

IRVING TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – NOVEMBER 21, 2023

Supervisor Knight called meeting to order at 6:30 pm with pledge to flag.

Roll call: Buehler, Sokolowski, Knight were present. Bass and Olson were absent.

Also present were several members of the public.

Knight made motion to approve agenda with additions: lifesaving awards, street light and clerk laptop. Buehler seconded the motion. Motion was passed by all ayes.

Lani Forbes presented life saving awards to those who helped with Mr. Welker when he had a heart attack in August 2023. Those presented awards were his wife, members of Barry County Central Dispatch, Freeport Volunteer Fire Department and Thornapple Township Emergency Services.

Knight made motion to approve the Clerk's minutes from October 17, 2023. Buehler seconded the motion. Motion was approved by all ayes.

Public Input: John Lake, Cindi Twichell and Shelly Lake all spoke about the second amendment and our rights as citizens. Sarah and Jorge Diaz spoke about adding a streetlight to Woodschool and Glenn Clay.

Cleaning of the township hall was discussed. One proposal was submitted by Audrey Bush for \$75 per cleaning, twice per month. Knight made a motion to accept her proposal with second by Buehler. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Pest control services. Quote received from Smitter Pest Services. Services are \$145 bimonthly for the months of May through September. Mike to call them in May to start services. Motion by Knight, seconded by Buehler to accept quote from Smitter. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Resolution 2023-12. Opposition to legislation to preempt local control for the siting and permitting of utility-scale renewable facilities including solar, wind and large-scale battery storage facilities. Motion by Knight, seconded by Sokolowski to accept resolution. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Resolution 2023-13. Resolution in support of second amendment rights through Barry County. Motion by Knight, seconded by Sokolowski to accept resolution. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Resolution 2023-14. Resolution declaring Irving Township a second amendment township. Motion by Knight, seconded by Buehler to accept resolution. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

German cemetery needs to be laid out. Jim Wickham showed the board how the rows need to have markers. Buehler offered to help Jim with this. Jim asking for markers every 8 feet at approximately \$1,000 plus \$500 for labor. Motion by Knight, second by Buehler to purchase markers for \$1,000 and labor of \$500. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

The sexton has increased rates since the contract was signed. Motion by Sokolowski to modify contract to adopt the new fees. Second by Knight. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Contractor for the new flooring asked for prepayment of materials in the amount of \$9,750 so he can begin in January. Motion by Sokolowski, second by Buehler. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Discussion was had about organizations using the township basement for meetings. This discussion was tabled until the December meeting.

December payment to Thornapple Township Emergency Services in the amount of \$11,771. Motion by Sokolowski to make the payment, second by Buehler. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Sokolowski discussed continuing to use KCI to print and mail tax bills. Motion made by Sokolowski and second by Buehler to continue using KCI for the amount of \$1,583.69. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Motion made by Sokolowski to pay KCI postage for tax bills in the amount of \$719.16. Seconded by Buehler. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

The street light at Glenn Clay and Woodschool was discussed. Received a quote from Consumers Energy in the amount of \$100 for installation and approximately \$15 per month for usage. Discussion was tabled until the December meeting so resident could talk with homeowners association.

Clerk will need a new laptop for elections. Certain requirements are also mandatory for this laptop. A clerks meeting will be held at the beginning of December and will know if the state will fund this laptop. Discussion was tabled until the December meeting.

Clerk will need a new laptop. Motion by Sokolowski to spend up to \$500 on a new laptop. Second by Buehler. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Fire Reports: placed on file.

Commissioner's report: none present.

Cemetery Sexton report: Jim mentioned that a few pine trees will eventually need to be trimmed back in the German cemetery. He also discussed a port-a-potty for the Irving cemetery during the summer months. Sokolowski will ask Lorraine what cost she found out.

Assessors report: no report.

Treasurers report is placed on file.

Bills in the amount of \$3,725.35 were presented. Motion by Knight, second by Buehler to pay the bills in the amount of \$3,725.35. Roll call: all ayes, with two absent.

Public Input: Cindi Twichell spoke about the second amendment and also a solar referendum. John Lake also spoke about the second amendment.

Board member comments: none.

Upcoming dates: December 19, 2023 6:30 board meeting; February 27, 2023 presidential primary election.

Knight made motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Buehler.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Jamie Knight, Supervisor