

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 9, 2014, FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP HALL**

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Rachael Fountaine, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Rachael Fountaine, Patty Anderson, Delor Wellman, and Gary Boudreau, A. Wagner.

Members absent: None

Audience sheet attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

AGENDA

1. R. Fountaine moved to change Roads, which was under unfinished business, to under consent agenda.
2. Steve Parks was added to agenda

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED to approve Agenda.

MINUTES

Received Minutes:

May 12, 2014 - Township Board Regular Meeting

Moved R. Fountaine, seconded G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to accept the minutes as read.

REPORTS

Received Reports

- a. May, 2014 Financial Report: A. Wagner reported that the treasurer and clerk were in balance.

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded R. Fountaine, CARRIED, to acknowledge the Financial Reports.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Ford River Township Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – May , 2014
2. Delta Solid Waste Management Authority Regular Meeting Minutes – April, 2014
3. Assessor's Report of May, 2014
4. UPPCO – Notice of Hearing in June

ROADS

1. The manager of the Delta County Road Commission, Jody Norman, was present. He provided a breakdown of the A-23 Grade Flit total x 18' DCRC

portion and also information on the A-23 Grade Lift 6246' total x 18'. R. Fountaine had driven with the Road Commission and asked their opinion on roads that could be fixed with the matching funds from the Road Commission of \$22,000.00. These are suggestions that were brought to the Board. A-15 would be a double seal and A-4 would be a single seal. The option would be A-23, doing a section to that gravel road. The total cost would be \$63,000.00. He explained in detail what would need to be done for any of the options. He provided literature with supporting documentation. He also discussed the yearly investments between the Township and the County for the years 2011, 2012, 2013.

2. It was brought to the Board's attention by A. Wagner that gravel was done last year. Jody explained that the project needs to be decided on in the near future as things would need to be prepped for the project. Jody explained that the Road Commission would like to do whatever fits the needs of the Township the best.
3. D. Wellman explained that it is best to take care of the roads before they deteriorate.
4. G. Boudreau mentioned that we need to keep in mind how many houses are on particular roads and priority given to roads with the most residential homes.
5. Tanya Roberts, who lives on A-23, spoke about the problems on her road. Her husband is an anesthesiologist at the hospital and therefore, she feels the road is important to the community. The road, according to her, is in terrible condition with potholes and it needs culverts and pipes and she does not consider it to be safe. She also mentioned that she has had to repair her car for damages caused by the road. It was explained to her that either the two seal coats could be done or the gravel. R. Fountaine explained that although there is money in the budget, the Board has decided to proceed with what the Road Commission will match.
6. A-23 is stated as a 2 this year and needs to be considered in the future if/when additional funding becomes available.

Moved, P. Anderson, seconded D. Wellman, CARRIED, to proceed with single sealing of A-4 and Double Sealing of A-15

ADDITION TO AGENDA

1. Steve Parks introduced himself to the audience. He is running for the judgeship in November and explained his qualifications.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Received the Fireman's May, 2014 – Maintenance Reports/Treasurer's Report

Fire Chief Updates:

1. Maintenance is being done on various vehicles.
2. Jon is still waiting to receive the shelves which were approved and ordered last month.
3. A 2% grant has been received from Hannahville.
4. Fundraising is busy for the next month or so.

5. A bid has been received on the old fire truck for \$5,000.00 which expired prior to tonight's meeting. Jon was not interested in that.
6. On Unit #4, the tank is rusting and rotting and the tank has shifted. Masonville Township has a tank for sale. Jon would like to purchase that for Unit #4. The tank was bought by Masonville Township and it has been measured and will fit Unit #4. This tank would most likely last a lifetime due to the material. It has a total capacity of 3,000 gallons which is 250 gallons smaller than the one presently on Unit #4. They supposedly bought it for \$10,000.00. The price, according to Masonville Township, is negotiable. Jon suggested that we offer Masonville Township \$8,000.00. This amount would have to come out of capital outlay.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to purchase the tank for Unit #4 for a maximum of \$8,000.00.

7. Jon spoke to the person updating the website, explaining what he needed as far as the fire department is concerned. This would be a part of the Township's website. The fire department website will be linked to the Township website. For Jon to get everything that he wants, the price is \$450.00 for this to be created. There is a logo that could be put on the website.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to pay the \$450.00 to set up website.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to accept the fire department reports.

8. R. Fountaine asked Jon if he had any more information regarding the first responders. Jon felt that he had provided all the information that he could to the Board. He mentioned that if the Board required additional information, he would obtain that. G. Boudreau questioned as to how many responders would respond at one time, who would respond and how that would be decided. He felt that there should be a limit of 3 people called to respond to each circumstance. Cost would be a concern as there is no reimbursement for first responder calls. A. Wagner felt that a decision needs to be reached at the next meeting. Jon will find the answers to any questions the Board proposes. R. Fountaine feels that it needs to be presented as a business proposition. Jon explained that there would be 7 responders trained in the amount of \$12,000.00 with supplies costing approximately \$5,000.00 per year. Jon will send information to P. Anderson for inclusion in next month's packet so that a decision can be made. Board members will have one week from today to propose any further questions they may have.
9. A shut off fuel nozzle needs to be installed for tank from Frontier/Servco. P. Anderson will check into that.
10. Propane line is showing needs to be covered to avoid a leak.
11. Garage seal door at the fire hall needed to be fixed.

WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

- a. May, 2014 water report was received.
- b. There were 11 Miss Digs for the month. This will be addressed at the water system workshop.
- c. P. Anderson will mail letters for water testing to customers and will work with Dana on that.
- d. D. Wellman voiced a concern that because the service lines are about 40 years old, more and more leaks could be showing up
- e. R. Fountaine has been working with the City of Escanaba to try to obtain monies for the expenses incurred by the Township with leaks due to that harsh winter. The State of Michigan will be sending someone to the area to work on detecting leaks. The date will be 6/16/2014. Someone is needed to show them where the shut-offs are. This can be done by the water system operator or a Trustee. Dana will be available.
- f. D. Wellman explained that he has worked on behalf of the water system without additional compensation, for which he is entitled.
- g. M. Smith voiced his appreciation for Del's help. He explained that H2O is contracted to work 6 hours per week and that authorization from the Board is needed to for them to work additional hours. He explained that there has been issues where D. Wellman stepped in the took care of the problem which M. Smith felt was the responsibility of H2O. D. Wellman felt that he was doing the Township a favor. He also mentioned that when H2O was hired, he thought that H2O was going to be in Escanaba and not Marquette and did not know that Dana was only going to be in Escanaba twice a week. Because of that, D. Wellman thought that he was acting as back up for H2O. He also mentioned that any work done by contractors needs to be inspected and that Dana is not always available to do that. Because of that, D. Wellman acting as a Board member felt that he could give the okay for inspecting the work. M. Smith felt that communication is important.
- h. There is a list of the change of command, according to M. Smith as to who should be called and he provided a list of appropriate phone numbers and the order in which people should be called. D. Wellman disagreed with that.
- i. D. Wellman announced that the will be giving up his keys to the water tower and will no longer be available to assist H2O and Mike should call the Supervisor as the need arises.
- j. Dana needs to take pictures and document all inspections.
- k. Dana will be available for the State of Michigan water line inspections
- l. The Water System Workshop will be scheduled for 6/20/2014 at 5:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. This workshop will be posted outside the Township Hall.
- m. New Service Lines – J. Klapko has requested a new water hook up. The application has been received. Dana will coordinate this.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to approve J. Klapko to hook up to the water system.

- n. H. Ogren will need to complete the application to be hooked up to the water system.

- o. The lawnmower at the water tower needs to be tuned up and fixed. R. Fountaine. R. Fountaine will arrange for that.
- p. All e-mails should be sent to the supervisor and also the clerk.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded R. Fountaine, CARRIED, to approve the water report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND UPDATES

- a. Sexton for the West Ford River Cemetery – There were three applicants present and interviewed, explaining their qualifications.
- b. P. Anderson explained that J. Bernier has helped the Township since the resignation of the former sexton. P. Anderson explained how he has helped and the excellent recommendations and she has received from the funeral directors in the area as he presently also works at Lakeview Cemetery. All applicants were very well qualified.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to hire J. Bernier as the sexton for the West Ford River Cemetery.

- c. R. Fountaine asked R. Nelson from the South Ford River Cemetery if he is now able to dig graves once again as he had had surgery. R. Nelson assured R. Fountaine that he is able to do that and that the work cannot be sub-contracted. R. Fountaine thanked R. Nelson for helping out with the resignation of the west Ford River Cemetery sexton.
- d. R. Nelson suggested that a thank you be sent to the American Legion for conducting services at the cemeteries on Memorial Day.
- e. M. Krause suggested that we obtain new flags for the cemetery. D. Klein will be contacted by M. Krause to get an estimate of the cost.
- f. Maintenance Person – R. Fountaine explained the reasoning behind hiring a maintenance person and presented a job description. Mowing of the lawn at the water tower could also be done by this person. This will be on an as-needed/seasonal basis. It was decided that the rate of pay would be \$15.00 per hour.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to have P. Anderson put an ad in the Daily Press to hire a part-time maintenance person at the rate of pay of \$15.00 per hour.

- g. Discussion was held as to whether the dust control was spotted vs solid. This is what has been done in the past.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to approve this year's dust control at the previous cost and that it is done as it has been in previous years.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED, to pay bills from the General and Water Funds

PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

- a. R. Nelson suggested obtaining benches/folding chairs for the cemeteries. The sextons will check on prices and present the cost at the next meeting.
- b. R. Fettig suggested that the first responders be the ones nearest to the call.
- c. R. Fountained explained to D. Wellman that maintenance of the roads will be on a year-to-year basis.

Moved G. Boudreau, A. Wagner, seconded, CARRIED, to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.

Patricia Anderson

Patricia Anderson, Clerk

7/14/14

Approved: