

MIDDLE BRANCH TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Monday July 10, 2017 7:00 pm

Supervisor Patrick Babcock called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call: Peggy Hoard, Patricia Michell, Sarah Blackledge, Ron Austin and Patrick Babcock.

Guests: Bob Hoard, Lisa Johnson, Patrick & Brenda Leonard, Deb Babcock, Lynne Austin, Carl Lamphere and David Bergey.

Peggy made a motion to approve the agenda with two items added: Principals of Governance & Burnham & Flower Insurance Policy. Patrick 2nd the motion. All in favor and motion passed.

Patrick made a motion to accept the minutes with one correction of Lynne's name from Lynn to Lynne. Sarah 2nd the motion. All in favor and motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: \$56,479.13 in checking, \$23,984.64 Road Millage, \$35,000.00 Huntington CD, \$20,000.00 Members First Credit Union CD, \$10.00 Members First Credit Union savings. Total \$135,473.77.

Ron made a motion to pay the bills: AP checks 5873-5891 and PR checks 6140-6159. Patrick 2nd the motion. All in favor and motion passed.

Old Business:

Patrick asked Peggy to explain how the play scape came into existence. She explained a couple called Sarah wanting to donate \$1,000.00 to the township for play equipment. She referred them to me. I had them come to the township meeting. The meeting results were published in the Marion Press. The Cadillac Kiwanis Club read the article and called me to look at the township grounds. Then they invited me and the donating couple to their meeting in Cadillac. The Kiwanis men then came to the Township meeting and explained their plan. The Board approved the play scape and it was erected.

Bob mentioned a man was going to donate \$5,300 for matting under the play scape until Sarah made a motion that nothing could be donated unless it was approved by the Board, then he withdrew.

Ron brought pictures of signage of at various play areas. He brought an estimate of around \$400.00 for engraved signs from Ron's Engraving in Marion. Peggy mentioned David Duddles would do the sign for \$85.00 installed. Sarah and Patty both had negative reports on Dave. Patrick made a motion to go with Ron's for a sign saying the Cadillac Kiwanis Club donated the play scape and one stating the rules of the play area. Sarah 2nd the motion. All were in favor except Peggy. Motion passed.

Patrick Leonard asked how to donate the \$1,000.00 to the township to be sure the money would be used for two benches, tether ball and other needed items or maintenance of the play area. Patty said he could write the check and that it would be used only for that. He gave her the check.

Patty asked if the only fence going up was the one MDOT was installing. Bob said that it was and that the stakes were in place and MDOT will raise the fence so he can weed whack under it.

Ron reported the new doors were installed on the vault. He has two keys, one for Bob and one for the office. He will drop them off. He asked if the old doors could be stored there until October rubbish days. The Board approved. He needs to get more measurements to the Marion Lumber Yard before the Township doors can be purchased and installed. They will be keyed to the current keys.

New Business:

Peggy made a motion to allow her to donate three picnic tables to the Hall and Bob donate awning, screening and carry bag. Patrick 2nd the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Patrick said his family would like to donate the materials and labor to level the area behind the hall so the picnic tables could sit level and there would be less chance of people tripping. Sarah made a motion to leave the area behind the hall as it is. Ron 2nd the motion. Ron, Patty & Sarah were in favor of the motion. Patrick and Peggy voted no. The motion carried with three yes votes.

57 households brought items to the June 10 Rubbish days. Two families brought several months of their household daily waste to the collection. Peggy made a motion to not allow residents to bring their household waste to rubbish days. Discussion followed. Motion tabled. Peggy will talk with the other townships to obtain what they do.

Patrick made a motion to allow the Leonard's to donate an air pump, utensils and dishes to the township. Peggy 2nd the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Report on the tire collection. Sarah stated someone (not named) told her that two people collected \$3.00 per tire and brought them to the tire collection. She didn't name the two people. Peggy stated unless she had names she couldn't pursue the claim and at this point is just gossip. She reported the collection had to be shut down early due to the semi's being filled by noon Friday. 5,011 tires had been collected. She will have two collection dates next year and 11 semis if she is awarded the DEQ grant.

Blight was brought up and that there were two complaints on one residence. Ron stated the complaints should be in writing. Patty will get the mailing address to Peggy and then Peggy will send a copy of the ordinance and a letter to the residents.

Ron stated that there should only be one space for public comment. Patrick brought up that when a meeting is in session that no Board member should leave. If copies are needed the Deputies can make them. He also reminded the Board that the Supervisor conducts the meetings.

MTA sent the form: Principles of Governance. Peggy made a motion to adopt the policy. Patrick 2nd the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Peggy made a motion to contract with Burnham & Flower and includes the terrorism coverage at an additional \$22.00 a year. Patty 2nd the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed

Dave Bergey asked the Board why the cemeteries aren't mowed more often. Patty and Sarah responded that they are to be mowed every two weeks. Discussion followed.

Additional Business:

Sarah asked if we had additional information on 15 mile road. Patrick said no.

Ron stated a woman is concerned that the base her stone is on at the cemetery has sunk. He asked who is responsible for the repair. He also informed Bob that he has the authority to remove any trees that need to be removed.

Patty stated that Bob is mowing more than what he should. She will meet at the cemetery to show what She is referring to.

Peggy received a FOIA request from American Transparency in Boca Raton, Fl. for employment information in 2016.

Patrick made a motion to adjourn at 9:00. Ron 2nd the motion. All were in favor and motion passed.

Next Meeting September 11, 2017

OCTA meeting Monday August 28th, 7:00 pm at Orient Township Hall. Rick Johnson is scheduled speaker and the topic will be "All about Marijuana".

Respectfully Submitted

Peggy A. Hoard, Clerk

