

PROPOSED MINUTES
AKRON TOWNSHIP BOARD
AKRON TOWNSHIP HALL
October 21, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Schmuck, Ann Allen, Deana Jacoby, Dennis Engelhard
ABSENT: Joe Kata and Zoning Administrator, Jim Gokey

The meeting was opened by Don Schmuck at 7:30 with the pledge of allegiance. The minutes were read. Motion by Don, supported by Dennis to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented for Akron Township. Motion by Don supported by Dennis to approve the report. Motion carried. Balances are:

General Checking: \$7,826.74
Garbage: \$24,441.65
Fish Point Miller #1: \$6,190.48
Fish Point Miller #2: \$1,291.09
Hickory Island: \$756.54
Demorest: \$4,844.89
Tax Account: \$10.23
PNC Money Market: \$100,473.87
Team One Savings: \$50.00
Team One Money Market: \$226,167.22
CD-14 month: \$54,260.94
Total of all Accounts: \$426,313.65

The treasurer's report for ACW Ambulance was presented. Motion by Ann, supported by Don to approve the report. Motion carried. Balances are:

General Checking: \$77,955.48
Memorial Account: \$7,310.30
6 month CD: \$25,163.08
12 month CD: \$50,573.00
Total of all accounts: \$161,001.86

Township payables totaling \$101,269.21 and payroll totaling \$4,077.36 were presented to be paid. Motion by Dennis, supported by Don to pay. Motion carried.

ACW Ambulance payables totaling \$1,757.16 and payroll totaling \$6,426.11 were presented to be paid. Motion by Don, supported by Deana to pay. Motion carried.

Mike Nielsen of Wade-Trim Engineering and John Billet of Civil Engineering were present to answer any questions on their proposal for the water project.

It was reported that Wisner Township has voted to proceed with their project. The cost will be \$8,000 or below with or without a grant. With a grant they will do the full project. Without a grant they will cut a small portion of the route down and they will not have fire hydrants. They are working on the topographical engineering now and they have submitted their full application to Rural Development and are waiting to hear what their final funding will be. They expect to hear from Rural Development by February or March 2011. Wisner has been in communication with the Bay City Water Department

to get a 40 year contract. Wisner's project is including large enough water lines to accommodate Akron Township's project.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the water project for Akron Township. The public spoke very strongly in favor of hiring an engineer and moving forward. Dennis noted he believes we will eventually have a water project and it will cost more in the future than it will now, but he doesn't think this is the time to move forward. There was a question from the public on the board's position on hiring an engineering firm. Don noted that with the withdrawn support on an 80 acre parcel, there may not be enough support for a water project. Ziggy Dworzecki noted that Rural Developments interest rate currently stands at 2.35%, but that amount changes frequently.

It was brought up that Bay Park, Cenzners, Sunset Bay, and Sunglow Subdivisions all have well over 51% of the land area signed in support of a water project and the M-25 people believe they also have over 51%.

John Neuman stated he would raise the money needed to pay for Phase I of the water project.

Ann made a motion to hire an engineering firm. No support.

Ann referred the voluntary special assessment question to rural development and the township's water attorney. Voluntary assessments are usually done with small projects such as sidewalks. A voluntary district would have to be 100% of the land owners. Rural Development could fund a voluntary assessment district.

Zygmunt Dworzecki (Ziggy) is running for County Commissioner for District 1 and he addressed the Board and public.

Bob Mantey, Tuscola County Drain Commissioner, talked about the Akron Main Street Tile Project and noted that interest rates have dropped from 3.75% in 2009 to 3% now, but there is a 35% rebate on interest rates which should drop the interest rate even further—down to 1.95%. The loan is for 30 years. He noted the entire project should come in under \$400,000. Akron Township, the Village of Akron, the County, and the people in the drain area will each pay 25% of the project. Dennis made a motion, supported by Deana to approve the contract and authorize Ann and Don to sign. Roll call vote:

Dennis-yes, Don-yes, Deana-yes, Ann-yes Absent: Joe

Deana gave a cemetery report. The metal detector is being used. Some concrete needs to be removed and she got a \$300 quote from MacFarlanes. The roof on the building at Demorest needs painting and the road there needs to be improved. Each of these items should be budgeted for next year. Deana showed pictures of a headstone that is falling and she believes it is a safety issue and should be fixed. Deana made a motion to replace the foundation at a cost of no more than \$200. No support.

Adams Lawn Care would like their contract extended for 3 years. They do the weed prevention applications for both cemeteries. Motion by Ann, supported by Deana to extend their contract for three years. Cost is \$500 for Demorest and \$200 for Hickory Island in the spring, and again in the fall. Motion carried. Deana will get the contract.

Deana has put the Zoning Ordinance on the web and she is getting the Cemetery Ordinance ready to be put on the web.

Ann noted some confusion on how much we pay MacFarlanes for opening and closing graves. Checking and comparisons were done with other townships. Ann made a motion, supported by Deana, to pay MacFarlanes \$325 to open/close graves for summer (April 1 through November 30) and \$375 to open/close graves for the winter (December 1 through March 31). Motion carried.

Ann suggested our meeting times be changed from 7:30 to 7:00 as they last so long. It will be discussed next month.

Ann noted the General Election is Tuesday, November 2, 2010. Election workers have been appointed and many absentee ballots have been sent.

There is still a problem with the ACW Ambulance social security reporting for 2008. JoAnn, from Nietzke & Faupel has been working with Ann to try to resolve the problems.

Don has bills totaling \$1,120 for Bay Park lighting. Motion by Don, supported by Ann, to assess each parcel in the special assessment district \$35 per year. Motion carried.

Don made a motion, supported by Deana to set Fish Point Miller Road #1 (road maintenance) in the special assessment district at \$174.90. Motion carried.

Don made a motion, supported by Dennis to set Fish Point Miller Road #2 (street lighting) at \$1,474 and \$22 per parcel in the special assessment district. Motion carried.

Dennis made a motion, supported by Deana to keep the garbage tax at \$175 per year per household. Motion carried.

The offer of \$3,250 for the property at Hickory Island Cemetery was not accepted. The owner said he had it appraised for more than that. Don noted that lots in our township go for about \$15,000.

Ann needs to contact our insurance company to get liability on the house at the cemetery.

The Board needs to set a fee for zoning permits for potential wind farms. Other townships charge anywhere from \$300-\$1,000 for each permit. More research needs to be done before we can set a price.

Don reported that another project going through our township is a transmission line that will tie the wind energy into the electrical grid.

Don noted that Jim Gokey would like to retire as Zoning Administrator. A replacement needs to be found.

Deana reported she can send a newsletter out with the winter taxes and any board member that has some information should get it to her by the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Allen, Clerk