Fremont Township Minutes November 9, 2017

The regular meeting for the Fremont Twp. Board of Trustees was held on November 9, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fremont Township Hall.

Board members present: H. Wymore, A. Holbrook, J. Welke, M. Blatt, and C. Sherwin. Absent: None Guests: 11

MINUTES:

Without objection or correction the October 12, 2017, regular board meeting. Motion made by M. Blatt, seconded by J. Welke – motion carried

BILLS:

Motion to pay the bills as presented made by M. Blatt seconded by J. Welke – motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A Resident asked if the trailer that was moved from Blackmore Road to Leix Road had an inspection before it was moved. This resident stated that the trailer probably does not meet the requirements that are in the zoning ordinance. H. Wymore stated that he does not know if it was inspected and that we would need to ask the Zoning Administrator. The Resident stated that if the trailer wasn't inspected that it is in violation. It was also mentioned that our ordinance is for trailers that are moved into the township and this trailer was already in the township; which may be a gray area. J. Welke stated that he is not sure what our ordinance states but he would look into it and H. Wymore stated that he would check with Lyle on whether or not the trailer was inspected. It was also stated that the Planning Commission will discuss this issue at the January meeting. Another Resident stated that our township is getting junkier by the day and we need to try to clean up the blight however when people have to give their names when they file a complaint, no one is going to do that because under the Freedom of Information Act the property owner can find out who filed the complaint. A Resident stated that they wanted to comment on a topic that would be discussed later in the meeting; this resident stated that it was unfortunate with what happened with the tax roll but they feel that the taxpayers should not have to pay to compensate the treasurer and assessor for the extra hours. Another Resident stated that they agree because the job is a salaried position and they are paid to do a job. A Resident asked why they did not use their backup when they realized that the database from the County was not correct. C. Sherwin stated that every year they start with a brand new database and that there is only one database and there is no backup. He also stated that all the corrections have been made and they will never use a database from the county again.

CLERK REPORT:

A. Holbrook stated that she received a letter from Thumb Electric's attorney requesting that we grant them an Electric Franchise Ordinance. She has also given the Board members copies of the letter from the Township Attorney regarding his opinion on the request. C. Sherwin asked if we have previously had an ordinance for Thumb Electric. A. Holbrook stated that she looked through the records and did not find one for Thumb Electric. It was mentioned that maybe we should ask Thumb Electric if we have previously given them an electric franchise ordinance as they are only good for 30 years. M. Blatt stated that maybe we should find out from our attorney how much it would approximately cost for them to write up an ordinance for the township. A. Holbrook stated that she would contact the attorneys and get the answers to the questions that have been asked. This topic was tabled until we could get more information.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer stated that he was able to get the Quickbooks problem corrected and that there are copies of the August, September and October Treasurer's reports on the back table for anyone that is interested. Treasurer balance was \$310,301.12 as of October 31, 2017. Motion to accept treasurer report made by J. Welke, seconded by M. Blatt – motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Compensation for Treasurer and Assessor – H. Wymore stated that he has talked to the Assessor and she stated that she does have several hours into correcting the tax database but that she was not asking for any additional money. H. Wymore stated that he feels that the Treasurer should get some compensation for the extra time that has been spent. H. Wymore stated that he has been thinking about the compensation and is unsure as to how much would be a fair compensation and thinks that we instead of a flat amount compensation at this time, maybe we should discuss giving the Treasurer a pay raise with our next budget. M. Blatt stated that we have not compensated any of the other Board members for additional work that they have had to do and so we should not start compensating now because it will set precedence. He stated that it is unfortunate that it happened but it is part of their job. C. Sherwin stated at this time to just drop the discussion of the compensation. A Resident stated that they would not be opposed to a pay increase when the next budget is discussed. J. Welke stated that he understands where both sides are comping from. H. Wymore stated that C. Sherwin did a lot of extra work and he would like to see a pay increase with the next budget.

Cemetery Report – Water has been shut off at the cemetery. H. Wymore stated that they have not found the one stake at the cemetery but he was able to get a survey from Frank Franzel on his property which shows the missing stake so that information has been given to the surveyor.

Road Report - Schott Road has not been started yet but Snover Road has been completed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

All meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at the Fremont Township Hall located at 4850 Mertz Road (M-24) at 7:00 p.m. All public is welcome to attend.

Amy Holbrook, Fremont Township Clerk