

Squaw Creek Township Trustee Meeting

February 23rd, 2020

Sheri Jandik called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Location: 7129 G-76 Highway, New Virginia, Iowa

Present: Sheri Jandik, Trustee
Steve Lawyer, Trustee
William Willis, Trustee
Casey Howe, Clerk

Absent: None

Public: None

Minutes: Approved, November 24th, 2019. Motion by Jandik to approve minutes, second by Willis. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Financials: Reviewed by Lawyer, Motion to Approve by Lawyer, Second by Willis, Unanimously approved. Motion Carried.

Old Business:

Smith Cemetery access

- Willis – Chad (Surveyor) realized a fair amount of research was required to be completed on the property prior to completing the surveyor. There is an existing map that shows the road goes to the south side of the cemetery. There is indication that Squaw Township may have to update records based on the outcome of the research.
- Lawyer – Next Steps: Review Chad's research and determine inconsistencies between recorded public documentation. If there is any question of ambiguity the Township may need to survey both properties. If there are discrepancies the Township may need to review other actions.
- Jandik – County Engineer will pay for 50% of the survey costs of Smith Cemetery.
- Next Steps:
 - Is an Abstract an option for the Township Cemeteries and Properties?
 - Willis to discuss with Chad and obtain the completed research completed on the Smith Cemetery.
 - Jandik to complete research on Abstract Companies and will provide to Lawyer.
 - Lawyer will contact Abstract Companies to obtain quotes to complete work for all land owned or easements in favor of the Township, and anything related to Smith Cemetery in favor of the County.
 - Trustees will discuss at next scheduled meeting.

Review/Discuss and Potential Action Cemetery Rules

- Tabled

Discuss Flag Poles and Eagle Scout Project

- Lawyer to speak to Sam for a progress update on the Eagle Scout Project for next scheduled meeting.

- May is Cemetery Appreciate Month – would like to have flagpoles completed by that time

Discuss Tree Trimming

- Jandik – On hold over winter. Once ground dries will be re-initiated.

Discuss Emergency Services contract with Virginia Township

- Clerk will pay according to historical pattern (1/2 per every 6 months)

New Business:

Discuss Mowing Contract for 2020

- Existing Relationship – Thistles are not being sprayed, only cut by mowing
 - Would like existing contract to include ditch maintenance and weed oversight
- Township to contact current mower to review contract and minor updates/requests from Township regarding a path around the outside of the roadside fence and to spot spray for thistles a few times within the season. If mower will agree to keep same rate will maintain existing contract and extend for 2020 season. If mower requests additional funds, Township will let out option for new 2020 mowing season bids.
- Updated 2020 contract language to include spray for thistle as needed, and clarifying language to add weed whacking where feasible around inside and outside of fence lines.
 - Jandik motioned to updated contract with language, Second by Lawyer.
Unanimously approved. Motion Carried.
- Clerk to contact mower with updated contract and to see if mower would be willing to continue in the 2020 season with same rate, otherwise Township will post for new bids.

Discuss Budget

- Lawyer motions to approve proposed budget under the same terms as the previous fiscal year. Second by Willis. Unanimously Approved. Motion Carried.
- Clerk to communicate with Megan to complete and post budget.
- Backup Trustee Meeting Thursday March 12th at Noon, if Budget cannot be posted by Thursday February 27th, 2020.

Assignment of Projects

- Willis proposes the following assignment of trustee duties:
 - Jandik – Maintenance of Cemetery Grounds
 - Lawyer – Cemetery Rules, Legal Expertise
 - Willis – Smith Cemetery Access
- Ensure time spent working on duties are documented.
- Discussed opportunity to approve discretionary budgets for various projects and trustee assigned projects and duties.
- Lawyer motions that the Township authorizes each of the Trustees and Clerk to track their time and submit their time for approval at subsequent Township meetings for their efforts associated with any of the current projects identified in prior minutes. Second by Jandik. Unanimously Approved. Motion Carried.

Plot Voicemail

- Lawyer received a call on Friday February 21st, 2020 regarding previously purchased in Indian Valley Cemetery approximately 40-50 years ago.

- Lawyer to respond to caller to see if there is a deed that can be provided and additional documentation and/or identification of the person(s) for whom the plots were purchased.

Jandik moves to adjourn at 11:24 – Second by Lawyer. Unanimously approved. Motion Carried.

Minutes approved by:

Sheri Jandik, Trustee

Steve Lawyer, Trustee

William E. Willis, Trustee