

Coe Township Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Board members attending: Steve Simpson, Annie Tague, Paul Riewerts, Betsey Morthland, Rick Mitton, Mark Kruckenberg, Mike O'Hara, and Bev Hansen
Guests attending: Jim Hecker and Kenny Reveal

Minutes from the October meeting were read. Paul moved to approve the minutes, Betsey 2nd, motion passed.

Public Comments:

- Kenny Reveal noted that the website contained some errors, he provided the correct information.

Supervisor report:

- 1 use of the building for a birthday party
- Rick and Steve attended the TOI "Boot Camp" training program in Springfield week of Nov. 11th ... found things we're supposed to be doing, but haven't
- Rick and Steve met with Attorney Keri-Lyn Krafthefer and discussed the culvert issue. It was asked if we could ask 1 property owner to install/pay for a culvert, but not another. She responded that it is mandatory for a culvert to be in place if the property needs a culvert, but it is not mandatory for a culvert to be there if the property does not need to have one. By state statute the township can demand the property owner pay for the culvert, but we can try to make a split for the cost (owner/builder/township – each pay a third of the cost).

Highway Commissioner:

- we received the ditcher, it was hooked-up and used to dig out a culvert that had been filled-in. There was an issue with the tractor not holding position, it had a blown seal – that was fixed at no cost to us.
- the bucket for the loader was unusable and needed to be replaced ... Rick looked at one that was up for auction in Cordova, after investigating the cost of a new bucket it was decided to bid on the one in Cordova – won the bid for \$1500. One of the cylinders is leaking but we've pulled the cylinders off our old bucket to use, we'll scrap the rest of it. ... plan to do more with the ditcher in the future
- Rick learned at a seminar that OSHA is adding more inspectors and may be visiting the township

Assessor's report:

- there were 2 appeals, but no hearings
- Annie received a FOIA request from Sage Information Services for information that is already available on the website ... she'll check with other assessors to see what needs to be done with it

Clerk's report:

- continuing to update the township website (www.toi.org/coetownship) ... now have the agenda added to the "Info Center" page each month

Cemetery report:

- no committee, no report

NEW BUSINESS:

1. CEMETERY BOARD AND CEMETERY SEXTON APPOINTMENTS AND PAY

- per recommendations from the October Township meeting, the two sextons (Jim Sallows – Fairfield, and John Sample – Pleasant Point) will cross-train and have access to records and whatever is necessary to fill-in if necessary ... it is suggested they be paid \$500/year + \$50/burial ... will be required to make the necessary state reports and maintain the graves
- Stan Woodburn, Mike Saddoris, and Paul Riewerts have agreed to serve on cemetery board
- Chris Bode said the funeral home can collect the \$50 fee ... residents get a cheaper rate than non-residents ... he suggested the board visit with the Cordova Cemetery Board to see how they do things
- no one has been paid this fiscal year, the board members will be paid out of the Township funds
- we are covered for liability for employees, unsure about other people who may visit the cemetery ... markers are not insurable because they are not owned by the township ... someone will talk to TOIRMA regarding the insurance issues
- at the present time burials are not being registered on the state's website, sexton will be responsible for this in the future
- PROPOSAL: Betsey moved to appoint Stan Woodburn, Mike Saddoris and Paul Riewerts cemetery board members to be paid \$500/year (prorated for this fiscal year) ... Mark 2nd, motion passed
- PROPOSAL: Betsey moved to appoint Jim Sallows sexton for Fairfield Cemetery and John Sample sexton of Pleasant Point Cemetery to be paid \$500/year plus \$50/burial, Jim to be paid entire amount this year, John to be paid a pro-rated amount for this fiscal year ... Mark 2nd, motion passed

2. TAX LEVY

- will vote on Tax Levy at the December meeting, it is expected the Township Levy remain unchanged but the Road Levy may have to be increased
- for the Road Levy – the bridge fund is way underfunded, these funds are supposed to be used only for moving water (culverts under the road would be considered to be under the bridge fund for repairs), but have been used for other things as needed in the past
- Rock Island County will provide matching funds for bridge work IF the Levy for bridges is at the maximum rate (Max rate: 0.0500, present Township rate: 0.0162), AND it has been at that max rate for two years AND the repair cost is greater than \$7400.
- the board expressed concern about raising the levy without further understanding of how many areas of Township road would be considered, Rick and Kenny will go out and survey the culverts, determining how many areas are affected, and the cost of repair or replacement if and when that becomes necessary, and report back to the board in December

3. DECEMBER MEETING DATE CHANGE

- Steve will be out of town at the normal meeting date, so the board has agreed to change the meeting for December from the 16th to the 9th at 6:30pm

Betsey moved to adjourn, Mike 2nd, motion passed.