

Approved Minutes – Reading Township Board
March 10, 2008, Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM with James Galloway, Roger Wheeler, Ron Parker and Judy Wheeler present and Randy Wigent absent. Also present were Marney Kast, Ryan Kast, Linda Hughes, Susanne Alexander, Jim Newell, Keith Brown, Mike Parney, Bruce Caswell, Harold Farris, Gary Lovett and Kathy Mikolajczyk.

The minutes of the February 11, 2008 Regular Meeting were approved as presented.

Marney Kast, a candidate for Hillsdale County Clerk described her background and her experience.

Keith Brown, representing U.S. Representative Tim Walberg's office summarized the congressman's work on the Farm Bill and the Education Bill.

State Representative, Bruce Caswell explained some Property Tax Assessing Bills being considered by the State Legislature.

Hillsdale County Road Commissioner, Mike Parney explained how a 6% cut in Michigan transportation funding along with a very hard winter would result in less funds for the local Road Commission to provide for road projects this year.

After a discussion of the Road Commission's proposal to apply an additional thickness of asphalt on Humphrey Road a motion was made by Roger Wheeler and supported by James Galloway to accept the original proposed contract from the Road Commission. This was for one 2" thickness of asphalt at a cost to the Township of \$46,125. This motion carried 4-0.

Then a motion was made by James Galloway and supported by Judy Wheeler to approve a contract with the Road Commission to have Michigan Mineral Resources apply 23% mineral well brine for gravel road stabilization. This would be a cost to the Township of \$15,075 with the Road Commission reimbursing the township \$3,350 of that cost. This motion carried 4-0.

The Fire Department report was reviewed. There will be a Fire Board meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 6:30 in the City Hall.

Zoning Administrator, Harold Farris gave his report. He also requested that the mileage reimbursement allowance be increased.

A Planning Commission Hearing is planned for March 31, 2008. This hearing is for the purpose of hearing comments on the proposed re-formatting of the Zoning Ordinance. An attempt will be made to act on the Re-formatting of the Zoning Ordinance and the "Civil Infraction items" at the April meeting.

A motion was made by Roger Wheeler and supported by James Galloway to make the following Budget Amendment: Increase proposed Fire Department Expense by \$25,000 from \$43,000 to \$68,000 and then reduce the Designated Fund Balance by \$50,891.89 from \$84,518.85 to \$33,626.96 by: Reducing the "Designated for Major Fire Equipment Purchases" from \$48,641.89 to -0- and Reducing the "Designated for Fire Dep't. Safety Equipment Purchases" from \$2,250 to -0-. This motion carried 4-0.

There was a motion by Roger Wheeler, supported by James Galloway to adopt the Salary and Pay Rate schedule as presented. This is identical to the existing the Salary and Pay Rate schedule. This motion carried 4-0.

There was a motion by Judy Wheeler, supported by James Galloway to accept a bid from Doug McClellan to replace the interior doors and trim at the township hall at a cost of \$3,200. This motion carried 4-0.

There was a motion by Roger Wheeler, supported by James Galloway to accept a bid from Country Carpets to replace carpeting and restroom linoleum in the Township Hall at a cost of \$4,400. Motion carried 4-0

There was a motion by Roger Wheeler, supported by Ron Parker to pay bills and make payments for the month of March for a total amount of \$37,023.48, along with the Board of Review and Planning Commission pay. This motion carried 4-0.

The Berry Lake Inlet Permit is on hold because of a violation. This can be resolved.

There was some discussion of a "meth" lab "bust" and what to do with any of these properties and the possibility of the township seizing any of these properties.

There was a motion by Roger Wheeler, supported by James Galloway to adjourn. This motion carried 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Roger Wheeler,
Reading Township Clerk

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