

**FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 14, 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 added 12. d. Cemetery to discuss the weed wacker and 12. e. Windmills

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

MINUTES

Received Minutes:

June 9, 2014 - Township Board Regular Meeting

June 14, 2014 Special Water Board Meeting Minutes

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

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to accept the Special Water Board Meeting Minutes.

REPORTS

Received Reports.

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

Moved G. Boudreau, seconded A. Wagner, CARRIED, to acknowledge the Financial Reports.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

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

Fire Chief Updates:

1. Maintenance is being done on various vehicles.
2. Jon has received receive the shelves which were approved and ordered last month. They are being adapted to fit correctly on the truck.
3. A 2% grant has been received from Hannahville.
4. One of the hydraulic hoses on the Jaws needs to be replaced. The cost will be \$815.00.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to approve \$815.00 for replacment of the hydraulic hose for the JAWS.

5. Masonville will not accept our proposal to buy the tank, which the Board previously approved \$8,000.00. They are standing firm on the price of \$10,000.00. Jon would like to reserve the ability to purchase the tank for \$10,000.00. He is going to wait to see if they come down in price, once Masonville receives their new truck. Discussion was held as to where the funds would be coming from. Lights, wiring and fabrication would still have to be done after the purchase which could be done by the Fire Department.

Moved, A. Wagner, seconded, P. Anderson, CARRIED, to approve up to \$2,000.00 more, in addition to the previously approved \$8,000.00, for purchase of the tank from Masonville.

6. Jon has a lay-out ready for the website.

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

7. R. Fountaine thanked Jon for putting together the information that the Board requested regarding First Responders. Last year, there were 134 calls in Ford River. Jon has brought to the Board a policy that there would be 2 responders per call which would be determined by which 2 responded to the radio call. The closest ones would respond. The responders would respond to Ford River only unless mutual aide was dispatched. Jon is requesting \$12,000.00 start-up cost and \$5,000.00 each additional year. The \$12,000.00 would supply seven packs along with necessary consumables. Jon is hoping to have seven members, three are Ford River Township residents. Jon would like to expand that list to prevent burn-out of those seven responding to calls. A schedule could be set up with rotation of the seven packs, depending on who is on call. R. Fountaine expressed her concerns about burn out of the firefighters who would also be first responders. She also expressed concern about the cost which is not billable and which will have to be taken into consideration when doing the budget. She suggested that the fire

department come up with some of the money through possible fund raising. Discussion was held as to where in the budget the money would come from. Jon would have to discuss with the fire department whether any of their fund raising money could be used towards this cause. R. Fountaine explained that the \$5,000.00 may have to come out of the fire department's budget in following years. Jon explained that there were only 23 fire calls in a year and the fire fighters are not burned out from that. G. Boudreau suggested that a two year limit be put on this to see how things are working out. A. Wagner explained that the \$5,000.00 in following years would have to be voted on each year. It was suggested that it come from the Contingency Fund or the Recreation Fund of the budget.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, P. Anderson, CARRIED, to approve \$12,000.00 for the start up of the First Responders from the Contingency Fund with a limit of \$4,000.00 in subsequent years with a re-evaluation after two years.

A roll call vote was taken with all being in favor.

8. Training will take place in late fall. Jon will provide the Board with policies before the actual training begins.

WATER SYSTEM BUSINESS

- a. June, 2014 water system report was received.
- b. D. Kralovetz has left Mead & Hunt. She will remain on call during training.
- c. R. Fountaine asked Mike for an updated list of phone numbers.
- d. There were five Miss Digs. R. Fountain asked why they are billed separately and none covered within the 6 hour regular work schedule. This will be considered in the future.
- e. Jon voiced his concerns about plastic pipe in the fire hall possibly being damaged by equipment. Mike will check on cost to replace this.
- f. The meter read audit report was presented. There were no concerns.
- g. A quote was presented for water system maintenance/ repairs in the amount of \$2,930.00 which is the software system for the Township water system which had been discussed at the Water Board meeting. Two of the software would be needed. R. Fountaine will present the information. A computer would have to be provided by the Township would could be just a basic laptop. Also included in the quote was marking mainline valves and boxes and curb stop boxes. In addition to the \$2,930.00 the Township would have to purchase a laptop and the software would cost approximately \$500.00.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to approve the quote from Mead & Hunt in the amount of \$2,930.00 with an additional \$500.00 for the computer and \$500.00 for the software.

