

Coe Township Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2014
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

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

Public Comments:

- none

Minutes from the October 20, 2014 meeting were read. Paul moved to approve the minutes as amended, Mike 2nd, motion passed.

Supervisor report:

- MediaCom
 - representative did site survey to see if it is possible to change the phones, they said there were no issues
 - we've already purchased phones
 - Steve has been calling the rep. weekly to check progress
 - they trenched over to the building from the pole
 - they reported they were waiting for a cost estimate so it looked like it was up in the air about whether or not they could give us service ... Steve called every 3 days to follow-up, they finally gave us the green light
 - last report is that there would be a 30 – 90 day wait for service
 - because of all this, we're having to pay more for Frontier at this time
 - hopefully all will be completed by next meeting
- Recycling – looking at 1st or 2nd Saturday in March
- Mark will be the back-up check signer ... Steve will be setting up an appointment to go to the banks
- Rick & Steve attended the Rock Island County Township Officials meeting – they meet every 6 months, Trustees are also invited

Highway Commissioner:

- we've spread some salt but didn't need a lot, will be ordering a load soon
- did some plowing but not that effective
- roads are in pretty good shape right now
- got new plow blades – we went through a whole set of blades on 2 plows last year
- have a letter from the law firm to go to Mr. Rowland ... law firm suggested putting information on the website &/or the paper
- going to put-up signs for snow routes for the newer subdivisions

Assessor's report:

- none

Clerk's report:

- none

Cemetery report:

- next meeting is December 9th
- ordered 2 signs – probably will be shipped on the 17th or 18th – they have all kinds of rules about unloading and not accepting if the boxes are damaged
- would like to get the signs installed but the weather may prohibit
- Paul will try to be present when the truck delivers the signs
- Jim Sallows used the new paperwork to sell 2 lots ... Paul has a stamp picked out but will talk to Steve about the wording to be used on the stamp so that it can be used for more than just the cemetery

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Report of TOI Conference

- Rick & Steve attended the conference
- it was very good, Steve went to 6 different sessions ... in 2 of the sessions lawyers did the training
- it was recommended that anybody associated with the township get email for only township business because Freedom of Information law could be used to get all records from the email address you use ... could get your personal info. if you have township business in your personal account – strongly suggested everyone do this
- one session on “Emergency Preparedness” - one of the attendees had gone to help after hurricane Katrina, also to Washington IL after the tornado – communication was a big problem
- Rick went to “Lessons Learned from the Polar Vortex” the salt went from \$20 → 70→ 120 → 170 ... jumped over \$100/ton
- Rick went to “Using Facebook” to present townships to the communities ... the state legislature has suggested getting rid of townships, at the session it was suggested to promote the township
- Steve attended “Senior Programs” – it was put on by a township that has 91 township employees, they put out a newsletter to residents, they also sponsor senior trips (they make money by sponsoring the trips)
- Steve also attended “Township Records” ... when we did the records disposal they gave us a record retention date going forward with our records ... we just have to send a form to dispose of records for a year at a time

2. Review of Tax Levy

- in December we need to pass the Levy
- Steve told Brenna we wanted to stay with the same dollar amount as last year
- this year’s valuation = \$38,582,491 ... taxes may drop slightly due to new construction in the township
- the levy can be raised up to 4.9% without requiring a Truth in Taxation hearing ... last year it was necessary to raise the taxes for the Road & Bridge but Rick feels we don’t to raise the amount this year ... we have the 2 year contract for salt so that cost is not going up and fuel costs are decreasing ... ok this year but next year we will probably have to raise again
- if Trustees want substantial changes they should get together with Steve by December

3. Purchase of Emergency Radios

- one of the sessions at the TOI conference talked about the horror stories (such as at Washington, IL – there were trees down that took down the power and phone lines)
- during emergencies if cell phones aren’t working it could be disastrous
- Steve would like to buy 2 additional radios to run on the same band Rick is currently using, cost approximately \$600
- Steve will look further at the cost and equipment specs. and put it on the agenda for next month

BILLS

- Paul moved to pay the bills, Mike 2nd, motion passed

Paul moved to adjourn, Mark 2nd, motion passed