

Monterey Township Board Meeting

November 3, 2014

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Nevin Cooper-Keel at 8:00pm at the Community Building. Board members present: Nevin Cooper-Keel, Jennifer Frank, Lois Commons, Earl Collier, and Faye Black
There were 22 citizens present Judge Baillargeon, Bob Karlie, Bob Genetski and Max Thiele

Black moved supported by Cooper-Keel to approve amended October 6, 2014 meeting minutes approved, motion carried

Cooper-Keel moved supported by Frank to amend and approve the agenda. Motion carried, 5 yays

Public Comment:

Judge Baillargeon from the 57th district court gave update on the state of the courts expounding on the drug treatment court, mental health treatment court and veterans court

Bob Genetski gave legislative update, expounded on the Cunningham v. MI case regarding court fees and a separate case involving the Michigan Business Tax.

Max Theile gave the county commissioners report. They are working through the budget and pleased with the new jail.

Bob Karlie gave the Allegan County Road Commission report. The 134th road project will be finishing up soon and the trees have been an issue due to the emerald ash boar creating a large number of dead tree hazards. Salt prices will be up this year but Allegan County is in good shape with its supplier.

Cooper-Keel contacted the tax commission and found there 2012 recommendation to be an assessor would assess 20% of the properties in a township per year. Cooper-Keel feels that this would constitute "best practices" and because Brian Busscher's current contract says he will strive for "best practices" Supervisor Cooper-Keel would like him to include assessing 20% at his current wage.

Brian Busscher gave an account of the events leading up to the AMAR audit and feels he was asked by Supervisor Cooper-Keel to bid assessing our township without the inclusion of assessing 20% of parcels each year. With the board's recent response to the AMAR audit stating we would assess 20% Mr. Busscher feels for professional and personal integrity he needs to do that and has submitted a new contract price that would include the reassessment of 20%, if the board does not find that satisfactory he asked to have his letter serve as a 60 day advance notice of his termination of contract with Monterey Township.

Jennifer Frank submitted a proposed submission for the upcoming insurance grant asking for training funding. Cooper-Keel said he did not finish the proposal for security camera purchase he said he would do and did not present a proposal.

Black moved supported by Cooper-Keel to submit the proposal Frank drafted to the insurance grant program as is. Motion carried. 5 yays

Cooper-Keel has a digital copy of the wood burning ordinance and will email it to Frank to pursue publishing it on the website.

Commons moved supported by Frank to pay bills. Motion carried. 4 yays, 1 nay (ck)

Collier moved supported by Black to approve October financial statement. Motion Carried. 5 yays.

Clerks report, election on track for 11/4/14. Shared mail and asked for approval on next year's dates.

Frank moved supported by Black to approve the 2015 meeting dates provided. Motion carried. 5 yays.

High speed internet information meeting on November 14 th at 4pm. Lois Commons will attend.

Trustee report: Faye Black has attended several informative meetings including Allegan Area Ag Expo Fireboard meeting, Conservation meeting at Salem Twp, Right to Farm, and Leadership council on financial stability.

Treasurer's report: wrapping up summer taxes, just about ready to start winter taxes.

Public comment:

Mike from M&S Lawn care is wrapping up season, will be doing leaf pickup and final trash removal within the next weeks. He returned extra flags from Memorial Day.

Al Radspeiler voiced his disagreement with limiting public comment to 3 minutes. Shared his research of housebill#5173 which he believes limits an assessor's right to walk your property without permission.

Gary Shimmel recommends the board acquires copies of the contract other townships have with their assessor as a guideline for us to use.

Pat Peterson asked Supervisor Cooper-Keel if he asked assessor Brian Busscher to exclude the 20% yearly assessment in his initial bid as Mr. Busscher stated. Cooper-Keel responded he had not asked or directed Mr. Busscher in any way.

Commons motioned supported by Cooper-Keel to adjourn. Motion Carried. 5 yays.

Jennifer Frank
Township Clerk