

WAKESHMA TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 06, 2015 7:00 PM

Clerk Shawn Fritz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board Members Present: Clerk Shawn Fritz, Treasurer Leanne Munn, Trustee Barbara Thole

Board Members Absent: Supervisor Jim Deming, Trustee Trevor Bennett

Number of Township Residents Present: Four

Also present: Christine Hamilton, SCMCCI; Lorna Landrum, President and Danna Downing, Director of South County Community Services

Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk Fritz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting of 3/9/15. There was a motion by Munn, supported by Thole and the motion was unanimously approved.

Clerk Fritz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Final Budget Hearing of 3/9/15. There was a motion by Fritz, supported by Munn and the motion was unanimously approved.

The final tax deposit of \$11,468.32 needs to be added to either the accounting fund balance for 2015 which is \$22,800 or to the cash extra for 2015 which is \$26,686. Since it was unclear as to which it was to be added to, it was decided to table this discussion until the May Board Meeting.

Clerk Fritz asked for a motion to pay the bills listed as of 4/30/15. There was a motion by Munn and supported by Fritz to pay the bills as listed and the motion was unanimously approved.

Clerk Fritz asked Treasurer Munn for the treasurer's report. It is as follows:

General Savings: \$47,174.94; General Checking: \$6,447.55; Tax Checking: \$203.78; Trust & Agency: \$509.23. A motion was made by Thole, supported by Fritz to approve the treasurer's report as given and was unanimously approved.

Citizens Comments: One citizen reported receiving the letter sent by the township regarding the meeting to be held on Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Vicksburg High School Performing Arts Center, 501 East Highway Street, Vicksburg, Michigan, regarding the creation of an emergency services special assessment district for the purpose of defraying some or all of the annual costs incurred by the townships of Brady, Prairie Ronde and Wakeshma to have available and provide fire protection/emergency services through the South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority.

Deb Homan, Chairperson for the Annual Fulton Memorial Day Parade requested a sum of \$500.00 for use for the 2015 parade. Clerk Fritz said the check would be written on April 20, 2015.

Correspondence: Application for a Special Use Permit on property zoned agriculture.

Christine Hamilton from SCMCCI was available to answer questions regarding the fee for a special use permit request. The fee would need to include stipends for members of the planning commission before whom the request would be brought. It would also include attorney fees, posting in the newspaper, and letters to neighboring properties of the date and time of a public hearing. Ms. Hamilton stated when asked what other townships charge that the fee in Brady Township is \$700.00. She also stated that Wakeshma Township should set fees for the Zoning Board of Appeals at some point as well. A motion was made by Munn and supported by Fritz to set the estimated Special Use Permit Fee at \$700.00 and also that the party making application will be advised that if the cost exceeds \$700.00 that they will be billed for the additional amount, or if the cost is less than \$700.00 they would be reimbursed for the excess that was not needed. The amount would be affected as to whether the hearing required a special meeting of the planning commission or could be accomplished at a regular quarterly meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Zoning Enforcement/Ordinance Report-Christine Hamilton was available for discussion regarding this report also. The discussion was about the property located at 14288 South 42nd Street. On October 14, 2014 a compliance order was issued to have this property cleaned up. The residents of the property have failed to accomplish this task. The next step is for the township to hire someone to clean up the property. The cost to do this will be \$4,000.00. This would include four dumpsters, clean-up and removal of the trash on the property at the address named above. This fee would be paid by the township and then be assessed to the owner's property tax bill. Non-payment would force foreclosure of the property. A motion was made by Fritz and supported by Munn to approve an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00 for the cleanup of the property at 14288 South 42nd Street. Any amount over \$4,000.00 would need to come back to the board for further approval. Ms. Hamilton remarked that this action should serve as a notice to the residents of Wakeshma Township that unkempt properties in the township will not be condoned.

Fire Authority Updates-There was no report. The letter which was mailed to residents regarding the meeting on April 16, 2015 to be held in Vicksburg about the assessment was discussed.

Danna Downing from South County Community Services reported on the year end data from South County. She also discussed the annual fundraiser to be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 7:00 PM at St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, 5855 East W Ave., Vicksburg, Michigan. Ms. Downing also spoke of other services available such as the food pantry which is available four days a week and also veteran's services. She announced that Mr. Robert Barton is the new Veterans Service Officer and is ready to serve any veterans that may need assistance.

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A motion was made by Munn and supported by Fritz to adjourn. The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Thole, Trustee at request of Clerk Shawn Fritz, Acting Chairperson in absence of Supervisor Jim Deming.