

OVID TOWNSHIP BOARD
December 8, 2014

Regular Board Meeting

The Ovid Township Board met at the Township Hall on Monday, December 8, 2014

Members present: Sue Miller, Supervisor, Robbi Omo, Clerk, Shelly AcMoody, Treasurer, Larry Omo, Trustee, Ron Sampsel, Trustee. Also in attendance were 11 guests.

The Ovid Township Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Sue Miller at 7:30 P.M.

The Board led the guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA: Sampsel made a motion to approve the agenda, supported by L. Omo . MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Two corrections were made to the minutes from the November 10, 2014 meeting. Sampsel made a motion to approve minutes with the revisions. Supported by L. Omo. MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT: AcMoody stated that a cash drawer would be helpful so that she can make change from cash payments. AcMoody stated that \$200 would be an adequate amount of change and that the cash drawer could be reconciled and verified by the Clerk at the beginning and ending of tax seasons. AcMoody stressed that the cash drawer would only be used to make change for cash payments and that it is not a petty cash drawer. AcMoody stated that the auditor would also need to instruct the township on how to put the cash drawer amounts on the township's books. Sampsel made a motion to approve a \$200 cash drawer be created for the Treasurer's office. Supported by R. Omo. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NO COMMENT

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Appointment of Township Clerk: Robbi Omo was introduced as the new Ovid Township Clerk. R. Omo stated that the former clerk's phone is still operating, new phone number should be operating by the end of the week.
- B. Annual Township Meeting with the Branch County Road Commission. Miller stated that in 2015, the B.C.R.C would seal coat 6.5 miles of roadways at a cost of \$14,500 per mile. Gravel projects will cover 1.75 miles of roadways and will cost \$15,000 per mile. Gravel projects include sections of Lockwood, Nye and Nettleman Roads.
- C. Junk Complaint at 415 Buck Road: Property owner Shirley Bodine was present. Miller stated that several inoperable vehicles are being stored on the property. Bodine stated she has applied to the state for titles to the vehicles and that she will have the vehicles moved by the next board meeting in January. Miller asked how Bodine planned to take care of the vehicles. Bodine stated that two of the vehicles will be taken to Doug's Auto World and the other two will be disposed

of in some other manner. Bodine agreed to attend the January board meeting to report on the property.

- D. Discussion of Junk Accumulation at 661 E Central Road: Kelly Perkins, Barry Badders and Brock Badders were present to discuss the junk accumulation outside of their home. Miller stated that a copy of the township's junk ordinance had been sent to the owners, and that the board believes there is a violation at the property. Barry Badders asked if a fence could be constructed to hide the junk. Miller stated that the junk would still need to be moved, because a fence is not allowed in a front yard. The Badders stated that they have plans to renovate the house, but that personal issues had delayed their planned home improvement and that their building permits have expired. Barry Badders stated that winter weather makes the clean-up difficult and asked if he could have more time. Miller stated that if some clean-up efforts are made before the next board meeting in January, the board will work with the property owners to give them time to clean up the yard. Miller stated that the County Building Inspector had given the Badders 30 day to renew permits or else have the property condemned. Miller encouraged the Badders to reapply for their zoning and building permit. The Badders agreed to attend the January meeting to report on their clean-up progress.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Proposed County Township Public Safety Partnership: Miller shared an article from the Coldwater Daily Reporter about a proposed public safety partnership. The article contained a breakdown of costs that the Townships would pay. Miller stated that the partnership plan was going to come back to the Supervisors Association for consideration and discussion on December 15. Miller pointed out that the costs quoted in the article would cover the expense of two additional officers. L. Omo asked how some other townships in the state are managing to have full-time officers. Zoning Administrator Russ Jennings stated that other counties use other taxes to fund law enforcement departments. Jennings stated that Branch County Commissioners do want to bring back the road patrol officers, but are unable to do so because the tax revenue is not adequate to cover the costs. Miller stated that the proposed public safety partnership is still in the information phase.
- B. Consideration for Clerical/Clerk Compensation for Training/Transition of Newly Appointed Township Clerk: Miller stated that during the interim, retired clerk Judy Sabaitis is working with R. Omo to help get through the transition period. Miller proposed an hourly wage for Sabaitis so that she can be utilized as needed to get through training and transition, especially to help with the upcoming May election. Miller stated that the expense was not part of the planned budget, but the training is necessary and suggested an hourly rate of \$15 to \$18 per hour for Sabaitis. Sampsel stated he agreed the training is necessary. Sampsel stated that some parameters should be set. R. Omo stated that she thinks an "as needed" basis should be adequate for her training, but that she would also want assistance and guidance from Sabaitis through the May election. Miller suggested the board set a limit of ten hours per month for six months. AcMoody made a motion to hire Judy Sabaitis for new clerk training at a rate of \$18/hour on an "as

needed” basis. The training is not to exceed ten hours per month for six months. Supported by L. Omo. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Berry Badders asked the Board if it would be possible to open a small store selling items made from reclaimed barn wood at 661 E Central Road. Miller stated that Badders should work with Zoning Administrator Russ Jennings to learn more about the process.

REPORTS:

ZONING-Russ Jennings submitted the zoning report for November. Jennings issued 2 permits. Jennings stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals would meet on January 8th to hear a request by David Crandall regarding construction of a deck that does not meet yard setbacks.

ASSESSING-Miller reminded everyone in attendance about the upcoming Board of Review. Miller stated that one vacancy is still available. The terms expire on December 31, 2014

DPW-Paul Winbigler of the DPW stated that water testing at North Moor and South Moor Estates had indicated a problem with bacteria. Winbigler stated that it was caused by a maintenance issue with the sewer system. Winbigler explained that North Moor and South Moor Estates are a separate tax district and the DPW doesn't pay for the system, but the DPW is the administrator. The system had not been flushed since 2008. The system has been rewired and flushed. The Stevens Company was hired for \$800 to train DPW personnel on how to flush the system. Winbigler said the drain field is fine. He explained that there are two wells for the properties, and the smaller well is not adequate to support the 20+ homes on the properties should the primary well fail. Winbigler stated that a new 6-inch well needs to be put in. Winbigler stated that the DPW is receiving bids for upgrades of station #5 and #6. Winbigler stated that station #5 require a 1000 foot bypass to prevent infiltration in both stations #5 and #6 and that a liner may be one possible solution.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: none

CEMETARY SEXTON: Sexton George Baker stated that one burial had been performed in the past month. Baker stated that old hand pumps had been removed and leaves were cleared from the cemeteries, and that the properties were prepared for the winter.

CORRESPONDENCE:

MTA Board of Review Training. Miller said the nearest meeting is Kalamazoo. Miller will check to see if there is a training site closer to Ovid Township

Michigan Citizen Planner – Michigan State University sent an invitation to Fundamentals of Planning and Zoning to be held February 16, 2015 to March 30, 2015. Miller stated Planning and Zoning officials would have the opportunity to attend should they wish to do so.

DEQ

Phillip Reneau, 467 Warren Road, Coldwater, MI –Oct 1 2014, Oct 1, 2019. Place 422 cubic yards of clean fill within 9,600 square feet of wetland to construct a garage and parking area. All work shall be performed in accordance with the attached plan and permit conditions. to construct a garage

ADJOURNMENT: Sampsel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 P.M., supported by L. Omo.
MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted:

Robbi Omo, Ovid Township Clerk
Minutes Prepared by Charlotte Knisely