

Irving Township Board Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2020

Call to order with Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30pm.

Four board members were present. Sharon Olson, clerk, absent. There were nine members of the public in attendance.

Moment of silence was offered for George London who was the Supervisor of Yankee Springs and Irving Townships as well as Trustee of Irving Township. He passed away on July 20.

Motion to approve the agenda with addition was made by Jamie and seconded by Mike.

Fire reports were read by Jamie and Lani Forbes. Jon Smelker presented his commissioner report. A 50 room assisted living building will be made for Thornapple Manor. The FAA is purchasing a lawn tractor for the airport.

Jim Wickham presented the sexton report. He helped the cemetery software designer make a few changes to the layout of the cemetery online. Jim also presented that a family member of a deceased resident would like a tree planted by his headstone. Jim suggested that the tree be planted across the drive on the East side so it has more room to grow. He is also going to suggest that the tree be a hardwood tree.

Public input. Several residents spoke about the election on August 4. A few suggestions were made by Lani Forbes. 1. Move the entire precinct to the Freeport Community Center. This will help with safety, parking, and social distancing. 2. Have someone who can oversee the election. 3. The tent that was at the township hall on election day. Was it legal to be there? Jamie mentioned talking to MTA and that it was done legally. Kristen stated that the township needs to make sure they have enough room for everyone who is on the ballot to put a tent up if they please to do so on election day. Residents Larry and Jessica Phillips asked how they can determine if their absentee ballot was tabulated. Lani suggested that we have two precincts open again since Irving Township covers many square miles. Rhonda mentioned that election inspectors know their authority when it comes to campaigning/soliciting on election day.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved by all. Motion by Jamie, second by Dean.

Lynnette presented the treasurers report.

Bills were approved in the amount of \$17,258.50. Motion by Jamie, second by Mike. Passed by roll call of all ayes.

Board member comment. Jamie read the following statement to the board:

We, as a board, were elected by our residents to serve them and look out for their best interests. It is very important that we, as a board, work together for our residents and talk through situations that arise. I know that we will not always agree on topics and that is ok. If

there is something that a board member does that you disagree with, please speak to that person so we can all work fluidly for the betterment of our residents.

New Business. We received a quote from BR Construction to have the handrails replaced at the township. The quote was \$10,229. The board thought that seemed a little high considering that we might need to reconfigure the entrance way. They asked that we have a temporary fix instead.

Public input. A member of the public asked that we hold a special meeting to discuss the election issues.

Motion made to adjourn at 7:15 by Jamie, second by Mike.

Next meeting is Wednesday September 9, 2020 at 6:30pm.