

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
March 17, 2020 7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order/Pledge/Roll Call:

Supervisor Kasprzak called the regular meeting of the Howard Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Howard Township Business Office. Pledge to the flag was given. Board members Bill Kasprzak, Sheri Wozniak, Linda Rudlaff, Mike Gordon, Mike Daly, Hank Johnson and Phil Hurlbutt answered roll call. Commissioner Mike Grice, Road Commissioner and Paul Andrus from Invenergy were also present. Supervisor Kasprzak opened the floor to the public to ask Mr. Andrus questions about solar panels. Mr. Andrus explained that there is a 30-year warranty on the panels and that the upcoming plan would be a 2-50 project. He also stated the panels would not be hazardous waste after becoming obsolete.

Approval of Agenda:

The floor was open to the residents concerning the Agenda. No comments were made. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Daly to approve the Agenda, carried.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Gordon to approve the February 18, 2020 regular meeting minutes, carried.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Rudlaff read the February 2020 financial report into the record. A motion was made by Wozniak, supported by Gordon to accept the February 2020 monthly financial report as presented with a beginning balance of \$415,927.36 and an ending balance of \$546,841.55, carried.

Approval of Bills

A motion was made by Daly, supported by Hurlbutt to approve the monthly bills for payment, carried.

Departmental Reports

Commissioner Grice informed the board that the County is locked down and closed to the public. At this time, the County is doing business by phone. Mr. Grice said there is a drop box available at the administration building. Also, he stated that Meals on Wheels is still operating and making sure food is available to those in need, but they are short drivers. Fire Chief Corzine reported 30 medical and 5 fire calls for February 2020. Sheriff Behnke explained that the sheriff's office and the courthouse are limitedly open as well. No one is being allowed in the courthouse that is not on a docket. All jury trials are on hold at this time. The courts are currently working out plea deals to lower jail population. No violent offenders will be considered for plea deals. All sheriff department employees are having their temperature checked prior to entering the Sheriff's Office. There are still road patrols and 911 is operating. Kasprzak reported SMCAS remains very busy and taking all precautions required by state. The SMCAS Board has approved the purchase of a new ambulance and have postponed this month's meeting. Trustee Gordon mentioned the possibility of opening the parks early since children are not in school. Also, Mr. Gordon said two baby swings were being installed and park mulch would be replenished. A motion was made by Wozniak, supported by Gordon to approve the monthly reports, carried.

Information

Township Office will be closed to the public, employees will be available by phone and/or email to conduct necessary business.

Old Business

None

New Business

A motion was made by Wozniak, supported by Johnson, to approve Ordinance #224, Sewer Update Ordinance with the City of Niles, carried. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Gordon, to set the Township Clean-Up Day for May 9, 2020 8:30 am to 11 am or until dumpsters are full, voucher required, carried. A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by

Daly, to approve Resolution 2020-002, a Resolution Recognizing the Howard Fire Association as a non-profit organization, carried. A motion was made by Daly, supported by Rudlaff, to set a Public Hearing for the 2020-2021 General Fund, Ambulance Fund, Street Light Fund, Improvement Capital Fund, Building Fund, New Construction Fund, Sewer Fund, and Weed Eradication Fund proposed budgets for March 24, 2020 at 6:00 pm, carried. A motion was made by Gordon, supported by Rudlaff, to set a special meeting for the Howard Township Board of Trustees on March 24, 2020, carried.

Correspondence

None

Other Business from the Board

Supervisor Kasprzak explained that he had asked Paul Andrus from Invenergy to come to this meeting because of comments on Facebook; it appears the people expressing themselves did not come.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment:

Adjourned at 7:21 pm, carried.

Sheri Wozniak
Howard Township Clerk