

**Doyle Township
Schoolcraft County
June 15th, 2017**

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p. m. by Supervisor Lynn Norton.

Board Members in attendance were: Supervisor Lynn Norton, Treasurer Sherry Hampton, Clerk Patti Hoffman, Trustee Debra Huebner, and Trustee Gloria Hansen.

Also present was Fire Chief Jim Nelson, Glen Hansen, Cindi Nelson, Mike Youngblood with concerns on the airport property, Patti Newby with concerns on the Johnson well issue, Cynthia Weiss with concerns on the airport property.

1. Supervisor Norton opened the meeting with discussion on the ongoing Johnson well issue. She started by stating that after contacting Mr. Nastoff (the township's attorney) his response about the May meeting was “It was not improper for you to raise the potential or actual conflict of interest. However, it is incumbent upon Trustee Hansen to make that decision based on duties of care and loyalty that all township officials have to the public. If it truly was a conflict of interest, and a resident of Doyle Township had an issue, that resident could challenge the matter, especially here where there was a close vote. Township officials can also be subject to civil penalties for violating said duties of care and loyalty. For example, MCL 15.342(b)(4) provides a fine of up to \$500 for violation. Because Trustee Hansen should have made that decision, the Township should revisit the matter and “redo” the decision at the next meeting.” Trustee Hansen should have been the one to make the decision to abstain from voting on the motion to offer the Johnsons \$6000.00 at the May meeting if she had a conflict of interest, therefore the motion was null and void and the board would have to start over in the matter. Supervisor Norton also read a letter from County Commissioner, Craig Reiter, that was sent in response to a phone call he received from Trustee Hansen on the matter. Clerk Hoffman ran a report showing the attorney fees that the township has been charged so far pertaining to this matter. The township has paid a total of \$3627.68 to the attorney that the township retained after being informed that the Johnsons had retained an attorney. Clerk Hoffman stated that the township originally received \$8494.00 on the sale of the property and if we offered them \$5000.00, the township would be losing \$133.68 on the matter after taking in to consideration the attorney fees. Based on information that the house and property was sold “as is” and did not include a well, Supervisor Norton did her due diligence in researching if the well could be shared or leased, and the fact that the Johnson's decided to not accept the board's offer of \$5000.00 at last month's meeting, Supervisor Norton made a motion that we revert back to the original purchase agreement with the Johnsons that it is an “as is” sale for the original purchase price with no well and that no additional money should be offered at this point, Seconded by Trustee Huebner. Went to a roll call vote. Trustee Huebner-yes, Treasurer Hampton- yes, Supervisor Norton- yes, Clerk Hoffman- yes, and Trustee Hansen abstained from voting. After advising with Mr. Nastoff again after the June meeting, he informed the board of this advice.

2. May's minutes and bills were accepted with a motion made by Treasurer Hampton and seconded by Trustee Hansen. Motion Carried.

Assessor's Report

1. A copy of the assessor's report for May was given to board members for review.

Clerk's Reports were presented by Clerk Hoffman.

1. Reports for General Account, Fire Account, and Road Account.

Treasurer's reports were presented by Treasurer Hampton.

1. Reports for General Account, Fire Account, and Road Account.
2. Treasurer Hampton stated that the township's audit that her and Clerk Hoffman had today went very well. Clerk Hoffman agreed that it went very smooth despite her apprehension being her first audit.

Trustee Huebner reported upcoming dates of Hall Rentals.

Fire Chief's Report

1. Fire Chief, Jim Nelson reported 2 runs in May.
2. He informed the board that he is looking in to a 50/50 grant to update some of the firefighter's gear. The items that are needed are helmets, a double jacketed hose, grip nozzle, and a forestry hose.

Public Comment

1. Glen Hansen discussed what would be necessary to fix the dock at the boat launch.

New Business

1. Supervisor Norton stated that all work on the new handicap ramp has been finished. There was an increase in the original estimate because of additional materials needed to finish the job. A motion was made by Treasurer Hampton to pay the bills with the additional costs, Seconded by Supervisor Norton, Motion Carried.
2. After much discussion about the Airport Property, Supervisor Norton informed the board that Peterson Surveying stated that the property should be surveyed and posted every 200' to be legal. His costs for surveying the property would be approximately \$1800.00 - \$2000.00 with the costs of the posts being an additional charge. There was discussion about getting a quote for the cost of the posts, possibilities of a grant, and different possibilities of signage detail.
3. Supervisor Norton contacted Hoholik's about getting electricity wired to the little garage at the Twp. Hall. They stated that they are very busy and will be getting back to us.
4. Supervisor Norton informed the board that Jackie Bruce planted flowers at the township hall and at Wood Cemetery. Thank you, Jackie, for donating your time to make things

look nice for the township.

5. Supervisor Norton discussed the Engineer's report received by Brad Stauffer, (manager of Schoolcraft County Road Commission) concerning the North Gulliver Road. The engineer recommended that the County does not take it on as a county road for several reasons relating to width of the road in some areas, plowing difficulties, drainage issues, and wetland issues.
6. There was also discussion on the renewal of the County Roads Dust Contract. A motion was made by Treasurer Hampton for the renewal of the contract to have chloride applied one time and then any additional applications would have to be board approved, seconded by Trustee Hansen, Motion Carried.
7. The last topic in new business was on renewing our current 1 mil. Road mileage. A renewal of the current mileage would not increase taxes, it would be to renew what tax payers have already approved and are currently paying. A motion was made to renew the current 1 mil. Road mileage by Trustee Huebner, Seconded by Treasurer Hampton, Motion Carried.

5:00 p.m. Motion made by Trustee Hansen to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Huebner, Motion Carried.

Patti Hoffman
Doyle Township Clerk