Irving Township meeting November 11, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm with the pledge of allegiance.

In attendance were Dean Bass, Mike Buehler, Jamie Knight, Sharon Olson and Lynnette Wingeier all present from the Board and 6 members of the public.

Approval of agenda with one change. No assessor report. Motion made by Knight was seconded by Buehler. All “YES” vote. Motion passed.

Fire Reports from Freeport, Hastings and Thornapple were presented.

Commissioner Smelker gave a report.

The Audit was not presented as the Auditor was not present.

Public Comment:

Lani Forbes presented a bid offer on the purchase of a new tanker for the Freeport fire department. Lynnette Wingeier noted the recent passage of the fire millage and the fund balance that has been maintained in the event the millage did not pass. Wingeier noted that we could disperse funds equally to the 3 fire departments after paying the current bills for service.

Motion made by Wingeier to disperse $40,000 each to Freeport Fire Department. Seconded by Knight. Roll call vote was unanimously “YES”. Motion Passed.

Lani Forbes spoke about the United Way’s Coordination with the Veteran’s Affairs of Michigan as a point of contact for veterans seeking services. Veteran’s Crisis Line 1-800-237-8255 or 211 for more resources. Barry County VA 269-945-1269.

Knight made the motion to approve her minutes from October 14, 2020. Seconed by Buehler. 4 voted yes. One abstained- Olson

Wingeier presented the Treasurer’s report and spoke about the grant money that helped with the additional requirements of the pandemic.

 Efective November 20, 2020, Alesse Cross will be treasurer. Alesse would ike to hire Brittney Williams as her deputy treasurer.

Wingeier: Made a motion that effective November 20,2020, Brittney Williams be hired as Irving Township Deputy Treasurer. Seconed by Knight. Roll Call vote all “YES”. Motion passed.

Wingeier: Made a motion that effective November 20, 2020, we remove Lynnette Wingeier from all Irving Township banking accounts and add Alesse Cross, Treasurer; Brittney Williams, Deputy treasurer; Sharon Olson, Clerk; Shannon Thornton, Deputy Clerk. Seconded by Knight. Roll call vote all “YES”. Motion passed.

Knight made the motion to approve bills in the amount of $9,107.43. Seconded by Buehler. Roll call vote was all “YES”.

Board Member comments:

Mike Buehler, Jamie Knight each spoke of their gratitude to Lynnette Wingeier for her years of service and expertise.

Bass would like to go to zoom meetings. Zoom meetings do not work for our board due to slow or inadequate internet. Knight offered to call Bass and use the speaker phone to include him in the meeting from home. Bass agreed to the conference call arrangement.

Olson indicated only 3 Townships in Barry County had more votes cast on November 3, 2020 than Irving. Also, the 4 townships that had fewer votes in descending order all have more revenue than Irving. This presents challenges in meeting the needs of the Township for providing efficient election facilities.

Olson asked the Board to address the Township’s need for parking and space to operate a voting poll. Olson suggested a facility evaluation and a committee to work on the issue.

Public Comment: Lani Forbes, Thanked Wingeier for her Service to Irving Township.

Next meeting-December 9, 2020 at 6:30pm

Knight made motion to adjourn at 7:35pm seconded by Wingeier. Motion passed. All “YES”

Draft until approved.