Westphalia Township

Regular Meeting December 11, 2017

FINAL MINUTES

13950 W. 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 Treasurer Smith, Trustee Fox, and Clerk Platte. Trustee Pung was absent at roll call but presented himself at 6:33 p.m.

Guests: Kevin Wieber

A motion was made by Fox supported by Smith to accept the minutes of the November 2017. Motion carried.

Treasurer Smith presented the invoices to the board and made a motion to approve the invoices for payment as were read, seconded by Fox. Motion carried.

Kevin spoke about the firemen’s wish list.

1. Jaws of life came out with a new battery operated system which is just as powerful as the hydraulic. A new cutter/spreader runs in the $20,000.00 range. Could trade our old one for possible $5,000.00 to $7,000.00.
2. Looking at replacing, every couple of years, their SCAV air packs. They run around $6,000.00 a piece. They have 15 currently.
3. Helmets, they have had them for at least 15 years.
4. Thermo imaging camera, their current one is 10 years old. Kev had no idea on the cost.

Kevin also spoke of being short firefighters for the day shift. He would like permission to obtain a few more persons and they have a few in mind already. He would like to move from the current 20 firefighters in the current bi-laws to 24. Gear/training will run approximately $5,000 to $6,000 for two guys plus then payroll.

Supervisor Trierweiler spoke on the sign outside of the new township hall. He is going to speak with Darren Weber about someone he knows. Treasurer Smith had an idea of placing lettering on the building and to use dusk to dawn lighting to illuminate the letters. He will speak with Westphalia Electric on this issue.

Supervisor Trierweiler also spoke about tables and chairs for the new hall. Trustee Fox had sent an email to the board in regards to tables and chairs he found at Grainger and Menards. We are looking at ordering 15 rectangular tables and 80 folding chairs. This will give us a start and if we need more then we can order more. He will check into ordering them tomorrow morning and get them delivered to the Township Hall. If we cannot get them before the weekend, a suggestion was made to rent from Uncle Bucks. Clerk Platte text Uncle Bucks during the meeting and they will provide tables and chairs for us to rent for two weeks for $195.00 total. The board agreed to have them rented as we have parties in the hall on December 16 as well as December 23, 2017.

Supervisor Trierweiler spoke about the hall cleaning. Cindy Harrison has mentioned she would be interested in cleaning the hall. The board discussed this and on such short notice we agreed to have a

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year contract made with Mrs. Harrison for the rate of $20.00/hour. She will invoice us directly each month if she accepts the hourly rate. The board also discussed that after the year contract we could bid out the service if we chose to.

Supervisor Trierweiler also discussed lawn care and snow removal. There were interests in snow removal and Jim Pohl has shown interest. Supervisor Trierweiler will speak with Jim tomorrow at the Board of Review meeting. As for lawn care, a want ad will be placed in the Clinton County News sometime at the beginning of February to run for two weeks. After that time, we will take bids and consider a candidate.

Supervisor Trierweiler also discussed a fee for Clerk Platte in her transporting all old files from the Fire Hall to the new township hall and in creating a file system at the new hall. A discussion was held by the board on an hourly rate. A motion was made for a fee of $25.00/hour be made to Clerk Platte the hours of filing and transporting all old files. Motion was passed.

A quick discussion was made in regards to our website. The search for westphaliatownship.org doesn’t come up on a google search until approximately page five. The website designer said he could boost our website searches for a charge of $500.00. The board chose to put the website address on our tax invoices, township invoices, as well as any correspondence that may leave the building and keep the $500.00 fee. Clerk Platte to contact the website designer to have Dean Kohagan’s name removed from the website as he is part of the village, not the township.

Upcoming meetings:

 January 8, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

 February 12, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

 March 26, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Smith and seconded by Pung at 7:59 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Heather Platte, Clerk Francis Trierweiler, Supervisor