Westphalia Township

Regular Meeting February 11, 2019

FINAL MINUTES

13950 Pratt Road, Westphalia MI, 48894

Supervisor Trierweiler called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at 6:00 pm. Board members present were Supervisor Trierweiler, Trustee Fox, Trustee Pung, Treasurer Buckley, and Clerk Platte.

Guests: Pete Preston

Dave Pohl

Doug Riley

A motion was made by Fox supported by Platte to accept the minutes of the January 2019 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer Buckley presented the financial statements via email to all board members. A motion was made by Treasurer Buckley to approve the financial statements, seconded by Fox. Motion carried.

Dave Pohl gave an update on some of the buildings that are over 20 years old. The county approved updates on security cameras, lights, and the Courthouse lock system. He also spoke about the Park Greener Space Commission. They have applied for grants and discussions are being held on tying the trail system into a bike trail on 27 but this needs approval from MDOT first. He also told us that he attended a conference at Community Mental Health that went over activities of human sex trafficking and asked all to be aware of your surroundings because this happens more than one thinks.

Doug Riley was in attendance to discuss the Recreational Marijuana Ordinance. He said that there is nothing the townships can do on a personal basis as the law was passed on this. Townships, villages, and cities can allow recreational marijuana to businesses such as stores, consumer growers and processors, testing, microbusinesses, and a few more. He touched on these aspects a bit. Townships have to make a decision on whether or not to allow the above listed. As of now, the following townships have opted out of this:

1. Lebanon
2. Essex
3. Greenbush
4. Duplan
5. Dallas
6. Bengal
7. Bingham
8. Ovid
9. Riley
10. Olive
11. DeWitt
12. Bath

Mr. Riley stated that he is not here to persuade our decision but to give information. It is ultimately up to the Township to decide on what is best for us. He gave us samples of Ordinances from other townships as well as the Michigan Township Association. After discussion, Westphalia Township has opted out of the Recreational Marijuana Ordinance and filled out the Michigan Township Association Ordinance to Prohibit Recreational Marijuana Establishments. Clerk Platte to file with the County as well as the State of Michigan. If the township decides to opt in at a later date, then this can be something put up for discussion. Mr. Riley will provide Clerk Platte with a link for emailing the Ordinance to the State of Michigan.

Trustee Pung made a motion to adopt the ordinance #108 to Prohibit Recreational Marijuana Establishments. We did a roll call vote on this ordinance; ayes 5, nays 0. Motion passed.

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Supervisor Trierweiler said there was a bid for lawn mowing by Marks Lawn Care, Mark Spohn. Mr. Spohn wanted to provide a bid last year but did not complete that. His bid was for $60.00 to $75.00. The board will discuss this more at the next meeting. Clerk Platte said that the lawn at the township needs to be fixed as there are many ruts in the lawn that need to be filled in before the mowing season begins. Pung made a motion to get bids from Plannedscapes and Mr. Jeff Platte, who currently maintains the lawn, to have ready for our next meeting for discussion. Fox supported. Motion carried.

Trierweiler also mentioned the use of personal cell phones. He has an extra line on his phone bill that is only for the township. He would like to deplete that line and have a desk phone at the office. Clerk Platte will check with Westphalia Telephone on how the township can proceed with a multi-line phone system.

Trustee Fox made a motion to approve Resolution 19-1, Resolution of the Westphalia Township Board of Trustees, where the Township Board approves Wednesday, March 13, 2019 as the starting date for the 2019 Westphalia Township March Board of Review. Pung Supported. We took a roll call vote; ayes 5, nays 0. Motion passed.

Trustee Fox made a motion to approve Resolution 19-2, Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Eligibility Requirements, Income Standards/Asset Test and Application for 2019. Pung supported. We took a roll call vote; ayes 5, nays 0. Motion carried.

Trustee Fox will have our VISA policy established at our next meeting for the board to review.

Hall policy revisions were made to the current policy during our meeting.

Treasurer Buckley asked about the snow removal at the township hall as with the current weather conditions and people dropping off their taxes that there was no salt to put down and she was concerned. Supervisor Trierweiler stated he would talk with Mr. Jim Pohl, who currently does this service for the township, and ask him to maintain as he sees fit.

Next scheduled meeting will be Monday, March 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Fox, supported by Pung at 7:42 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Heather Platte, clerk Francis Trierweiler, Supervisor