

Supervisor Forbes called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
A prayer was led by John Stack.
The pledge was led by Supervisor Forbes.

Roll Call:

Present: John Stack, Michael Clinesmith, Bob Forbes, Sam Tester, Bill Gray
Absent: None

Minutes:

Motion by Gray, seconded by Tester to approve the November 10, 2015 regular meeting minutes as written.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gray, seconded by Tester to approve the November 17, 2015 special meeting minutes as written.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report by John Stack:

Treasurer's Report presented and filed with the clerk.

The budget resolution was tabled until after discussion on the roadwork.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Forbes to add a check for the deputy treasurer's pay for a gross of \$544, paying additional taxes to the IRS as necessary.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Gray to add a check to MTA for \$309 for the MTA conference January 20 through January 22.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Gray to approve the December 2015 payables, adding the additional check in the amount of \$34,240.80 plus taxes.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee Report by Bill Gray filed with the clerk.

Zoning Administrator's Report by Curtis Pennell filed with clerk.

Assessor's Report by Debby Valentine read by Forbes and filed with the clerk.

Library Board Report by Onna Clinesmith.

The library director needs more input from the public. The Library Board meets December 17, 2015 at 7pm at a meeting open to the public. The Friends of the Library meets December 10, 2015 at 6pm. The library has gotten new chairs and its bond for the Dykehouse building has been refinanced at a lower interest rate. There was a question about the library being open to political groups. O. Clinesmith stated the board policy was that the library is open to non-profits and the general public.

Fire Run Report by Nancy Zuzula and filed with the clerk.

Zuzula stated that the cost for ordinances books would be about \$260, or about \$182 using the 30% coupons.

Motion by Forbes, seconded by Gray to approve a check for Staples for the cost of the binders.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Small Claims:

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Forbes to take Levi Phillips and Christine Gerow to small claims court for the fire run fees.

Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Fire Insurance Fund Withholding/Bond:

The Township has been notified by AAA that it is withholding funds from an insurance payment for a fire, giving the Township the opportunity to ensure the house is properly cleaned up.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Clinesmith to send an affidavit to AAA for the fire insurance withheld funds.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Report by Michael Clinesmith filed with the clerk.

Bids for Cabinets:

Motion by Forbes, seconded by Clinesmith to accept the bid for cabinet work from Pailog Carpentry for the Township for \$4,620.

Motion and second were withdrawn and discussion postponed to get more information from Greer about extending the cabinet to the ceiling.

Oak Road Drain:

The Tuscola County Road Commission has applied for a permit to work on a drain through Oak Road. Forbes read part of the public notice.

Unfinished Business:

518 Forms:

Clinesmith wrote a letter of explanation to send to the Unemployment Agency regarding the forms. The 518 form needs Board member signatures.

Training Classes:

There was a suggestion to postpone discussion. Forbes suggested showing a class on Communication and showing that class at the next policy meeting.

Tree Removal:

There were a number of pages concerning cutting tree out of ditches in the meeting packet including three road tree cutting bids. Forbes read a page summarizing the Road Commission and Board actions regarding addressing overgrown ditches and his recommendation to clear two roads this year. Clinesmith stated that the Road Commission and Board attorneys stated a need to hold a public hearing before taking action. There was discussion about needing to have public hearings, maintaining the ditches, and dangerous corners of intersections. Forbes said he would contact the Road Commission about needing a public hearing.

Motion by Forbes, seconded by Tester to approve the bid from KerKau to cut down trees.

Clinesmith requested a roll call vote.

Gray – Yes, Forbes – Yes, Stack – No, Tester – Yes, Clinesmith – No

Vote 3-2, MOTION CARRIED.

MTA Conference:

This was already done.

New Computers:

The Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer both want to use the laptop, and the outer office computer is old. Should the Township update its computers?

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Forbes to replace the Windows XP computer in the hall with a newer one at a cost of at most \$500, including necessary software.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Bill Gray requested Curtis's request for a variance of the parcel on Birch Street be on the agenda in January.

Public Comment:

Onna Clinesmith stated a person recently perished in a house fire in a house with no electricity. She asked if the Harper House was following blight procedures and was it going to be torn down.

Bob Forbes stated that someone was currently living there and doing work on the property.

O. Clinesmith stated that Curtis was sending out letters and asked what the protocols were for blight.

Curtis Pennell stated that he deals with blight, and asked "What is a condemned house?"

Forbes stated a veteran was living there; he is trying to get a new house built. There were some donations to bulldoze the house and possibly build a new one on the barn's foundation. He is trying to help the lady out.

Russ Fall stated that the decorations looked nice, and he wished people Merry Christmas.

Forbes stated that Nancy decorated it.

There was clapping in the audience in recognition of it.

Motion by Gray, seconded by Tester to adjourn.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:38pm.

Minutes prepared by Clerk Clinesmith.

Vassar Township Clerk

Vassar Township Supervisor