

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 11, 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, A. Wagner
Members absent: G. Boudreau
Audience sheet attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

AGENDA

1. R. Fountaine added 12. c. – Internet for Township Hall and 12. d. – Roads under New Business

Moved A. Wagner, seconded, P. Anderson, CARRIED to approve Agenda.

MINUTES

Received Minutes:

July 14, 2014 - Township Board Regular Meeting

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to accept the Township Board Regular Meeting minutes as read.

REPORTS

Received Reports.

- a. July, 2014 Financial Report: A. Wagner reported that the treasurer and clerk were in balance. A. Wagner will provide a Tax Settlement Report at the next meeting.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded P. Anderson, CARRIED, to acknowledge the Financial Reports.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Ford River Township Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2014
2. Delta Solid Waste Management Authority Regular Meeting Minutes – May, 2014
3. Assessor's Report of August, 2014

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

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

Fire Chief Updates:

1. Maintenance is being done on various vehicles.
2. Jon talked about the need to replace two batteries for the thermal imaging cameras at the cost of \$300.00 each

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED, to replace two batteries for the thermal imaging cameras up to \$300.00 each.

3. Jon is also requesting a locking, fireproof file cabinet for the fire department.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to approve the purchase of a locking fireproof file cabinet.

4. Masonville did received their new truck. They are sticking to their price of \$10,000.00 which the Board did approve. Jon will be looking further into this. It will have to be moved on a trailer and two of the volunteer fire department members will begin the wiring.
5. The Pancake Breakfast will be scheduled for Oct. 19, 2014.
6. Raffle tickets are still for sale.
7. Jon is requesting the purchase of a tire pressure monitoring system which will read low tire pressure. Jon has found a cap that alerts low tire pressure. The cost is \$9.00 each and twenty would be needed. Right now, they are being monitored during monthly maintenance checks. He is also requesting the purchase of a air compressor to fill tires as the one that is presently being used is inadequate. The cost would be approximately \$1150.00 from Tractor Supply. Presently, the trucks have to be driven into town to air up the tires.
8. Jon would like to send 6 individuals to the fall fire training school at the cost of \$180.00 per person.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, P. Anderson, CARRIED, to purchase a tire monitoring system at the cost of approximately \$180.00, to allow 6 members of the fire department to attend the fall training school at the cost of \$180.00 per person, and purchase a air compressor at the cost of up to \$1500.00.

9. There were three fire calls this past month.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to accept the fire department report

WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

- a. July, 2014 water system report was received.
- b. R. Fountaine asked M. Smith of Mead & Hunt exactly which two days they are in the Escanaba area. The two days will be on Mondays and Thursdays.
- c. They have hired a new employee which will be working with the Township and lives in Gladstone. Until he is working, there is no local coverage for the area.
- d. The Consumer Confidence Report has been updated and will be reposted.

- e. M. Smith is still working on updating the DEQ with the names of the new operators.
- f. R. Fontaine mentioned that the monthly billing from H2O/Mead Hunt is still running a month behind which is not acceptable. Mike will again look into this as the bill is needed prior to the meeting for approval.
- g. R. Fontaine talked about M. Smith previously not wanting D. Wellman to be involved in the water system and now, Mike is calling him for help. She asked if D. Wellman was on the payroll for H2O, which Mike replied as no. He explained that he calls D. Wellman to keep him informed. R. Fontaine told Mike that she needs to be informed of any situation which arises.
- h. M. Smith mentioned that the message he was sending to Del at the last meeting was not what was intended. Mike said that he met with Del to straighten this out.
- i. D. Wellman explained that when work is done, someone from the water system needs to be present for the inspection.
- j. R. Fontaine stated that a good relationship has to be built with the contractors. Mr. Chernick, one of the contractors said that there was no communication between him and H2O.
- k. R. Fontaine had asked Mr. Chernick who inspected the work done to a customer's property before it was closed and was told that D. Wellman did it as H2O was not available. It is the responsibility of H2O to be available for such inspections.
- l. D. Wellman expressed concerns that the water should only be turned on and off by a representative of the water system. H2O had been telling customers/contractors to turn the water on and off. R. Fountain asked why Mike was telling customers to turn the water on and off when that is in direct violation of the water ordinance.
- m. M. Smith suggested that maybe the Township should look for a new water contractor. R. Fontaine asked him if that was his recommendation and M. Smith said yes. R. Fontaine stated that this would be taken into advisement. If both sides do not agree, then Ford River Township may have to move on and consider other options.
- n. The meter read audit report was presented. There were no concerns.
- o. The remainder of the bill for work done at Fishery Point will be billed to the customer. This consists of the work done by Chernick Construction.
- p. There is one resident asking to be hooked up to the water service. Mike suggested extending the main. The request is being denied at this time. M. Smith will contact the customer.
- q. F. Nelson mentioned that people at the end of the main could possibly drill a well.
- r. Garrett from H2O will be installing the valve. A estimate is not available at this time. Within the next few weeks, H2O will begin the markings.

Moved, R. Fontaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to accept the water report.

- s. The 2013 Rate Survey - Communities with Both Water and Wastewater will be tabled until next month.

- t. Water bill forgiveness – E5031 M-35 – the Board has decided to forgive the bill in the amount of \$83.00 contingent on receiving proof that the water leak has been fixed.

Moved, A. Wagner, seconded, R. Fountaine, CARRIED, to approve forgiveness of the water bill for E5031 M-35 in the amount of \$83.00

- u. Water bill forgiveness – E4757 M-35 – The Board has decided to forgive the water bill in the amount of \$525.60 contingent on receiving proof that the water leak has been fixed.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, P. Anderson, CARRIED, to forgive the water bill in the amount of \$525.60 at E4757 M-35, contingent upon receipt showing that the leak was actually taken care of.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND UPDATES

NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Maintenance Update : Rick has worked on the play ground and has been working on the door at the pavillon. New projects will include working on the doors at the well house. There are also a few things that need to be taken care in the fire hall. Rick will be inspecting the roof.
- b. R. Fountaine asked the Board's opinions about maintenance of the Township Hall, itself, including painting. P. Anderson thought that there were many things that needed to be taken care of at this time and maybe those things should be done first.
- c. A. Wagner reported that people have been roller blading down the slide in the playground that suggested the use of signs to deter that. D. Wellman will talk to Lew about finding out who is doing that so that parents can be approached to correct this situation.
- d. Internet access at Township Hall – Vicki, the tax assessor has not been able to update her computer because of problems with the internet connection at the hall. Currently, we pay \$50.00, for one antenna. For \$60.00, we can get 8 g with a ten antenna box. There is no installation fee.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to upgrade the internet at the cost of \$60.00 per month for the township hall.

- e. Roads – R. Fountaine went to look at 13th Lane this weekend due to a resident's complaint. She also contacted the Road Department regarding concerns.
- f. D. Wellman explained that in years past, the Board would go together to look at the roads to gather information on which roads needed repair and also consider the recommendations provided by the Road Commission
- g. The Road Commission will be replacing the culvert on Jaeger Road.

PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

- a. D. Brown questioned as to why fixed water systems were not inspected which would be proof that the leak had been fixed. These situations are being worked on.

Moved A. Wagner, seconded, R. Fontaine, CARRIED, to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

Patricia Anderson

Patricia Anderson, Clerk

9/8/14

Approved: