

**Hillsdale Township Board Minutes**  
5/10/2016 Regular Meeting  
Township Fire Station Hillsdale MI 49242

**Board Members Present:** Keefer, Sullivan, Emery, Marsh **Absent:** Lantis

**Guest:** Jack McLain, Ruth Brown, Shean Donihue, Jack TenEyck, Joe Sanford, Brennon Balcom, State Police Troopers Andy Stoner & Brian Hansen, Steve Spahr, Dave Braxmaier, and a few members of the Fire Department

After a tour of the Station, Supervisor Sullivan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:44 pm. She welcomed guests to the Fire Station and she thanked the Fire Fighters and Fire Board members for the tour and popcorn.

**Motion** to approve meeting agenda Marsh/Keefer 4-0

**Scheduled Guests:** **Andy Stoner** from the Jackson Post of the Michigan State Police introduced himself and Trooper **Brian Hansen**. He stated the even though the Jonesville post is closed to the public, Hillsdale County is still very important to the Troopers. Statistics were provide on certain crimes and they took questions.

**Brennon Balcom** is running for County Treasurer. He currently works in the County Clerk's office and updated us on the status of the ballots for the upcoming August election. His goal for the Treasurer's office is to modernize and make info available via web pages.

**Ruth Brown**, County Commissioner provided her report via email. She also commented on Brennon's current work responsibilities but noted as a Commissioner she wasn't endorsing any single candidate.

**Public Comment:** None

**Correspondence:** A letter of understanding for our 2016 audit was received from Greg Bailey. Motion to have Greg Bailey perform the audit: Marsh/Sullivan 4-0. Sullivan will drop off the contract and pick up the list of info needed. A thank you note was received from Domestic Harmony. USDA provided a program guide for rural development. This was passed on to the Fire Board for possible grants. Also info was received concerning the sale of the local hospital to another local entity. Sullivan will ask Greg Bailey about it.

**Consent Agenda:**

This month's payments were presented by Marsh: \$9,110.40

Board minutes of the 4/12/2016 were accepted with one correction Sam should be Tim.

Planning Commission minutes were reviewed.

ZBA minutes were reviewed

Fire Board report was reviewed.

**Treasurer's report:** No info provided

**Motion to approve consent agenda Marsh/Emery 4-0**

**Old Business:** New website is still a work in process.

HTFD millage proposal: Marsh provided examples of what the Waldron School Board put together for their recent bond proposal. Suggested that similar info as far as examples of how much it would cost a homeowner be available to put in our summer newsletter. Also, a newspaper article providing details should be in the paper before absentee ballots go out. Discussion took place on who can say what and when.

Trash day is this Saturday. Sullivan did receive a one word acknowledgment from Republic Waste. She will follow up.

**New Business: None**

**It was suggest by Joe Sanford that future agendas have a place for the PC and ZBA Chairmen to update the Board**

**Zoning Officer's report:** Jack McLain provided info on recent zoning permits and one that needs followed up on. Then he and Joe Sanford explained a recent variance that the ZBA approved. There was some question on the procedures and clarification was provided for the future. Sanford explained some of this would be cleared up once the Ordinance was brought up to date. They also explained a recent request for a property line move. Discussion also took place about the recent joint meeting of the PC and the ZBA. Sullivan will check with the MTA to see if each has to have their own meeting time or can they be jointly held. Marsh pointed out the each has its own unique responsibility and that we may need to obtain outside guidance in defining the roles.

**Sexton's Report:** Two lot sales and on burial, the grass has been rolled and weed control spray has been done. A master gardener will check the condition of the plants. Sanford also suggested work is needed along the Hall fence row. Marsh thought that Trustee Keefer had already done that. Keefer and Sanford will confer on the subject.

**HTFD:** The annual dinner was held at the Hall on April 16<sup>th</sup> and they enjoyed the location. The Fire Board recommend "donating" the old jaws of life to the Reading Fire Department. The Board deferred that decision to the Fire Board. A sample drug policy was provided for the Board to review before the next meeting. Dave Braxmaier presented the annual check from Cambria Township in the amount of \$25,000.00. Sullivan will make sure it gets to Lantis for deposit. We will need a need a new contract for next year.

**Public Comments:** Shean Donihue told about his experience in getting Republic Waste to correct his annual billing. It took some work be they did fix it. We applaud his efforts! It was suggested that the rates be posted in our newsletter again so people can check their bills.

**Motion** passed to adjourn at 8:44 Keefer/Marsh 4-0

Respectfully Submitted, James Marsh

