

Minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Members present: Bill Kays, Carl Davis, Barb Fisher, Carmen Fleischauer, and Tom Landis.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Supervisor. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the regular meeting of December 6, 2016 were reviewed and then with a consent Motion by Landis and 2nd by Fleischauer to adopt the minutes as presented. Motion Passed.

Treasurer's report was given showing a balance in the general fund of \$163,005.93. The Treasurer's report will stand as read.

Motion to approve the bills:

Motion by Fleischauer and 2nd by Landis to pay all bill as audited. Motion Passed.

Guests:

Rick Boze, Van Buren County Road Commissioner said the county is trimming trees around the county and doing maintenance as needed.

Fire Department reports:

Sister Lakes Fire Department reported for the month of December there were three (3) calls. One (1) was standby for Keeler, One (1) illegal burn and the last One (1) a disregard fire alarm in Keeler at 60478 Klett Dr.

Keeler Township Fire & Rescue had three (3) first responder calls and five (5) fire calls. One (1) false alarm in Keeler at 60478 Klett Dr., One (1) assist to SLFD on cable lake, One (1) illegal burn, One (1) assist to Hartford Fire Department in city of Hartford, and One (1) cancelled in route to medical call.

Training report the fire chief is asking to send four members to company officer classes at a cost of \$250.00 each, they are Don Bogart, William Hall, Travis Potter and Justinn Bronkala. This is in their budget. Staffing report: the fire chief is asking to terminate Nicholas Quinn from the Fire Department. He has not made any training since August, 2016 and only responded to three calls since August, 2016. After numerous text and phone messages from fire chief and assistant fire chief asking what his plans were, he has yet to set up a meeting or talk to them. He does still have fire department gear and equipment that needs to be turned in. Motion by Landis and 2nd by Fleischauer to terminate Nicholas Quinn from the fire department and get gear and equipment turned in. Motion Passed.

Pride Care report:

None received yet, should be soon.

Van Buren County Deputy Ray Hochsprung report:

Miles driven-469, General Non Criminal Complaints-two (2), Criminal Complaints-three (3), Traffic Complaints-four (4), Blight/Ordinance-one (1), Traffic Stops-thirty-three (33) Misdemeanor Citations-five (5), Speeding Citations-four (4), Other Citations-one (1), Verbal Warnings-thirty-three (33), Misdemeanor Arrests-three (3) x3 Warrant Arrests, Field Contacts-ten (10), Motorist Assists-three (3), Assist to Other Law Enforcement Agencies/Fire/EMS-two (2), Assist to VBCSO-two (2), & Controlled Substances Seized-one (1), and Property Checks-fifty-eight (58).

Zoning Administrator report:

Allyn Anthony reported that the ZBA will meet on January 17th, and the Planning Commission on January 24th.

Legal Update:

Supervisor had submitted a sample township zoning ordinance amendment for Section 18-08 for review. After discussion a Motion by Fleischauer and 2nd by Landis to send this sample to the Planning Commission for review and public hearing if necessary. Supervisor submitted a change of all violations to municipal civil infractions as well.

Sister Lakes Corridor Improvement Authority:

They are working on a website and collecting information that they would like on this website.

Adopt Parking on Township Property:

Review and adopt parking regulations on the township hall parking lot and the most recently acquired property to the east and north side of the township hall. After discussion there was a Motion by Davis and 2nd by Landis to allow daytime parking (no overnight parking) on the north side of Territorial Road from now until April 1, 2017 and that the two parties be informed of this that it will end on April 1, 2017, and they will need to find a different place to park. Motion Passed.

Street Light request:

Supervisor had a request to install a street light at 93937 Madison Ave where pole number V717-98 is. After discussion a Motion by Davis and 2nd by Landis to add this to the street light district. Roll call vote showed Davis, Landis, Fisher, Fleischauer, and Kays all in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.

Appointment of Ray Hochsprung as Code Enforcement Officer:

Motion by Fleischauer and 2nd by Davis to appoint Ray Hochsprung as Code Enforcement Officer. Motion Passed.

2017 Poverty Guidelines and Asset Test for Poverty Exemptions:

Supervisor submitted the property tax poverty exemption guidelines for review. He explained the filing requirements and the income standards and the asset standards. Motion by Fisher and 2nd by Landis to adopt the federal poverty standards guidelines plus 10%. Motion Passed. Motion by Fisher and 2nd by Fleischauer to adopt the asset standards. Motion Passed.

Budget workshop date:

Supervisor is requesting a budget workshop. Motion by Kays and 2nd by Landis to hold a budget workshop on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Motion Passed.

Public comment:

Keith Pitcher read a letter (Tim Pitcher) to the Keeler Township Board with concerns of what the process was to have someone arrested for violation of a zoning ordinance.

Don Blackmond asked that contact be made to Andrews University to seek out people that would be interested in an architectural project.

Carl Davis was not happy with the way the process was handled from the zoning administrator and our deputy Ray Hochsprung that handled the zoning violations of the trailers. He thought we could do a better job.

Correspondence:

Clerk received a notice that Parrett Company is now offering two contract options for our copying and document handling needs. Option #1 is a flat rate of \$27 that covers 1,000 pages per month with any overages billed at \$.025 per page. Option #2 is a yearly contract savings of 10% for \$290.00 that includes 12,000 prints per year. Motion by Fisher and 2nd by Landis to go with Option 2. Motion Passed.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion by Landis and 2nd by Kays to adjourn. Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Submitted by,

Carl F. Davis, Clerk
Keeler Township
January 3, 2017