

BURR OAK TOWSHIP MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 9, 2017

6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Gould, J.J. Wells, G. Letts, M. Perry, R. Baker

VISITORS: B. Greshaw, D. Hutson, T. Cronkite, R. Ultz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Baker and supported by Perry to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Letts and supported by Wells to approve the minutes of the December meeting. Motion passed.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CORRESPONDENCE: G. Letts reported that the new facility for the SJC Road Commission is having an open house January 24th, at 6:00 pm. The Board is invited.

J. Wells read a letter from our township attorney, Lance Thornton, stating he will be raising his hourly rates, effective April 1, 2017. His rate is increasing from the current \$150/hour to \$170/hour. The last increase was approved February 3, 2014 up \$10.00 from \$140 to \$150.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The following account balances were reported:

Money Market	\$ 51,367.78	(with sales tax check amounting to \$23,816.00)
Checking	<u>\$ 4,880.93</u>	
	\$ 56,248.71	

A motion was made by Baker and supported by Perry to receive the report and place it on file. Motion passed.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT:

D. Hutson explained regulations regarding the AMAR report received from the State of Michigan. The Board of Review minutes failed only because a "reason" must be stated to meet state requirements. Dale also asked for a raise in his wages. He gave each board member a breakdown of the CPI increases over the past five years. Dale currently is receiving \$1309.00 monthly. The board will discuss his request at their March Budget Work Session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The roof leak in the office was repaired by the roofing company and we were told to keep an eye on the fire department side after a rain for any leaks that may appear. None were apparent during their visit.

Keys to the building were changed by C.L. Fish, Locksmith. He made 3 master keys and 10 auxiliary keys as well as 2 sets of keys for the file cabinets in the office. We are now using a sign out procedure for keys needed for meeting purposes, etc. When individuals are done using the hall, the key is to be placed outside in the lock box.

NEW BUSINESS:

A Budget Work Session will be Tuesday, March 28th, at 6:00 pm. The Budget Hearing will be Saturday, April 1st at 9 am.

The 2017 Township Board meeting dates have been set and approved with 2 changes: July 3rd will be held the 10th of July (due to the holiday) and September 4th will be the 11th of September (due to the holiday). All other meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. Changes will be posted on our website and the Sturgis Journal will be contacted accordingly. Baker made the motion to approve the changes, supported by Gould. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cemetery: B. Greshaw reported on cemetery burials and number of lots sold. Last year (2015) we had 21 burials compared to 25 burials and 14 cremations in 2016. In 2015 we sold 2 lots compared to 22 lots in 2016.

Planning Board: The next meeting will be held January 16th. The board is seeking an additional member as well as alternate member for the Board of Review.

Fire Department: M. Gould reported on the purchase of a fire truck for the Township Fire Department. The total purchase price of the used truck is \$55,000 from the Albion Fire Department. The truck was inspected and found to be in very good condition. The cost of the truck will be split between the Village and Township.

Ambulance: no report given

PAYMENT OF BILLS: A motion was made by Wells and supported by Letts to pay bills amounting to \$27,061.00. A roll call vote was taken; all members voted to approve. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33p.m. (Next meeting will be February 6th)

Jacquilyn Wells

Township Clerk