**GILFORD TOWNSHIP**

TUSCOLA COUNTY

JANUARY 12, 2017

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: D. Strasz, Treasurer; R. Haines, Clerk; J. Stockmeyer, Supervisor; A. Goss, Trustee; K. Houghtaling, Trustee. Four members from the public in attendance. The order of Agenda was approved.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Minutes of Previous Board Meeting**: Motion by K. Houghtaling , second by D. Strasz to approve minutes. J. Stockmeyer commented he sent email to Road Commission about M-138 work, but has not received a response. K. Houghtaling had question about refund to election workers. Motion approved.

**Treasurers Report**: Motion by J. Stockmeyer , second by R. Haines to accept treasurers report. Motion approved.

**Speaker**: Steve Gauger- Nextera. Report on wind turbine complaints from 2016. 4 or 5 “clunking” complaints, resolved. In process of replacing all motors (402) due to keyway wear issues causing the clunk. New motors use splines rather than keyways. 3 wildlife reports to DNR regarding 2 dead deer and 1 dead cat at the base of turbines. None were caused by turbine.

**REPORTS**:

**Supervisor**: Denmark and Juniata townships holding public hearings for their master plans.

Hand out for proposed Road Commission structure work for 2017.

Wilkinson Corp. contract for dust control. Early contract is most cost effective, 2 applications as in previous years. Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by A. Goss to contract for 2 applications, with the early pay which will be done in February. Motion carried.

Motion J. Stockmeyer, second by K. Houghtaling to approve addition of Debra Strasz, Treasurer to be added to the Chemical Bank account (for signatures) for Township banking. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by D. Strasz to approve payment of the bills from WBU9XMMC thru 7BC97MK8. Motion approved.

**Treasurer**: Nothing. All Board members opted for direct deposit for payroll starting in February.

**Clerk**: All checks this month are processed through the e bill pay.

Quarterly reports to IRS and Unemployment Insurance have been submitted. W2’s and 1099’s are calculated, Ruth Spencer will enter on forms and mail out. K. Houghtaling commented he does W2’s on line.

County Clerk recommending an additional $3000.00 to our election budget to cover cost of new election equipment.

Some townships are initiating 6 month moratoriums on solar energy farms until ordinances are in place.

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February 7, 2017 is deadline for certified ballot language for May 2 2017 election, IF there is an election.

Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by D. Strasz to approve payment of the bills. Motion approved.

**Trustees**: A. Goss suggests trash bins for all residents to help with loose bags etc. blowing away. Jim will contact Republic Services to see about getting wheeled bins and estimated costs. Also, recommendation from conversation with J. McQuillan that the township should look into a fire insurance withholding program. Jim should contact John McQuillan for assistance.

**Ambulance Representative**: No meeting last month.

**Fire Department Representative**: Fairgrove needs new air packs, looking into leasing. Will be requesting new fire truck in 2018 or 2019 with an estimated cost of $350,000. Corrections to recent report.

**Zoning Administrator**: None.

**Public Comment**: Jim McFarlan recently passed away.

**Motion for Adjournment** called for at 8:36 P.M. by J. Stockmeyer, second by R. Haines to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by

Robert L. Haines

Gilford Township Clerk