- h. 2014 Water Quality Report for Ford River Township report is available on-line and to the public tonight. One minor correction on the report will be

made as it states that a copy of the report was sent to the water customers and this was not done as it does not have to be.

- i. 2013 – Rate Survey will be tabled until the next meeting.
- j. There have been problems with the handheld meter dropping readings. Mike explained that others who use this Badger system are having the same problems. He provided information regarding the use of a new system. He suggested that the manufacturer attend the next Board meeting with costs and explanation of the service which is to include free billing interface.
- k. A water bill forgiveness request was received by the customer at E4936 Highway M-35. The leak has now been corrected.

Moved, D. Wellman, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to forgive the overage of \$166.20 to customer at E4936 Highway M-35.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND UPDATES

- a. Maintenance Person – R. Fountaine explained some of the requirements for this position. She recommended a probationary period of six months to assure that this position needs to be kept on the payroll. There are no call out fees. There were four applicants, with three being present at the meeting. Each were asked specific questions including having their own tools, having a truck or trailer and being able to maintain the roofs. The Township will comprise a list of what needs to be done at this time and also a list of preventative maintenance items. There are no set hours. Help could also be needed on a emergency basis. The wage is \$15.00 per hour.

Moved, R. Fountaine, seconded, G. Boudreau, CARRIED, to hire R. Salmon as the maintenance person for Ford River Township.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. 2014 Financial Audit results were made available to the residents present at the meeting and will be made available at the Township Hall.
- b. Ice Cream Social – After discussion, it was decided that since no Board members will be available to help out and organize the ice cream social and since the tax bills which announce the ice cream social have already been sent with it being late in the summer, that the ice cream social will be postponed until next year.

Moved, D. Wellman, seconded, A. Wagner, CARRIED, to take a year off from doing the ice cream social.

- c. The weed wacker from the South Cemetery was brought in and it was decided that it was not worth fixing. It was suggested to buy a good one which could be more easily repaired. B. Nelson gave information on various weed wackers and their warranties and pricing. It was decided to purchase a Echo which has a five year warranty and is approximately \$170.00. R. Fountaine will be picking up the weed wacker.

Moved, G. Boudreau, seconded, R. Fountaine, CARRIED, to purchase Echo weed wacker with the five year warranty, costing approximately \$170.00.

- d. B. Nelson has been cutting the grass at the South Cemetery at this time as his father who is the sexton is unable to do so. M. Krause, who does the mowing at the West Cemetery has offered to cut the grass at the South Cemetery also. It was decided to have M. Krause cut the grass at both cemeteries. The Board thanked B. Nelson for his help. B.Nelson will provide M. Krause with a key for the shed at the South Cemetery.
- e. A presentation on the pros and cons of windmills was presented by two residents of Garden. D. Wellman mentioned that members of the Board has attended a meeting on windmills, and thanked these two residents for their presentation tonight.
- f. The July Board of Review meeting will be on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- g. D. Wellman asked M. Smith if the lawnmower at the pump house was fixed. M. Smith assured him that it was fixed and the grass will be mowed there.

PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

- a. M.Harrington thanked the Board for approving the First Responder program.
- b. Harold Coplan had some questions regarding disabled veteran's tax credits. R. Fountaine will check into this.

Moved G. Boudreau, A. Wagner, seconded, CARRIED, to adjourn at 8:36 p.m.

Patricia Anderson

Patricia Anderson, Clerk

8/11/2014

Approved:

FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

July 14, 2014

PLEASE SIGN IN

1. *Frank Nelson*
2. *Janet Hoppe*
3. *Stella Coplear*
4. *Harold Coplear*
5. *Mike Smith*
6. *Ray DeLong*
7. *Gerald England*
8. *Sharon Krause*
9. MARVIN KRAUSE
10. *Donnie*
11. *P. O'Flaherty*
12. BRIAN NELSON
13. *Mary Nelson*
14. *Debra Brown*
15. *Mark Munn*
16. *May Harrington*
17. *D. Beaudoultz*
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.