

FREDONIA TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 28, 2017

Supervisor Damon called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Members present: Supervisor Doug Damon, Clerk Karen Diver, Treasurer Angela Bidwell, Trustees Jerry Diver and Ben Lark. Others present, Sheriff Mat Saxton, George Crandall, Dan Livingston Jr., Dan Livingston Sr., Cindy Thomas, and deputy clerk Dianna Baker.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER – GIVEN BY SUPERVISOR DAMON

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA – Golf Carts

Sheriff Saxton talked about where golf carts can and cannot be on the road way if the speed limit is more than 30 miles per hour. This is a state law.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS REGULAR BOARD MEETING – Motion by Jerry Diver and supported by Angela Bidwell to approve the minutes. Carried. Ben asked about the audit and when and who was doing it. Angela stated that they would use the one that they had two years ago. Next time we need to go with a different one and get bids for the audit. Carried.

READING OF THE BILLS – Read by Karen Diver. Jerry asked why the bill for station #2 was so high and Dianna stated that it was an error on the listing (typed \$810.38), was supposed to be \$70.21 for Consumers Energy at the Fire Station #2. Motion made by Jerry Diver and supported by Ben Lark to pay the bills and any regular bills to be received. Carried

CORRESPONDENCE – NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT – Cindy Thomas inquired about the FOIA that she submitted in April. Has received some but still waiting for other things on the list. Wanted to know when the rest will be received.

REPORTS

FIRE DEPT – Read by Supervisor Damon and placed on file. (FD monthly rpts.)

ZONING – Dianna had one zoning and it was approved.

ORDINANCE ENFORCMENT – Working with a few people on cleaning up their property. Most are working on the problem. The one on 14 ½ Mile Rd has changed hands and the new property owner has been there and it working on cleaning it up.

LIBRARY - Ben talked about the summer things going on at the library. They had 125 children and parents when they had a Batman as a visitor. He came all dressed up. Everyone loved it. It has been 20 years since they moved into the building. They will have a new roof put on without tax payer money. They were able to get a grant to cover all of it.

CEMETERY – No burials this past month.

PLANNING COMMISSION - No meeting this month.

CALHOUN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION - At the last meeting we talked about Trail development and how much are they used. Land owners do not want to give right-of-way. Dan asked a few questions but could not get many answers. We will start working the the County Master plan. They have 5 goals that they want to do. Lady from the Road Dept. talked about what they would have to do for people that walk or bike along the road. They would need to make a bike lane and many business owners in Marshall do not want it. The shoulder of the road would have to be made wider. They feel it should be off the side of the road about 10 feet where both could use it. They would like to make a trail from Albion to Homer but Homer does not want one. M-Dot would like it to be 3 lanes with the center one only for turning? Also, maybe a bike lane a block off the main road for them.

ROAD COMMITTEE – Dan Livingston Jr. stated that Dan Livingston Sr. is no longer on the road committee. Talked about what roads they want to do next.

1. 15 Mile Rd to Marshall Township line. Marshall Twp. will be doing theirs at the same time. It is only about a mile but then it will be completed. We need to put a down payment on it now and it will cost Fredonia around \$17,308.00
2. 18 Mile Rd with Eckford Twp.
3. 12 Mile Rd with Newton Twp.
4. Burlington road mileage was voted down and we do not want to see the same thing happen to us. We want to show that we are working on fixing the roads in our township. Angela will see if we can move some money around to get this done yet this fall.

IT DEPT – Carl is out of town.

OLD BUSINESS - LYON LAKE LOTS. Dianna gave each Board member what Consultant Mark Eidelson sent out to her. It was given out just for information.

NEW BUSINESS – Fire Dept Visa. Phil is going to see if he can get two cards for the Twp. That will help Karen so that she can go buy what is needed for the office and not have to use her own money and then have to be reimbursed.

Sewer Contract - Marshall Twp. and Clarence Township do not have a contract with the City of Marshall. Ben feels we need a contract. Jerry wants to know who will take care of the maintenance. Dan Livingston Sr. the city of Marshall was to send to the Township all funds paid to the city. He went down a few years ago and ask for a copy and it took quite a long time for them to send it to him.

Cindy Thomas asked why their rates are higher than people who live in the city. That should be part of the contract, to include why we pay so much more.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jerry Diver feels we need to wait on the roads. We do not have that kind of money sitting in the bank and we did a great job on our budget this year so I say no. The idea was mentioned about borrowing the money. Jerry said he would rather see the Fire Dept get their turnout coats/gear. It took us a long time to do our budget and it took a long time for us to get to a balanced budget. Once Angela gets the figures done, we can see where we sit. It was asked why can't we give them a check for \$12,000 and then give them the rest when we have it. Dan Jr. stated that weather is the big thing and we may only have a month to do it. If we have it then we need to do the roads. Angela made a motion to make the payment with the understanding that if the money is not in the road fund, then we will not proceed. Motion died with no second.

Dan Sr. talked about the township changing the lights to LED and if we can get the money to help with the cost. It will save money in the long run. Supervisor Damon asked him to check it out for us and come back next month.

Dan Jr. stated that he had noticed that there is lots of money in Fire Truck fund and we could make double payment on it. Who is our attorney now? We will need to find one. Cindy Thomas mentioned a couple of other attorneys that we should look in to.

TRUSTEE COMMENT – Supervisor asked Ben and Jerry if they had anything to say. They had nothing.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion made by Jerry Diver and supported by Angela Bidwell. Carried.