

Mad River Township Trustees

Regular Meeting: Thursday, July 3, 2014, Meeting time: 7:30 pm

Trustees Present: Mike Ward (president), Dave Riley (vice president), Brent Laughman

Fiscal Officer Present: Richard Ford

Others Present: Harold Dixon, Sam Ward, Denise Bok, Everett Keller

Trustees entered Regular Session following the Special Tax Budget Meeting at approximately 7:30pm.

Minutes and Financials

Fiscal Officer presented Trustees with Minutes, financials, and bills/checks.

Trustees reviewed the minutes from meeting date 6/19/2014.

Trustees reviewed the financials and bill/checks to be paid and signed.

Motion: Dave Riley motioned to approve minutes and financials, Brent Laughman seconded motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Community Discussion/Concerns

-Brent Laughman said he received a complaint from Tim Colchin about a Tree in Terre Haute that he thought needed cut down. He felt it was a risk to falling on his property. He felt the tree was the Township responsibility. Mike Ward and Brent Laughman will go out to evaluate it.

Roads and Bridges

-Trustees discussed the Road Repair List. Dave Riley brought up the Meades Quote for discussion. After discussing the different road repairs needed, Trustees agreed we needed to wait until we received final bill from the County on the County Road project to see what was available in our budget for other road repairs.

-Trustees discussed other issues regarding a culvert on Sticklely Road, ditch problems on Bair Road, and brush from a fallen tree that needed cleaned up on Neff Road.

Cemeteries

-Trustees received a call from Russ Arnold regarding a tree at the Cemetery.

Equipment

Trustees discussed the need for an exhaust on the 4900A Truck.

Zoning

-Brent Laughman had talked with Bob Purk regarding the Zoning issues.

-Mr. Purk had stopped by and talked with Mr. Humphrey's regarding the complaint we had on his property. Mr. Purk gave him until the end of July 2014 to clean up the property.

- Mr. Purk talked to Charlie Schwinn about the old cars on his property. Gave him until mid July to move vehicles.

-Mr. Laughman said he had received a complaint about an old minivan in Terre Haute, but that is has now been moved.

-Mr. Purk said he was researching with the state on how to get assistance in removing old cars.

Other Administrative

-Trustees updated that the Township Hall sign is now updated to reflect our Regular Meeting days for the First and Third Thursday of the month.

-Trustees discussed the expiring Fire Levy and the loss of revenue in the General Fund. The current Fire Levy brings in about \$13,000 per year. Our total Fire Levy income from 3 Levies is around \$100,000. Our current contract expenses for Fire and EMS is around \$64,000. Trustees discussed not renewing this Levy since the other 2 Levies are bringing in enough to cover the expenses. They discussed the possibility of replacing that Levy with a Levy for the General Fund since our annual revenue is about \$20,000 less than expenses in the General Fund. They discussed the need to continue to find ways to cut expenses in the General Fund or reallocate to other funds if possible. Mr. Ford said that most of the cuts had been made and that it was getting very difficult to find additional things that could be cut or reallocated to other Funds per

State guidelines. Trustees agreed that at some point we have to find a way to get the General fund at a break even on Revenue and Expenses. In order to explore all options, Trustees wanted to at least look at tax levy options even if they decide not to put one on the ballot. Mr. Ford will continue to look at each line item in the General Fund for ways to cut costs or reallocate to other Funds as appropriate per State guidelines.

Motion: Brent Laughman motioned to ask the County Auditor what mil Levy would be needed to replace the Fire Levy with one in the General Fund which would not increase a property owner's annual tax. Also included in the motion was to find out what mil Levy would be needed if they wanted to raise the \$20,000 annual short fall in the General Fund. Dave Riley seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved. Mr. Ford will contact the County Auditor to get the information.

Motion: Brent Laughman motioned to adjourn meeting at 9:00pm. Dave Riley seconded motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Minutes Approval Date: _____ by Trustee: _____

Attested _____

DRAFT