

WAKESHMA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Supervisor Gatlin. Members present were Supervisor Gatlin, Clerk Fritz, Treasurer Munn and Trustee Thole. Trustee Bennett was absent. Twelve citizens were present. Chris Hamilton from SCMCCI was also present.

Clerk Fritz made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Treasurer Munn supported. Voice vote; passed. The monthly bill total was \$5282.98.

Trustee Thole made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Clerk Fritz supported. Voice vote; passed.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Judy Struble's horse broke his leg because of gunshots near his pasture and had to be put down. She stated we need different rules and regulations for target practice and shooting that match hunting rules and regulations. They were not shooting into berms and were using AR-15s. The shooting was taking place at the residence near her home. The activity is happening during the day and they walk the street at night. It was stated that citizens can contact the authorities to report that there's a felon that is shooting a gun.

X Avenue has a road counter. Is there a plan to make this a road?

The house next to Heath needs something done. The kids aren't supervised. There is no running water, no electric, and no septic. They are using a solar panel and a generator for power. Chris stated she will get an administrative warrant to check the premises.

Officer Lawrence spoke up from the audience and said that if there is suspected drug activity to call SWET for drug enforcement. SWET is a state-run organization. He also said to call 911 for shootings. It isn't the township's responsibility. He said "we run toward gun fire, not from it!" He also stated that CPS should be dealing with the house next to Heath.

Someone asked about progress on the Yant property. The project is not done. Chris was there on Friday. There are other properties on U Ave that will be looked into also.

OLD BUSINESS: Medical Marihuana Facilities Ordinance; we got opt-in paperwork from the state. There can be 5 growers in each of 3 classes, 15 processors, 15 safety compliance and 15 transports within the township. The township would get 3% from sales. Annual registration fees from between \$2500-\$5,000. They must be on agricultural land. No provisional centers will be allowed. Since medical grade is the only one allowed, it will be under state rules and regulations. Clerk Fritz made a motion to accept the ordinance, Treasurer Munn supported. Roll call vote: Gatlin, yes. Fritz, yes. Munn, yes. Thole, no. Trustee Bennett was absent.

The dangerous buildings hearing took place on October 26th. Those in attendance were township attorney Seeber, hearing officer Leroy, building official Israel, ordinance enforcement officer Priest and building department manager Chris Hamilton.

Summary of properties: café-raised by December 26, hotel-raised by December 26, old masonic building-raised by December 26 and home (old post office)-repairs done by April 15th to make the structure safe. The properties are all deteriorated past their prime from neglect etc. A date needs to be set for hearing to appeal for more time to raze the buildings. They get 20 days after the December 26 deadline to appeal. May set a date for January 15 or wait until February's monthly meeting to address.

Supervisor Gatlin stated that the owner of the school has been contacted and is making plans to tear down and clean up and building also.

Whatever it costs the township to tear down buildings in the township will go against the razed building's property as a lien.

Is there protocol to demolish the buildings? Hire someone to bulldoze. If bulldozed, it does have to be removed from property. Needs to be brought back to a buildable or graded lot. The cost is assessed to the tax bill and if it isn't paid, it goes to county. If it isn't paid to county, it goes to tax sale. If it doesn't sell, it goes to the land bank. The township does not take ownership of the property. It was asked if a well or septic could be put on (smaller) properties. That is up to the health department. The lots could be too small to build on. When the lot gets sold, the township gets their monies returned. Chris explained that everyone complains about the town and how it looks. It's going to cost money, so citizens need to back the board in her opinion.

Tickets for civil infractions with fines are now used to get properties cleaned up. Civil infractions should motivate citizens to clean up their properties.

The house on 42nd with no windows and the old Cree house will be looked into for dangerous buildings.

NEW BUSINESS: Cost recovery ordinance (#48). Chief McMillan explained the ordinance. This is a way to recover expenses for fire expenditures from Consumers Energy or other entities. If there is a false alarm, i.e. a company that has fire come out for a fire call and they do nothing to remedy the situation, they can be fined. Supervisor Gatlin made a motion to accept ordinance 48 with amendment to 4A. Treasurer Munn supported. Voice vote; passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: HHW sent a letter stating the township ran out of money to cover recycling at their facility. Do we want to put more funds toward this? We have paid \$450 this year. Citizens would have to pay \$7 plus the cost per pound for the recycling if we do not add to the fund. Trustee Thole recommended increasing the amount. Supervisor Gatlin made a motion to approve an additional \$150. Treasurer Munn supported. Voice vote; passed.

There is free recycling (regular recycling) on Gembricht Circle off Cork Street. Millcork has an electronics recycling.

ZONING: None

FIRE AUTHORITY UPDATE: Chief McMillan said the fire extinguisher recall is huge. The fire department has nothing to do with that. The plastic parts are defective on these. Approved metal ones will be sent to you if you contact the fire extinguisher company. We have another new hire in the township. The new truck donated by Enbridge will be used for medical calls as well as grass fires. It is 4-wheel drive.

Supervisor Gatlin made a motion to adjourn at 8:22.