

REGULAR MEETING

December 17, 2013

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

Supervisor Rife called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the pledge to the American flag. Members present: Rife, Grubb, Dickerson, West, Parsons. Approximately 50 residents and interested parties were present. Also in attendance: Township attorney, Abby Cooper from Cooper & Riesterer, PLC. and Township auditor Ken Palka from Pfeffer-Hanniford-Palka company.

Motion to approve agenda as amended. Moved by West. Support by Parsons. Motion passed.
Additions to agenda: Item I 8 – Recommendation for Alternate Member for Board of Review, Item I 9 – Recommendation for Re-Appointment of Members to Planning Commission.

Motion to approve minutes from November 19, 2013 Board meeting. Moved by Parsons. Support by West. Motion passed.

Motion to approve minutes from December 2, 2013 special meeting. Moved by Dickerson. Support by Parsons. Motion passed.

Call to Public brought no response.

Supervisor Rife and Clerk Dickerson shared information from communications they have received.

Motion to approve 2012-2013 township audit report. Moved by Dickerson. Support by West. Motion passed. Auditor, Ken Palka, commented on the 2012-2013 township audit. He identified and explained matters reported in the audit including: fund accounting and budgets, excess cash in the current tax fund, approval of invoices for payment, assessing services – contract or employee, receipting procedures – hall rental, filing of vendor's invoices, payroll – hourly employees, payroll for meetings (per diem), payroll filings and 1099's. He reported that Conway Township is in very good financial position.

Motion to table action regarding moratorium on the drilling operations in township until township attorney has the opportunity to consult with FLOW (For the Love of Water) organization and determine the process that would result in the most benefit for Conway Township. Moved by Parsons. Support by West. Motion passed.

Township attorney, Abby Cooper, described moratoriums, and explained the required process to achieve the most effective results. She also discussed the services offered by FLOW and costs, including considerations if partnering with other townships.

Motion to form an advisory committee to include three township residents to work with the township Board, Planning Commission and FLOW to gather information and develop the ordinances necessary to move forward with a possible moratorium and for this advisory committee to be dissolved when the task is accomplished. Moved by Dickerson. Support by West. Motion passed.

Motion for Conway Township to contract with FLOW for consultation and guidance regarding effective ways to deal with fracking concerns, including an informational presentation to take place on earliest available date at Fowlerville Junior High School auditorium and two hands-on workshops at Conway at a cost of \$5,000 plus travel expenses. Moved by Dickerson. Support by West. Motion passed.

Motion to provide FLOW with current township ordinance information along with other suggestions from township. Moved by Parsons. Support by Rife. Motion passed.

REGULAR MEETING

December 17, 2013

Page -2-

Members discussed resuming the township emergency preparedness team.

Updates provided for zoning administration, planning commission, fire authority, and recreation representative. The current zoning administrator, Jeff Soli, is planning to resign due to lack of time to perform the duties. Mike Stock, recreation representative, requested that a board member join him in attending the county-wide recreation meeting in January. He also requested the questionnaire provided to Conway Township from Community Recreation be completed and returned to him.

Updates provided by Supervisor Rife and Clerk Dickerson. Rife reported that he researched for competitive propane prices and the recent fill came from Lansing Fuel & Ice Company. He was advised that spring would be a good time for price opportunities. Clerk Dickerson announced that the township hall would be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas days. Supervisor Rife reported that the oil company drilling site has shut down and now samples will be tested to determine future activity at the site. If activity at the site resumes it will be after frost laws are off in the spring of 2014.

Motion to approve financial report as presented. Moved by Parsons. Support by West. Motion passed. Treasurer Debra Grubb explained corrected reports provided to members. She noted that bank records were accurate and it was just the reports that needed corrections.

Motion to appoint resident Monica McBride as alternate member of township Board of Review. Moved by Rife. Support by Dickerson. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Monica McBride's attendance at state workshop in February to receive training related to Board of Review duties. Moved by Rife. Support by West. Motion passed.

Motion to reinstate Scott Buell and Londa Horton as township Planning Commissioners. Moved by Rife. Support by Parsons. Motion passed.

Call to Public brought forth resident Herman Yost providing contact information for anyone with an interest in CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). He also reported on a recent televised news item regarding tainted water supply related to fracking. Resident Ed Weber suggested requiring oil companies setting up operations here to establish an escrow account to cover cost of problems that might result from their operations. Resident Margaret Pelkey suggested keeping residents apprised of progress on the fracking issue through a newsletter or posting updates on the township website. Resident Jeff Hodge suggested establishing a bond to support possible road repair costs resulting from oil company operations. He referred to information in the Master Plan suggesting residents would prefer to avoid commercial/industrial activities in Conway Township and related this to the oil company activities. He also noted the importance of acting proactively rather than after a hazardous accident occurs. Other concerns included further inquiry about CERT.

Motion to approve disbursements as presented. Moved by Parsons. Support by West. Motion passed. Check #9121 through #9160. Total of \$27,635.39.

Motion to adjourn meeting. Moved by Parsons. Support by West. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Cindy Dickerson, Conway Township Clerk

Kathleen Ruttman, Deputy Clerk