

Supervisor Bill Haggard called the regular meeting of the St. James Township Board to order at 7:00pm on December 3, 2014. Also present were Jim Wojan, Kitty McNamara, Rick Speck, and Jean Wierenga.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Speck and seconded by Haggard to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Haggard and seconded by McNamara to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Motion by Wojan and seconded by Haggard to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2014 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Motion by McNamara and seconded by Wojan to approve the schedule of payments with several additions. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

Letter received from Woollum Foundation stating they are not interested in contributing to the proposed boat launch.

Reports:

EMS Authority: Nothing to report.

Donegal Bay Road Project: Two bids received: One from Gillespie Enterprises for \$154,500 and one from Reith Riley for \$399,866.50. No word from Charlevoix County Road Commission on awarding bid.

Governmental Steps and Windows: Windows here ready to be put in. More design work to be done before steps and ramp can be replaced.

Update on Fire Hall construction: Will need to amend Fire Hall budget at January meeting to reflect construction costs.

Dangerous Structures Letters: Letter out to Eric Hodgson on December 3, 2014. Supervisor requests copy of the ordinance from Clerk when it appeared in newspaper to send with Karns letter.

Old Business:

Library Board Appointment: Motion by Haggard and seconded by Speck to appoint Kathy Tidmore to the Beaver Island District Library Board. Motion carried.

Force Main and Clean Out Sewer Bid:

The first bid received from Gillespie Enterprises was for \$63,120, however Township Engineer Zach Voogt said that was too high. Gillespie Enterprises then came back with adjusted bid of \$53,200.

Questions asked how this project could move forward without the funds to cover it. The grant approved for sewer repairs is a "reimbursing grant" so when work done and paperwork sent in the funds will be released. Contractor aware of the timeline for payment. A check should be coming soon from the state in the amount of \$10,200 to cover some of the repair costs on the sewer from last winter. The engineer is searching for a "Jetting Machine" which would de-ice the sewer lines and also be used for de-greasing. Hopefully this machine will arrive on Island yet this fall, and recommended to Haggard to get a reservation made with the boat company to get it to the Island. Considerable discussion followed as there was more than one set of figures on the table. Finally recommended the engineer send an exact breakdown of the costs for this project. Priorities are to get insulation done first and to get cleanout

machine here by December 19, 2014. Motion made by Wojan and seconded by Wierenga to also get a clarification on the concrete price. Motion carried. In responding to mechanical issues with the township sewer system as a result of the extremely cold winter of 2013-2014, the board became aware also of issues related to the financial health of the sewer system. The board will continue to work to resolve the problems and will provide another update at its January board meeting.

Kitty McNamara serving on both Township Bd. and BITA:

There does not seem to be any conflict of interest for Kitty McNamara to serve both as Township Trustee and as a member of Beaver Island Transportation Authority.

Plow Bid: So far the snow plowing work done by Greg Cary has not been satisfactory. Motion by Wierenga and seconded by Haggard to have Haggard monitor carefully the work done by Cary and if not doing the job, bids will be re-opened at January meeting. Motion carried.

New Business:

Send Marie Shimenetto to Grand Rapids to a Grant Writing Seminar: At the Annual Conference of Michigan Township Association this winter, one of the programs offered is grant writing. Haggard is requesting the board approve sending Shimenetto to this seminar. Motion by McNamara and seconded by Speck to approve this request. Motion carried.

Board Comment:

McNamara suggests one person from the board be appointed to answer e-mails that are directed to the township board to help keep lines of communication open. Board agreed it should be the supervisor.

Motion by Wojan and seconded by Wierenga to adjourn meeting at 8:50pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Wierenga, Clerk
St. James Township