

Girard Township
1009 Marshall Rd.
COLDWATER, MI
February 6, 2017
REGULAR MEETING

Supervisor Gene Easterday called the meeting to order @ 7:00 P.M. Present besides Easterday were, Clerk Kathy Weigt, Treasurer Julie Waterbury, Trustee Candy Cox, Trustee George Baker. Note: Approx. 13 public attendees.

Additions to the agenda: Trustee Appointment, Land Lease recommendation

Commissioner Terri Norris gave a brief report on current activities: Count is down on Female prisoners.

Pro-Medica has purchased Branch County Community Health Center. Operations take over maybe as soon as Oct. 1, 2017.

An informational meeting was held by Senator Mike Shirkey regarding the roads and safety hazards of the Amish Community. Concerns and possible solutions were being gathered. Senator Shirkey is planning to have another meeting in the future.

Trustee Candy Cox spoke of the seven applicants who applied for the Township Trustee position. After reviewing the applications, and careful thought a decision was reached. **Trustee Candy Cox made a motion to appoint George Baker as Trustee. Supported by Treasurer Julie Waterbury. Roll Call Vote: Clerk Kathy Weigt- Yes, Supervisor Gene Easterday- Yes, Treasurer Julie Waterbury- Yes and Trustee Candy Cox- Yes. Motion Carried.** Trustee George Baker was sworn in by Clerk Kathy Weigt to serve until 2018 where he will have the option to run for re-election. Mr. Baker took his chair as trustee in the meeting.

Motion made by Clerk Kathy Weigt to approve the January 3, 2016 minutes as presented Supported by Trustee Candy Cox. Motion Carried. 5 Ayes, 0 Nay.

Motion by Clerk Kathy Weigt to pay the Bills Due. Supported by Supervisor Gene Easterday. Motion Carried. 5 Ayes, 0 Nay.

Motion by Clerk Kathy Weigt to place the financial report on file as presented, supported by Treasurer Julie Waterbury. Motion Carried. 5 Ayes, 0 Nay.

Treasurer Julie Waterbury reported approximately 70% of the Winter Taxes have been collected. Deadline due without penalty is February 28, 2017. Settlement Deadline is March 1, 2017. Tax information is now available on our website.

April
Baker's Lawn and Care submitted a new fee rate for the renewal of their contract coming up on ~~March 1~~, 2017. Clerk Kathy Weigt asked the board to look at the current Cemetery fees schedule Girard Township charges in comparison to the new rates being presented. **Treasurer Julie Waterbury made a motion to adjust the Cemetery Fees to offset the upcoming changes. Supervisor Gene Easterday supported. Motion Carried. 4 Ayes, 0 Nay, 1 Abstain.** The new rates for

grave opening will be: Base Fee- \$500.00; Cremations-\$200.00; Weekends-additional \$200.00; Winter-additional \$50.00 Nov.1 thru Mar. 31.

The lease on the farmland owned by Girard Township will be up for renewal on March 1, 2017. **Supervisor Gene Easterday made a motion to keep the contract at a three- year term and return the acreage back to the original thirty acres instead of the current twenty- five acres which was reduced when the pipeline was being installed. Trustee Candy Cox supported. Motion Carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nay.**

An ad requesting bids will be placed in the newspaper with a deadline by March 1, 2017. The Board reserves the right to accept or reject all bids.

Supervisor Gene Easterday reported: Correspondence is taking place with Fire Chief Rick Sherman to set up and informational meeting regarding the upcoming fire contract renewal and grass truck purchase. Supervisor Gene Easterday is looking at February 28, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. as a meeting date. (Subject to Mr. Sherman's schedule).

First budget workshop is scheduled for March 1, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.-

Assessor Marcia Bail reported: Building permits completed.

Assessment notices will be in the mail by Friday February 24, 2017

AMAR: Marcia drafted a letter with a corrective action plan and sent it to the State of Michigan. The plan submitted is to continue to do reappraisal reviews annually. State of Michigan has not responded whether this will be acceptable.

Marcia still trying to connect with Nick Wheeler (Hillsdale Co. Equalization Department) regarding assistance with the Pictometry and GIS. She has used Google Maps but prefers Pictometry.

March Board of Review is set for March 7, 2017

Board of Appeals is set for March 13, 2017; Hours are (9:00-12:00)- (1:00-4:00p.m.). March 15, 2017 from (2:00p.m.-5:00p.m.) and(6:00p.m.- 9:00p.m.).

Zoning Report:

The case regarding Otto Fields is now out of the hands of Girard Township and placed into the Courts.

Doris Wiegert has been given until May to remove the house on Peacock Dr.

Sextons Report: One burial

Supervisor Gene Easterday entertained the motion to adjourn. Trustee George Baker supported. Adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Meeting was re-opened at 8:48p.m. with all five board members present. Three public attendees. Order of business was to reappoint the following to the Planning Commission Committee.

Trustee Candy Cox made a motion to reappoint Larry Rodgers, Alan Baunoch and Brent Groholske and (one other to be determined) supported by Supervisor Gene Easterday. Motion Carried with 5 Ayes, 0 Nay.

Trustee Candy Cox made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Gene Easterday supported. Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.