

Supervisor Bill Haggard called the regular meeting of the St. James Township Board to order at 7pm on October 1, 2014. Also present were Jim Wojan, Don Tritsch, Rick Speck and Jean Wierenga.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

One addition to the agenda: Resolution for Beaver Island Rural Health Center.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Speck and seconded by Wojan to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Speck and seconded by Wojan to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2014 meeting with one correction, date of Public Hearing should be September 29, 2014. Motion carried.

Motion by Wojan and seconded by Speck to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Payments:

Motion by Tritsch and seconded by Haggard to approve the schedule of payments. Motion carried.

When reviewing the bills, it was noted the charges from Great Lakes Energy for street lights monthly, and the number of lights that are out and have been out for quite some time. Letter from the Supervisor needs to go to GLE to fix lights as township is billed for each and every light monthly.

Correspondence:

Letter read from Sally Lounsberry announcing her retirement from the Beaver Island District Library Board effective October 2014.

Coast Guard Announcement regarding Fresnel Lens at Lighthouse:

The Coast Guard has set a time limit to hear comments on removal of the Fresnel lens at the lighthouse and where it will be placed permanently. Don Vyse worked diligently on the lighthouse restoration and the placement of the lens and states he has done all he can. He recommends the Township write a letter to the Coast Guard stating it should remain here on Beaver Island. It was also suggested a letter writing campaign about keeping the lens on the Island begin.

Reports:

EMS Authority: Next meeting to be October 2, 2014 so nothing new to report at this time.

Donegal Bay Road Project:

Since it is too late this fall to complete this project, need to get plans completed to do major work in spring. Charlevoix County Road Commission Engineer Jim Vanek wants assurance from the Township Board that funds are available for this project, and when he receives confirmation he will proceed with bid documents. Motion by Tritsch to ask Jim Vanek to proceed with bid documents and seconded by Wierenga. Wojan abstained as he will be bidding on this project. Motion carried.

Governmental Center Steps:

Nothing further to be done until survey completed.

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Old Business:

Boat Ramp Grant: First grant application denied so will need to revamp grant application. R. Speck and M. Shimenetto will be working on this next application and D. Tritsch has offered to help also. Need to contact Northwest Design that our board members will be working on this grant application. R. Speck will be contacting The Woollam Foundation regarding possibility assisting financially with this project.

New Business:

Dangerous Structure Ordinance: The ordinance must be published in the Petoskey News- Review which was not done previously. Motion by Haggard and seconded by Tritsch to send to the newspaper. Motion carried. Nothing further can be done on letters previously sent out until ordinance in effect. Tritsch stated it is sad people hold out on technicalities.

Beaver Island Rural Health Center Resolution: (Copy of Resolution attached to minutes)

The Beaver Island Rural Health Center suffered damages during the 'deep freeze' of 2013-2014. Grant funds possibly will be available for political subdivisions and agencies in St. James Township. The Board is requesting assistance for the Health Center. Motion by Haggard and seconded by Tritsch to request funding. Motion carried. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Library Board Opening: Motion by Wierenga and seconded by Haggard to post for library board opening. Motion carried.

DNR Building Appliances: Sheriff's Deputy Travis Williams will be leaving Beaver Island by November 1, 2014 and he had purchased all new appliances at the DNR building. J. Wojan suggested he leave those in place and the township purchase them. The asking price for refrigerator, stove, and dish washer is \$2,800. Haggard will contact the County Sheriff Schneider if the county will help pay for these items. Peaine Township will also be asked to help pay. Motion by Wojan to approve the payment of \$2,800 to leave appliances and seconded by Speck. Motion carried.

Phragmites Report: Cindy Ricksgers gave a thorough report. All spraying is complete for 2014. She explained the many challenges that occurred during their spraying on the outer islands. She also stated before another year to tackle all the spraying that younger workers would be of great help.

Motion by Tritsch and seconded by Haggard to adjourn meeting at 8:30pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Wierenga, Clerk