

March 1, 2004

- A. E. Ewers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. foregoing the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustees Russell Strong, Bonita Shilling and Erica Ewers were present. Trustee Bill Avra arrived at 7:20 p.m.
- B. Additions to agenda: L4 (A) Truth & Taxation
Deletions: L6. Zoning Administrator Contract
Motion to approve agenda- Shilling 2nd- Strong. Motion carried.
- C. Ewers opened Budget Hearing. Change noted under Fire Assessment from \$36,000 to \$42,000
Motion to close hearing- Shilling 2nd Strong. Motion carried.
- D. Truth & Taxation Hearing
Ewers opened Truth and Taxation Hearing. 0.8550 (2003)
Motion to close hearing- Shilling 2nd Strong Motion carried.
- E. Auditor- David Locey, CPA presented audit information for fiscal year ending March 31, 2003.
Area of concern: special Assessments, page 18 of auditor Report- needs to be clarified; suggested meeting between Treasurer, Supervisor and auditors. Also provide GASB information to the Board.
- F. Public Hearing- Special Assessments Aquatic Weed Control
Hearing opened at 8:00 p.m.; Total cost \$4, 554.39 to be divided 18 properties= \$50.60 per year for 5 years. Motion to approve- Heath Gillette 2nd Hope Wolverton. Motion to close public hearing- Shilling 2nd Strong Roll call: 4 ayes, 1 absent Motion to establish a special assessment district- Shilling 2nd Strong Roll call: 4 ayes, 1 absent
- G. Public Comments- none noted
- H. Minutes from February
- I. Treasurer's Report presented by Shilling. Income \$7,340.12; Expenses \$6,869.30; Current Balance \$490,134.68. Tax collection ended 3-1-04 (Statistics: summer tax bills sent 1417; Summer tax bills paid 1365; Winter tax bills sent 1459; Winter tax bills paid 1254) Ewers noted that Clerk agreed with totals. Motion to accept Treasurer's report- Strong 2nd Ewers Roll call: 3 ayes, 2 absent. Motion carried.
- J. Payment of Bills
Motion for payment of March 2004 bill in the amount of \$9,540.72- Strong 2nd Shilling. Roll call 4 ayes, 1 absent Motion carried.
- K. Committee Reports
 - 1. Fire Association- Discussion on percentages for township. Ewers explained proposed changes in percentages based upon census information versus fire run information. Trustees concerned with budgetary issues (would like to see budget reductions) Issue to be taken back to Fire Association. Motion to appoint Erica Ewers to the Fire Association for a six year term, ending April 2010- shilling 2nd Avra Motion carried.
 - 2. Planning Commission- nothing noted
 - 3. Zoning Board of Appeals- Met February 12, 2004 to appoint officers. Officers remained the same.
 - 4. Supervisors Association Report- Erica
 - 5. Building committee- nothing noted
- L. Old Business
 - 1. Ordinance Violation: : Davis- Court of Appeals struck down \$5,000 punitive damages. \$6,548 plus interest still due. Motion to accept Court of Appeals decision- Shilling 2nd Avra Roll call; 4 ayes, 1 absent. Tom paid \$2,500-completed. Dickman- Photos at a cost of \$111- discovery complete. Gaskill- hearing 4-12-04. Ely- court date 3-16-04. Paradine- hearing 4-04. Girard- ticket for zoning violation.
 - 2. Bickford Drive- letter to attorney regarding costs. In negotiations at this time.
 - 3. Road Commission- Discussion regarding which roads for dust control. In addition to list presented, add Campbell to Phillips Road, Legg Road.
 - 4. Motion to accept 2004-2005 budget- Shilling 2nd Avra Roll call 4 ayes, 1 absent
 - 4a. Motion to accept Truth & Taxation not to exceed .8550- Avra 2nd Strong Roll call: 4 ayes 1 absent.

5. Lawn Mowing & Sexton Contracts
 6. Deleted
 7. Other new business
 - A. Sign at Lester Cemetery needs to be repainted. Ewers will look that sign that is Currently in shed to see if it can be used.
 - B. Branch County Sheriff's Department- Officer Holt- present Provided statistics on Complaints, arrests, citations, paper service; update on proposed purchase of Grahl building for future jail site (is it cost effective, zoning issues, neighborhood issues, will it suit future needs, budgetary issues) Also answered concerns regarding reflectors that Amish are using and what is required.
- M. New Business
1. Motion to accept minutes as presented- Shilling 2nd Strong Roll call 4 ayes, 1 absent; Erica advised that the Board needs to advertise the opening on the Planning Committee, Motion to advertise position- Avra 2nd Shilling.
 2. After discussion, McKenna agreement was tabled due to high costs.
 3. Motion to schedule Township Annual Meeting on March 27, 2004 at 3: p.m.- Avra 2nd – Strong Roll call 4 ayes, 1 absent
 4. No other new business noted.
- N. Correspondences- Ewers presented correspondence regarding available auditing firm.
- O. Special Reports
1. Harold Farris- Zoning Administrator- Provided draft of permit application and set of instructions for review. Report January mileage. Report for February including mileage. 18 completed permits. Receipt of 2 checks from Roberts- fisher Road- turned over to treasurer- no new permits in February.
 2. Mickey Rubley- Dr. Troy Davis appointed as Medical Examiner. Seeking applications for Equalization Director. Courthouse adopted Weapons Screening Policy. Researching permanent canopy over East entrance to Courthouse. Researching jail expansion plans. Dog Census began 3-1-04, last census 7,000 violations.
 3. Lynnell Eash- Circulation up. 8 programs- 65 attended.
 4. Erica Ewers- Board of Review dates set.
- P. Public Comment
1. Gary Sanderson- Drain Commission candidate passed out information brochure.
 2. Bruce Caswell- spoke to Board regarding budget concerns and revenue sharing cuts. Noted that the Groundwater Withdrawal Issue will become a large issue in the future.
- Q. Announcements
- R. Next meeting: Monday, April 5, 2004 at 8:00 p.m.
- S. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.- Avra 2nd Strong. Roll call 4 ayes, 1 absent

Submitted by Diane Beckman

Corrections- M-1- add the words February 23, 2004 Planning Commission in front of minutes. Also change the amount of the bills to pay to \$9,544.72

Suzanne Preston, Clerk