

Johnstown Township Minutes

13641 South M-37 Highway. Battle Creek Michigan 49017

Regular Board Meeting . Sept. 8, 2021 . 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Supervisor Barb Earl, Clerk Sheri Babcock, Treasurer Karmen Nickerson
Trustee Deana Powell, Trustee Jeff Warren

Absent: None

Visitors: Ten (10)

Agenda: A motion was made by Warren to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Powell.
All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comments (3 minutes per person):

- Rachel Frantz, Recycling Coordinator from Barry County Recycles was present to introduce herself to the township. She is working with the Barry County Solid Waste Oversight Committee and is available to the townships for assistance with recycling.
- The household hazardous waste drop-off is being held on Sept. 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Barry County Expo Center, 1350 N. M-37 Hwy. This household hazardous waste includes medication collection and free tire drop-off, limited to 10 tires per vehicle. More information is available on-line at barrycountyrecycles.org.

Minutes: A motion was made by Powell to approved the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of August 11, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Karmen Nickerson

- Tax collection has been a little slow with only about 50% of taxes collected. Taxes are due by Sept. 14th. A 1% penalty is added per month after that date.
- CD interest is still at a very low rate.
- Karmen will be available at the township hall to collect taxes all day Monday, Sept. 13th and Tuesday, Sept 14th.
- Treasurer's Report presented.

A motion was made by Warren to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Clerk's Report – Sheri Babcock

Elections: November 2, 2021 election is for Pennfield Schools only. Due to the fact that we only have 7 registered voters, we will consolidate with Bedford Township and not hold an election here in the township.

Motion was made by Powell to approve consolidation of the November 2, 2021 Special election with Bedford Township, Calhoun County. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Election Equipment: Routine maintenance was completed on all election equipment today, no issues found.

Building Issues:

The generator issues seem to be resolved. The last power outage caused a surge protector to fail on one outlet but later returned to normal green light indicator and the outlet was working. Last night the power blinked off and we lost internet service again due to the surge protector failing on that same outlet that runs one of the switches. We probably need to replace that surge protector.

Roof:

The roof company completed replacement of all the screws, vent boots and ice guards on the 30th and 31st of last month. They indicated that even though this does not come with a warranty, we should call them if we experience any leaks and they will come out any time for up to a year to check it out for us. The boot on the township bathroom side vent was broken and was allowing water to come right in at that site where we have evidence of leaking.

Budget Modifications:

<u>Fire Dept.</u>	206.336.801.000	Contractual Service	+2,500.00
--------------------------	-----------------	---------------------	-----------

Increase to expense budget to \$182,150.00 Adjustment was necessary due to new Fire reporting cloud-based program for payroll and reporting.

<u>Township Other</u>	101.299.732.000	Dues and Subscriptions	+50.00
	101.299.803.000	Audit	-50.00

No change to total expenses budget.

A motion was made by Warren to approved the budget modifications as presented. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Assessor’s Report – Joyce Foondle

- Building permits report
- List of property transfers from the register of deeds is not available yet.
- Letters went out for property visits along Uldriks Rd, Ferris Rd., Dunn Rd., Woods Rd., Waubascon Rd., and Lucas Rd.
- Nothing yet on studies from County Equalization
- Tax Tribunal . nothing new.

Fire Report – Fire Chief Pete Dunn

- 42 incidents in August for a total of 328 incidents year to date.
- 31 MFR in August, 240 MFR year to date.
- Training: Team Building and Pump Training (Drafting)
- Personnel changes: None
- Current Membership: 19 Active, 4 probationary, 2 cadets.
- Department Activity: 4 members completed EMR class and passed. Jace Brown, Bernice Holcomb, Isaac Miller and Clay Vanderkodde
- The RAM truck is now in the shop for modifications.
- The Boy Scouts will be holding a memorial at the Fire Dept. memorial flag pole on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 9:00 a.m. The public is invited. Need announcement on our sign.

Next Quarterly Meeting of the Township Board and JFD Officers is October 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Report - Bruce Campbell

- Working on annual budgeting process
- Farm Land PA116 properties
- Court house getting new parking lot
- HVAC maintenance

New Business:

- Resolution #2021-9-1 L-4029 . Resolution #2021-9-1 was offered by board member Warren and supported by board member Powell to be adopted. Upon roll call vote, the following voted Ayes: 5, Nays: 0. Nickerson-yes, Babcock-yes, Powell-yes, Warren-yes, Earl-yes.

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

- Barry County Road Commission . a letter of support requested for ARPA funds from the county. A motion was made by Powell to provide the requested letter of support to the Road Commission. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.
- Banfield Cemetery . clean up. During a recent visit to the cemetery with the Sexton, we discussed the clean-up involving the old shed foundation. Garrett stated that they would be able to cap that foundation to provide us with a slab. This would allow us to install the benches and solar lighting as we have previously discussed. The board is in favor of proceeding with this update. Additional information will be provided to the board as received.
- Pete's Retirement: We will be holding a community-wide ice cream social in honor of Pete Dunn retiring Fire Chief. This event will be held on October 17th at 1:00 p.m. We will contact the local newspaper to interview Pete and will advertise this event several times in The Reminder.

Old Business:

- Sleepy Hollow: Nothing new. Table until we hear from the residents.
- Long Lake Ordinance Update: Advised by the lawyer that we will need to contact the DNR to have them assist with the wording on the Ordinance if we decide to make a change. There are multiple changes needed to bring this up to date. Last conversation with residents included the need for additional signatures to proceed. It was decided by the board to table this until we have additional contact by the residents.

Pay Invoices and Payroll:

A motion was made by Powell to pay the bills in the amount of \$25,145.66 as presented. Seconded by Warren. All ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Citizen's Comments: None

Clerk added info on the Mobile Market. The second distribution was completed yesterday with a turnout of 14, an increase of 2 over prior distribution. The Blue Zone will be mailing a postcard out to our residents for the distribution hoping to get more people participating. The next distribution date is: September 21st. Flyers are available on the sign-in table.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Warren to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Seconded by Powell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Attested to by:
Barbara Earl
Supervisor



Sheri Babcock, Clerk