

The December 2015 regular meeting of the Higgins Township Board was held on December 7, 2015, at the Township Hall. Supervisor Curnalia opened the meeting at 7:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were: Sullivan, Alden, Curnalia, Peters, and Jennette. None were absent.

Community members in attendance: Kathy Pardo, Connie Allen, Ben Lowe, Donna Lowe, Sgt. Ackley and Deputy Alward.

There were no public comments at this time.

Budget amendments for the month were: From the General Fund Contingency Fund the amount of \$1,272.40; \$185.93 to Phone, \$89.53 to Building/Grounds, \$113.94 to Monthly Service Charges and \$883.00 to Equipment/Computer/Software. From the Fire/EMS Fund Miscellaneous: \$358.01; \$78.00 to Health Requirements, \$205.01 to Monthly Service Charges and \$75.00 to Dues/Memberships. Motion by Alden, seconded by Jennette that we accept this amendments. All ayes. Passed.

Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Alden to accept the Consent Agenda. All ayes. Passed.

Fire Report was presented by Curnalia for Fire Chief Mephram who was absent. The lighting at the Fire Hall is being worked on. Also the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fill the Truck went extremely well for the departments. Thank you Fire and EMS personnel for your contribution to our community!

EMS Report was presented by EMS Coordinator Kathy Pardo. There were several employee changes. Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Peters that we accept these changes: Nathan Stearns and James Marks were hired as probationary employees for EMS; Jarred Osmond was removed from probationary status to regular pay; Sue Thornton resigned as she has moved out of the area; Eric Eddington, Erica VanWormer and Kristi Kish have been removed from the employee roster for inactivity. All ayes. Passed. Pardo gave us a list of training she gave for the 2015 year. After some questions, it was decided to meet with her and Chief Mephram to discuss our concerns.

Motion by Jennette, seconded by Alden to accept the Approved Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2015. All ayes. Passed. Motion by Jennette, seconded by Peters to accept the Approved Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2016. All ayes. Passed.

Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Curnalia that we appoint June Karjalainen to a 2-year term to represent the Township. All ayes. Passed.

A discussion ensued about employee contracts for the Assessor and Building Inspector. Alden will check with various sources regarding these contract. A Special Meeting was set up for Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at 8:30 am to resolve this.

The Pine Hollow dispute was brought up again. Curnalia will get with the Building Inspector/ZoningAdm to get this resolved once and for all or take some action. Curnalia stated that Attorney Hess should have something to us on December 8, 2015.

The fence dispute on Ben Lowe's property was revisited. We have agreed to meet with Mr and Mrs Lowe on Thursday, December 20, 2015, at 8:30 am to resolve this issue.

Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Jennette that we adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. All ayes. Passed.

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William E Curnalia, Supervisor

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Cheri Sullivan, Clerk