Tentative: X

Approved: X

**Pokagon Township Regular Meeting Board Minutes**

**December 9, 2015**

The meeting of the Pokagon Township Board was called to order on Wednesday December 9, 2015 at 7:30 pm. Roll call of members showed the following members present: Linda Preston, Gary Mihills, Kevin Young, Renee Meiser, and Bob Shaffer. Supervisor Linda Preston opened the meeting and led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion made by Bob and supported by Gary to approve the November 11, 2015 regular meeting minutes and the December 1, 2015 Special meeting minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried by voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Clark Cobb – County Commission office- Clark communicated that the County Administrators contract was ended. Also that the County Equilization Director position has been filled.

State Representative Aaron Miller called in to our meeting, as he expected to attend in person, but legislation was in session. He updated us on the progress of the votes regarding 1) No straight ticket voting 2) No reason absentee voting 3) “dark stores” and tax legislation. He accepted questions, and there was no public comment.

**REPORTS**

**Supervisor:**  Linda: Habitat House – Cassopolis finished. Next project will be a rehab in Dowagiac. Linda attended MTA Board Meetings and presented speaker Dan Wyant (DEQ) to attendees. Also attended MATS regional meeting.

**Clerk:** Renee- Set board meeting dates for 2016.

\*\*\* Bob moved and Kevin supported to accept 2016 Board Meeting dates & Holidays as presented.

Renee provided an update via letter from Ed Wainright’s secretary regarding his progress and improvements in condition.

**Treasurer:** Kevin - reported Gen Fund balance at $333,464.56

Tax bills have been sent out. Niles School taxpayers are seeing the tax increases for Bonds passed in May 2015.

**Assessor:**  Bill Kays reported Board of Review meeting will take place Tuesday Dec 15th at 5:30pm at the Township Hall.

**Building Inspector:**  3 permits

**Zoning Administrator& Blight:** Joe True present.

Zoning- 6 items.

Blight: following up with some of the same properties. Joe listed and/or discussed more that ½ dozen properties/owners he is working with.

**Ambulance:**

SMCAS- 4 calls @ avg. 14.4 min

Gary attended a special meeting on Nov 30 for SMCAS as they have lost their billing person and have hired a service to keep the billing continued.

Pride Care- 5 calls. Avg. 6 min 26 sec. Linda attended an open house at new facility on Pokagon Street

**Fire Department:**

Indian Lake: no report

Pokagon VFD: Chuck reported 4 calls, and that the roof has been started on the fire station.

\*\*\* Gary moved and Bob supported to waive the fee for the building permit required for the fire station roof. Permit still required. All ayes. Motion carried.

Linda and Gary attended the County Association Meeting.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** none

**Planning Commission-**  The quarterly meeting scheduled for December 8th was postponed to a later date, not yet set.

**Cemetery Board:**  Bob Shaffer communicated that the cemetery’s are prepped and ready for winter.

**Transfer station:** Closed. Last day open was November 21st. Linda worked at the station to accommodate a day off needed by the attendant. Roger Scott Callahan has agreed to stay on and open the transfer station in the Spring, 2016.

**Bills:**

Motion made by Gary and supported by Bob to pay bills as submitted in the amount of $29,644.41 Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Unfinished Business:**

Discussed at Special (Vision) meeting on December 1st- the Township park and moving ahead with Grant Applications to assist with some funding already received.

Linda attended the I-94 Incident meeting regarding road conditions

Linda attended a CMAC meeting which offers funds that can be applied for by townships

Discussed our project list road work / Cass County Road Commission- will further discuss and finalize early next year.

**New Business:**

Bob Shaffer attended a Rail Meeting and explained how the funding and project will progress from 2015-2035.

Gary moved and Linda supported to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Renee Meiser / Clerk

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