

ECKFORD TOWNSHIP of CALHOUN COUNTY

September 16, 2019

Supervisor Rapp called the regular meeting of the Eckford Township Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Others in attendance were Clerk Hinkley, Treasurer Baylis, Trustee Cornell, D. Malloch, B. Haeske, M. Frohm and A. & L. Blight.

ABSENT: K. Lawrence

Supervisor Rapp led the group in the pledge and Trustee Cornell gave the invocation.

CLERK MINUTES

A copy of the minutes have been sent to the board by Clerk Hinkley. A motion was made by Trustee Cornell to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting and supported by Treasurer Baylis. **CARRIED**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Supervisor Rapp gave the financial statement for August .

RECEIPTS	\$ 3,010.49
DISBURSEMENTS	\$23,703.53
BILLS TO PAY	\$14,873.35

Trustee Cornell made a motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Clerk Hinkley seconded the motion. **CARRIED**

HOMER AREA FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT

Given by B. Rapp, there is \$11,122.95 in the Savings, \$82,021.05 in the Checking and \$60,239.29 in the CD. Eckford had 6 runs last month.

MARENGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief A. Blight, no activity.

MARSHALL FIREFIGHTERS AMBULANCE

Given by W. Cornell, Eckford had 2 runs in July and 7 runs in August. They went over the audit report. The call volume is up. They are looking at a more formal agreement with Life Care Ambulance service for mutual aid. They have also entered into an agreement with Tekonsha Township as the township is looking into a new building to house their township offices, fire dept. and an area for the ambulance.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Given by D. Malloch, permits for the 7000 block of 22 Mile Road for a sun room. The Cunkle's have started their pole building without any permits. They will be working with Building Inspector Buller to get the permits necessary. The Malinowski's on Division Drive are looking at a variance for a saw mill. Mr. Percival's variance was denied and he states he has no where else to live. He is looking into getting a camper to stay in for a while. Then he will build an apartment in the pole building that he wants to build.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT

Given by D. Malloch, Jerry Hulling on D Drive South, the township is going to have to have the property cleaned up and then add the cost to his property taxes. D. Malloch will see who we can hire to clean-up his property. Mr. Newsome needs to have his property mowed, so the township will hire someone to mow it and add it to his taxes. D. Malloch will check again on the Stewart's property. The Mulls and the Butlers are at the point of having someone else do their clean up and add it to their taxes as well. D. Malloch will check in with the attorney and see how to proceed according with our ordinance.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Given by M. Frohm, the PC held their yearly inspection at the Kiessling's gravel pit. There is a lot of material to be excavated yet. They added a conveyor and a couple of graders. The site remains clean and neat.

LIBRARY REPORT

Given by M. Frohm, the library made \$1100 from their book sales during the Home Tour weekend. There will be another John Bellairs program at the Cronin House. A local person contacted the Library Director, Angela and they donated \$10,000 to the library. The library is looking into a reading program, possibly with the Dolly Parton reading program. This money should run it for several years.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None (Brent Thelen, CCGIS comments are under New Business)

COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Hinkley shared that MTA on the Road is coming up. If anyone is interested in going please let her know tonight to get signed up.

OLD BUSINESS

Roads, Commissioner Miller hasn't heard anything about a decision as to whether the county board will allow the township to pave Orchard Drive. Treasurer Baylis shared that the Road Dept. came out and fixed a lot of the issues on Orchard Drive. The money we budgeted for this year to repave Orchard Drive, we can use towards next year's advancements, they don't allow us to privately pave it.

Clerk Hinkley presented two other prices for laptops and they all run about the same price. The big extra cost is going to be the time for the IT company to switch everything over to the new computer and getting it set up. Trustee Cornell made a motion to approve the purchase of a new laptop computer, along with the programming and warranty package quoted from CRT for \$2,030.22. Treasurer Baylis second the motion. **CARRIED**

Street Lights Tax Increase for Stuart Lake residents, Treasurer Baylis shared that the special assessing statement that was approved many years ago covers future increases according to the township attorney. This increase will not cover all of the increased cost to the township from Marshall City for the lights but it will be the majority of it. Treasurer Baylis made a motion to approve the tax increase to the Stuart Lake Street Lights by 10% which will amount to \$28.93 per parcel, starting on the 2019-2020 winter tax roll. Trustee Cornell seconded the motion. **CARRIED**

A Roll Call Vote: YEA: W. Cornell, K. Hinkley, B. Rapp, T. Baylis
NAY: NONE
ABSENT: K. Lawrence

NEW BUSINESS

Tax Data Base Fee, Treasurer Baylis shared that she can charge up to a \$1 per parcel for the tax data base use. Trustee Cornell made a motion to approve a charge of a \$1 per parcel fee for the tax roll data file. Clerk Hinkley seconded the motion. **CARRIED**

A Roll Call Vote: YEA: K. Hinkley, B. Rapp, T. Baylis, W. Cornell
NAY: NONE
ABSENT: K. Lawrence

Delinquent Personal Property, Treasurer Baylis shared that she has contacted Attorney John Sullivan about delinquent personal property taxes for Jared Darling. Attorney Sullivan will contact Mr. Darling to get him to pay for his 2018 personal property taxes.

Calhoun County GIS, Brent Thelen came to share about the option for the township to opt in or opt out to have the county do a flyover to update the GIS mapping. The assessor's use the oblique type of mapping to help them with their parcel assessments. The township would have to pay to have this type of mapping done. The last time the Calhoun Co. Dispatch Authority paid for it. It did not work for them as they had hoped so they

will not pay for it this time around. The mapping would take place this next spring. Eckford Township would pay \$2590.13 a year for the next three (3) years, if we opt into this mapping for the township. They do these types of flyover mappings every 5 years. Supervisor Rapp shared that he will talk to the assessor again about this and the board will make a decision at next months meeting.

Supervisor Rapp shared that the Stuart Lake Association's yearly meeting is this Wednesday the 18th of September at 6 p.m. They are discussing weed control for the lake and would like any of the township board members to be there to hear their discussion, if they are available.

Variances, the cost of a variance is \$150 right now. The township's costs they incur for a variance are more than the \$150. Treasurer Baylis made a motion to increase the cost of a variance from \$150 to \$185. Trustee Cornell seconded the motion. **CARRIED**

A Roll Call Vote: YEA: B. Rapp, T. Baylis, W. Cornell, K. Hinkley

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: K. Lawrence

ADJOURNMENT

Was made at 8:04 p.m. by K. Hinkley.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kimberly A. Hinkley
Eckford Township Clerk

Bruce Rapp
Eckford Township Supervisor

APPROVED