

GRAFTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
RESCHEDULED due to weather 2-17-2014
New date: MONDAY, February 24, 2014 7:30 p.m.

1. Supervisor Kearns called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Trustees Holtorf, Wagner, Zirk and Ziller; Supervisor Kearns; Road Commissioner Poznanski; Assessor Zielinski; Clerk Francis. Absent: None.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

4. Approval of Agenda as posted

Motion by Trustee Wagner, second by Trustee Holtorf to approve the agenda as posted.

Ayes: Trustees Wagner, Holtorf, Ziller, Zirk; Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

5. Regular Business

A. Approval of Minutes of January 20, 2014 Township Regular Meeting.

Motion by Trustee Wagner, second by Trustee Holtorf to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2014 Regular Meeting with the correction of a typo in item #8 New Business because Trustee Wagner is listed as a voice vote twice and Trustee Holtorf was not listed.

Ayes: Trustees Wagner, Holtorf, Ziller, Zirk; Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

B. Audit and Payment of unpaid bills/Warrant check detail for Town Fund.

Supervisor Kearns stated that since this meeting was delayed from its normal start date of February 17th. the additional, new warrant list in front of the trustees includes all bills slated to be paid through February 2014.

Motion by Trustee Wagner, second by Trustee Holtorf to approve both lists of unpaid bills/warrant check list for payment, with the exception of Otteson-Britz \$42,869.68 which is on hold. Exhibit I

Ayes: Trustees Wagner, Holtorf, Ziller and Zirk; Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

C. Review Road and Bridge Warrant check detail.

Motion by Trustee Wagner, second by Trustee Ziller to approve the Township Road and Bridge bills as detailed in the warrant list. Exhibit II

Ayes: Trustees Wagner, Ziller, Holtorf, Zirk; Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

6. Public Comment/ Board Members Response to Public Comment Exhibit III

Loretta Wuich wanted to know about the levy increase and whether or not we voted on it. She feels that an increase would be a burden on some property owners. Supervisor Kearns explained that there was a hearing and that the levy is on new construction and that the levy is simply a request and we don't know if we will get it or not.

Dave Knutsen stated that he is present to support the new assessor's request for new computers. He stated that the computers they are currently using are extremely slow and make it difficult to do the job in a timely manner.

James Burke stated that he has worked for 12 years in the assessor's office and that he is present to show support for Al Zielinski.

Al Zielinski requested that we post the sign from the regarding conceal and carry policy.

7. Old Business

A. Safe Deposit Box location change

Clerk Francis stated that the current safe deposit box is at BMO Harris and that when it is up for renewal in May she will move it to American Community.

B. Change date of April Regular Meeting to April 14, 2014

Motion by Trustee Ziller, second by Trustee Holtorf to change the date of the Township Regular meeting to April 14, 2014
All Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carries.

8. New Business

A. Discussion and potential action to amend the Town Fund Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of 2013-2014.

Supervisor Kearns stated that the need to amend the budget by line item is due to the board compliance with Grafton Township Resolution 2010ATM-01 to unwind the sale of township property to the road district, at a cost to the township of \$300,000. This expenditure was not factored into the current budget so there is a need to amend it. The bottom line will not change. Supervisor Kearns will post the revised worksheet.

B. Assessor's Request for a Township Transfer of Appropriation

Assessor Zielinski stated concern that the computer systems in the Assessor's office are decades old and very slow. He already lost two very qualified employees and fears that the office will lose more if conditions don't improve. The budget cuts that Supervisor Kearns is proposing will make it impossible for him to make the upgrades. Supervisor Kearns stated that he is basing his budget allocations on historical numbers but that he agrees the upgrades are needed. Supervisor Kearns asked Assessor Zielinski to re-examine his request for upgrades to determine what is necessary immediately and what can wait until June. They examined the proposal line item by line item and agreed upon items that could not wait. The expenditure for upgrades in this budget will be held to under \$10,000 and will be taken out of next year's budget.

9. Executive Session

Motion by Trustee Ziller, second by Trustee Holtorf to convene an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and personnel involving the Township pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11) at 9:17 pm.

Ayes: Trustees Ziller, Holtorf, Wagner, Zirk; Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None

Supervisor Kearns called the regular meeting to return to order at 9:49 pm.

Present: Trustees Holtorf, Wagner, Zirk and Ziller; Supervisor Kearns; Road Commissioner Poznanski; Assessor Zielinski; Clerk Francis. Absent: None.

10. Committee and Officer Reports

Supervisor

Supervisor Kearns stated that due to the increasing concern about the budget, he is cutting everything that is not immediately necessary.

Supervisor Kearns say that he is wondering what the board should do with the Township lot on Haligus road. When a potential interested buyer inquires about the lot, the Village of Lake In The Hills says they cannot build on it because it is zoned for municipal purposes. He would like to add a discussion on the next meeting agenda and in the meantime: 1. Get direction from a realtor on what makes the most sense. 2. Have the township attorney explore possible options legally. 3. Find out if we have to mow it. At the previous annual meeting the residents adopted a resolution to sell it a price of \$99,500.

Trustee

Audit Committee

Trustee Wagner referred to the draft of the audit policy. He has checked with the Township attorney and is satisfied that it is legal and is consistent with current policy. He has not received any comments from the trustees. Trustee Ziller asked about the nepotism policy.

Assessor

Assessor Zielinski thanked the board for listening to his earlier appeal for budget to upgrade systems.

Road District

Road Commissioner Poznanski stated that he re-worked the interior and the exterior lights. He replaced the bulbs with LED's to make them more efficient. Sees a need to upgrade the electric box and got an estimate from Amwood contracting for \$4,278.00.

Clerk

Clerk Francis informed the board that she has received approval from the *state* for the disposal of all records she requested. She also stated that she has begun planning for the annual town meeting on April 8, 2014.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Holtorf, second by Trustee Wagner to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 pm.

All Ayes. No Nays. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted,
Township Clerk Kathryn Francis

This agenda was prepared by the Township Clerk in accordance with the direction of the Township Board Rules. This notice and posting may only be removed by Grafton Township Clerk Kathryn Francis.