

Hillsdale Township Board Minutes

03/14/2017 Regular Meeting

Hillsdale, MI 49242

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

Guests: Jack McLain, Ruth Brown

Supervisor Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:33pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Public Hearing was opened. Notices were in the Hillsdale Daily News, on our website and posted at the hall. Sullivan guided the Board and the public through the budget. Trustee Emery questioned why the recent grant expenses came from the fire department budget. Marsh pointed out that if we didn't have the fire department we wouldn't have had the expense. Emery felt that any benefit from the grants would be for the whole township not just the fire department. Sullivan indicated that if the fire department budget fell short of the \$4000 then we could adjust. With no further questions from the Board or the public the following motions were presented:

Motion to accept the 2017-2018 general budget Lantis/Keefer 5-0

Motion to accept the 2017-2018 Fire Department budget Keefer/Lantis 5-0

Motion to set aside \$47000.00 in the Fire Department budget for future fire truck purchase Marsh/Keefer 5-0

Motion to maintain all current tax rates for the 2017-2018 year Sullivan/Keefer 5-0

Motion for adjustments to the 2016-2017 budget as presented by Sullivan Keefer/Marsh 5-0

Motion to approve the agenda Sullivan/Keefer 5-0

Comments from Scheduled Guests: None

Ruth Brown provided the county commissioner report via email

Correspondence: There will be a meeting with Kevin Dekker, insurance agent, on Wednesday March 22nd at 1:30 pm. Marney Kast, County Clerk sent information on the new voting machines. The cost this time will be covered by the state however, the costs could be shifted back to the local governments in 10 years which she estimated could be \$20,000.

Consent Agenda:

This month's payments presented by Marsh: \$37,439.82 which includes the FD and assessor's payroll and insurance Board Minutes of 02/14/2017 were approved

Planning Commission and ZBA Minutes were reviewed

Fire Board Minutes were reviewed

Treasurer report provided by Lantis: \$644,385.38, 93% of taxes were collected and new software may be needed

Motion to approve consent agenda: Sullivan/Marsh 5-0

Old Business: Prior to the meeting Supervisor Sullivan signed multiple grant requests that were prepared by Synergy Leadership Development (JJ Hodshire). They included Weatherwax, Herrick Foundation, CARLS Foundation and USDA. FEMA applications will be accepted latter this year. Timetables on results vary.

New Business:

Motion to sign the Cambria Fire Coverage Contract for 6 years at \$25,000 per year Marsh/Sullivan 5-0

Motion to sign the Domestic Harmony Contract for the next fiscal year at \$250.00 Sullivan/Marsh 5-0

A letter from Sheriff Parker concerning dog kennels was reviewed. We will respond indicating that residents would first have a permit from the Township and then they would contact the Sherriff's department.

Motion to accept the 2017, 7 month mowing contract from B & A Lawn Services Marsh/Keefer 5-0

Motion to accept the 2017 Road Commission Contracts for Hallett, Lake Wilson, Cole, and gravel patch Sullivan/Lantis 5-0. The mineral brine contract still needs to be received and signed.

Trustee Keefer asked the Board about attending the annual MTA conference. He does have an interest in going but the Board felt that the estimated \$1000 for the full conference was quite high for the benefit. There was support of his attendance for one of the days.

Zoning Officer Report: McLain said there was little new activity. Just a new pole barn on South Sand Lake Road. The hot tub/pool business may be going out of business and he would like a review of all permit charges. It will be on next month's agenda.

Sexton Report: Sanford was not available. Keefer reported that recent tree damage at King Lake is in the process of being cleaned up. There was a request on if someone was buried at King Lake. Keefer suggested receiving a quote on mapping the grave sites so info would be available.

HTFD Report: McLain reported that "things are going good". Interviews have been conducted for new firefighters, new air tanks have been purchase at an excellent price and the trucks are being maintained and repaired by a new DOT certified garage.

Planning Commission: Sanford was not available. The city would like to meet as soon as possible in a joint meeting concerning our joint rec plan and the Headwaters wants us to amend our Master Plan to include them.

Other Public Comments: Commissioner Brown described the positive direction the county board is moving in.

Motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm.

Keefer/Emery 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

James Marsh Clerk