities. Mike seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Theresa-Yes, Paul-Yes, Tammy-Yes, Mike-Yes, Mark-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 5-0. Ordinance number 2019-03.
- D. Doug presented a letter requesting Lockport Township pay toward the purchase of protective equipment for the enforcement officer. Paul made a motion to pay \$177.55 toward the purchase of protective equipment. Mike seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Tammy-Yes, Paul-Yes, Theresa-Yes, Mark-Yes, Mike-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

- E. Doug spoke with the previous owner of Eagle Auto regarding the cutting of trees on the Wilbur Road property owned by the township. They have hired another company to clean up the properties. Doug will inform the owners that they are to stop cutting and hire a company with liability insurance to clean up the mess.

Assessors Report: No assessors report.

State Representative Aaron Miller:

- A. Representative Miller said that the US 131 upgrade project is moving forward. He has shared concerns he has received from constituents with MDOT.
- B. He shared that he has received a lot of feedback regarding the Governors gas tax proposal. The budget is in the beginning stages and negotiating will be happening between the parties. Road funding is a big topic at this time. Theresa questioned where current funding from other sources such as casinos and the lottery are going since the roads and schools are in pitiful shape.
- C. The State Fire Marshall has presented changes be made to fire personnel training. The thought among current fire personnel is these changes will make it harder to recruit new personnel and that the number of hours of training required on a yearly basis is too much. No final decisions have made yet per the Fire Marshall.

Treasurers Report and Bills:

- A. Mike reported the following monthly cash statement.
Checking balance \$1,070.11 with \$15,258.61 transferred from SMB account and checks drawn in the amount of \$15,258.61. Outstanding checks are in the amount of \$4,790.73. Balance of accounts to date are checking account \$1,070.11; SMB savings account \$311,642.51 (\$92,000 for fire truck fund, SOM revenue sharing \$52,883.00); Flagstar savings account \$252,846.85; Horizon Bank CD \$181,829.18; Kellogg Community Credit Union CD \$76,579.36; Three Rivers Banking Center CD \$112,603.66; and Southern Michigan Escrow account \$0.00 for a total of \$936,571.67. Tammy made a motion to accept the treasurers report as presented, file the report and pay the bills. Theresa seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Gravel Road dust control:

- A. Mark made a motion to treat Jacobs and Meyer Road for dust control in the amount of \$1,441.30. Tammy seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Paul-Yes, Theresa-Yes, Mike-Yes, Mark-Yes, Tammy-Yes. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Committee Reports:

- A. Community Development-Theresa reported Park Township has a new community development member. The Landmark Restaurant in downtown Three Rivers is now open. DeBoer gravel pit on Hoffman road is being converted to an outdoor fitness (CrossFit) center. Joe Bippus reported that a proposed housing for parolees and probationers did not pass. Currently there are no plans for anything to be done with the old hospital building on Spring Street. He did not offer any response when asked about the new library building. Three Rivers Hospital reported they are in good standing right now.
- B. Intergovernmental Relations-Paul reported upcoming community events of 3/13 Leadership Conference held at Riverside Church, 3/22 MDOT update of US 131 project at the Carnegie Center, 6/13-6/15 Water Festival and 2019 Chamber trip. St. Joseph County introduced the new finance director. Fabius Township currently working on their budget. They are also participating in the 50/50 road repair match with the County. The City of Three Rivers also working on their budget. They are holding an auction of properties with past due real estate taxes.

- C. ZBA-Doug reported the ZBA held a hearing on 3/4/2019 regarding a new home construction on Crescent Beach. The board approved a variance due to the lot size being too narrow to allow the house to be moved back to meet the septic system placement requirements.
- D. Elections-Tammy reported there will be an absentee voter ballot training on April 16th.
- E. Nottawa Library-Mike reported during the month of February total patrons were 2,381, monthly circulation 5,412, OverDrive 269, Interlibrary loan 352, people count 2,158, and Lockport patrons checked out 422.
- F. Centreville Fire Department-No meeting this month. The new rescue truck has been delivered and equipment is being transferred to the unit.
- G. Planning- No meeting this month.
- H. SCMCCI-No meeting this month. Mike did report he has received several complaints about building inspections. Inspections are being made and any items that need to be changed or completed are noted. Then when the next inspection is being done, the inspectors are adding items to the list that should have been listed the first time. Mark will talk with Ed regarding this problem.
- I. Three Rivers Library- Paul reported there is lead base paint around windows which are being replaced in phase 2 so nothing done now to remove the lead. Asbestos was found in a janitor's closet. It was decided this needs to be addressed now vs later. There will be a special meeting on 3/20 for miscellaneous construction items.
- J. Water Department- Mark reported there nine shut offs with all but one turned back on. A hand rail has been installed at wellhouse 2. The Consumer Confidence Report has been completed and sent to the DEQ. Phone line issues with the dialer have been repaired. Chief Holcomb thanked the water department for communicating when there are fire hydrant problems.
- K. Website-Nothing to report this month.
- L.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business.

Adjournment: Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Theresa seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

The next regular scheduled meeting is April 8, 2018, 2019 at the Township hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/
Rhonda Wright
Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: 4-8-2019