

DALLAS TOWNSHIP
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Board Meeting
January 7, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Arens, Gerry
 Feldpausch, Vern
 Koenigs knecht, Therese Schafer, Stephanie
 Schafer, Phil

Guests: Ferguson, Lynn – Essex Twp. Supv.
 Ferguson, Rex – Essex Twp. Trustee
 Mahoney, Steve – Bengal Twp. Supv.
 Patterson, Chris – Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes
 Pohl, Dave – Clinton County Commissioners
 Schafer, Deb – Bengal Twp. Clerk

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Feldpausch at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Guests: Supervisor Feldpausch also recognized the guests listed above.

Minutes of Meeting – December 3, 2013: The board reviewed the meeting minutes. **A motion was made by G. Arens, supported by S. Schafer to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2013 monthly board meeting. Motion carried.**

Additions or Correction to Agenda/Approval of Agenda: **A motion was made by V. Feldpausch, supported by P. Schafer to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

Approval of Bills: **A motion was made by G. Arens, supported by S. Schafer to approve the payment of the following bills as presented. Motion carried.**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expense Description</u>
Consumers Energy	70.00	225 South Main Street - Electric: \$40.52 Gas: \$56.11
Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes,	190.32	Professional services (wind turbines) through 1-1-2014
Grand Traverse Resort	747.00	Hotel Accommodations for MTA Conference (Clerk & Trustee S. Schafer)
Staples Advantage	296.04	Toners & 1000 Envelopes for Assessor (Tax Roll 2014)
Staples Advantage	125.27	Expandable Sorter, Toner for Voter IDs, Clorox for hall - (Election Expenses)
Staples Advantage	171.27	W2s & Env., Manilla Folders, Tape, Organizers"3", Calendar (Clerk Exp)
Village of Fowler	<u>300.00</u>	Yearly contribution towards Village Parks
Total of General Fund Bills	\$1,899.90	
Comlink	110.37	Telephone \$44.82; Internet/Cable \$65.55
Consumers Energy	178.00	257 South Main Street - Electric: \$90.41 Gas: \$108.90
DeLau Fire Services	124.50	Annual Inspection on 7 Fire Extinguishers
Schmitz Service	157.70	Diesel for December
Westphalia FD Operations	<u>450.00</u>	11/13/13 Rescue - Taft Road, 1/2 mile west of Grange
Total of Fire Fund Bills	\$1,020.57	

Public Comments: Township officials from Bengal and Essex Township shared their views regarding an Interim Zoning Ordinance and also correspondence from Governor Snyder regarding 40 decibels on wind turbines being placed in Michigan.

REPORTS:

Fire Dept: V. Feldpausch stated that during the ice storm, 6-8 fire runs were for downed power lines in Bengal, Lebanon & Dallas Townships. Usually an incident number is obtained, however, due to how busy Consumers Energy was, they couldn't obtain an incident number. It may be difficult to get payment for running to these downed lines. He also checked into the January 2013 run involving the person in bankruptcy; the paperwork was written in error as a Dallas Township run and not a Bengal Township run. The fire department has been busy with 25 fire runs since November 1st.

Clerk: T. Koenigs knecht stated that she worked on 3 sample rental agreements for the township hall; completed the December year end payroll; General and Fire Fund Revenue & Expenditure reports and continues to train deputy clerk.

Treasurer: G. Arens has collected \$444,914 of the \$948,162 for 47%; which equates to 666 parcels of 1318 for 50.5%. G. Arens will be teaching P. Hafner next week on the .Net program. Received a bill from the County for Drains-at-Large to be paid by March 1st.

Supervisor: V. Feldpausch has worked with residents on a land division; Greg Armbrustmacher on two property transfers before the end of the year and working with Scott Goerge on discussing remodeling of the south side of the township hall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Wind Turbines: Chris Patterson from Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes, PLC discussed that Forrest Hill Energy is asking for an extension. He stated that the special use permit, under the zoning ordinance after it expires, has to be an unusual circumstance to ask for an extension. However, he stated there's nothing on the agenda that states this. He stated that someone from Dallas Township should attend the Planning Commission meeting to see why they are asking for the extension. He also stated that a representative from each township should point out the standards that are required by the Planning Commission to grant that extension, which would be an unusual circumstance. A written statement could also be given and read at the Planning Commission meeting.

He also stated that they have filed the first document statement to the Court of Appeals. However, they are waiting for the transcript to be filed before this can go to the Court of Appeals. He stated this appeal would not be the cause for any delays for Fowler Farms to move ahead with the placement of turbines.

Mr. Patterson also gave a briefing on their offices' email from December 18, 2013, regarding an Interim Zoning Ordinance and asked for questions from the township board. Township board members had many questions for legal counsel regarding the costs that could be involved with doing their own zoning in the township.

2. Township Hall Rental Policy: T. Koenigs knecht disbursed 3 samples of the township hall rental agreement for Board members to view and encouraged them to bring recommendations to the February meeting. This will be an on-going discussion at future meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. C.A.A.S.A. 2014-15 Proposed Budget: V. Feldpausch discussed the proposed budget for the C.A.A.S.A. **V. Feldpausch made the motion to approve the C.A.A.S.A. 2014-15 Proposed Budget, supported by P. Schafer. Motion carried.**

2. C.A.A.S.A. Capital Budget Scenarios: V. Feldpausch stated that currently the township pays \$2.50 per capita for ambulance service and asked board members if they would support an increase in the per capita amount. There seemed to be Board consensus that they would support an increase if necessary to continue this worthwhile service.

3. Update to County Comprehensive Development Plan: V. Feldpausch stated that the Township Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the plan that Pete Preston drew up for an expansion of our development area that went before the County Planning Commission in 2012. **S. Schafer made a motion, supported by V. Feldpausch to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to update the County Comprehensive Development plan. Motion carried.**

4. County Commissioners Report: Commissioner Pohl stated the end of December is usually quite slow at the County. The budget ended well; the holiday luncheon at the Argo-Liquid facility was well received; electing the chair, vice-chair and committee appointments at the next BOC meeting. He also stated that the Courthouse and Health Department bonds come up in the next few years and the County has money set aside to pay off these bonds; final closing on the Motz Park and the Greenspace Committee will be looking at very frugal ways to make public opportunities at Motz Park.

5. Fire Department Snow Removal: A memo from V. Feldpausch in included in the Board's agenda packet regarding concerns raised about the Village of Fowler staff removing snow from the fire department & township hall parking lots.

6. Budget Amendment: **A motion was made by V. Feldpausch, supported by P. Schafer to increase attorney fees line item 101-266-802-000 to \$25,000. Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

There being no further business, a motion was made by G. Arens, supported by V. Feldpausch to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Koenigs knecht, Twp. Clerk

Upcoming Events:

January 16, 2014 C.A.A.S.A. Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

January 28-31, 2014 M.T.A. Conference

February 4, 2014 Dallas Township Board Meeting