

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**April 8, 2008**

The meeting of the Newton Township Board was called to order at 7:01 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2008. Those in attendance were Adams, Aldrich, Clutter, Radcliff, and Laupp.

The agenda was approved.

**Public Comment:** There were comments and discussion on the condition of the paved roads, especially F Dr. S. Contacting the Calhoun County Road Commission with the address of where a pot-hole is will get it filled by the Road Commission. Repaving any roads, the County will pay for half of the expense, the Township will pay up to \$5,000.00 of the expense, and the rest is paid by the residents on the road to be paved. There were comments and discussion on when changes are made to a parcel of land, such as a new building or the destruction of an old building, as to when it affects the assessment value of the parcel. New buildings are noticed by the Building Permit applications and new site plans, buildings being taken down and removed need to be addressed to the Assessor for the changes to be made. There were concerns on the assessments going up due to the County Equalization values on types of land.

Newton Township Fire Chief presented to Mrs. Radcliff, Mrs. Bair, and Mrs. Hill shields and vests to have on scene access for the volunteer work they provide for the firefighters.

**Minutes:** Motion by Clutter/Laupp to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2008 meeting.

**CARRIED**

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Clutter/Aldrich to transfer \$6,000.00 on the 2007-2008 Budget line item "Community Building Utilities" to line item "Street Lighting".

**CARRIED**

Motion by Laupp/Radcliff to approve the Quarterly Finance Investment Report for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2008 from the Treasurer.

**CARRIED**

Receipts for March totaled \$31,881.90. Disbursements totaled \$15,897.78. Cash on Hand balance is \$324,217.28. Motion by Radcliff/Laupp to accept the Treasurer's Report.

**CARRIED**

Effective May 1, 2008 Newton Township will have for Mechanical Inspector Jonathan Dolbee, 6591 Oak Grove Rd, Burlington, MI 49029, and for Plumbing Inspector Todd Bishop, 12301 11 MI. Rd., Ceresco, MI 49033.

**AMSA Report:** There was no meeting.

**Assessors Report:** We will collect information from all of the residents who have concerns about the assessment and taxation. We will get with County Equalization and have a formalized presentation with information for the residents.

**Cemetery Report:** Shirley Clutter and Janet Seedorff have went over the cemetery maps and found several lots that were purchased as family burial lots but not completely filled. They will continue to investigate what can be done with these empty lots.

Motion by Radcliff/Laupp to adopt the Newton Township Cemetery Ordinance as revised.

**CARRIED**

**Community Building:** There have been new outside doors installed in the south side of the basement building. There will be another outside door replaced between the Fire Department Bay Doors.

**Fire Department Report:** The Dept. responded to 16 calls in the month of March – 1 smoke investigation, 1 mutual aid, 11 medical, 1 false, 1 accident, and 1 miscellaneous. Todd Schwarz and Jeff Lawrence are no longer with the fire department. The Fire Chief has met the dead line for filing for a Federal Grant of \$400,000.00 for a fire truck, a generator for the building, and a system to collect diesel smoke from the fire trucks. We are holding a joint training session this month with Fredonia Township on the grain rescue tube. Request to purchase 3 rescue harnesses to be used with the rescue tube not to exceed \$300.00 each, and 3 Carabineers not to exceed \$80.00 each, for a total cost of \$1,140.00. Motion by Clutter/Laupp for the purchase.

**CARRIED**

**New Business:** There will be a workshop for the 2008-2009 Budget on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 7:00pm. Motion by Clutter/Laupp to purchase a used computer server, only 6 months old still with warranty, and pay half this budget year and the rest during the next budget year for a total purchase of \$3,557.00 including instillation.

**CARRIED**

**Election up-date:** May 6, 2008 School Election AV Applications are available, please contact the Clerk if one is needed. The Township Board positions are up for election this year. Anyone interested in running can get a packet from the Clerk which must be turned in by 4:00pm, Tuesday, May 13, 2008. Motion by Aldrich/Radcliff to issue the paychecks for the Election Inspectors for the May 6, 2008 Election.

**CARRIED**

Information was given by Shirley Clutter on the problem with the drainage of water near Binder Park Golf. Newton Township has a Storm Water Management Ordinance that has been turned over to the County Drain Commissioner.

**Old Business:** Motion by Clutter/Aldrich for the board to approve the new policy to pay bills on-line. Roll-call vote Laupp-aye, Aldrich-aye, Adams-aye, Radcliff-aye, Clutter-aye.

**CARRIED**

**Planning Report:** Motion by Radcliff/Clutter for the Board to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final extension of the 90 day Conditional Use Permit for George Danke.

**CARRIED**

Motion by Radcliff/Clutter for the Board to send a directive to the Assessor to add to her duties any written communication and directives between the Planning Commission and the residents when needed.

**CARRIED**

**Roads Report:** Please call 781-9841 to report any pot-holes. Tire pick-up for the County is April 28<sup>th</sup> thru May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.**

**Mary Aldrich, Newton Township Clerk**