

**CHIPPEWA TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
MAY 9, 2018**

The Chippewa Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly Agenda Meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 9, 2018. Present were Chairman Jim Bouril, Supervisor Nancy Lamey, Supervisor Mark Hoenig, Manager Mark Taylor, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Rich Bebout, Code Enforcement Officer Dawna Pella and Administrative Assistant Cindy Clark.

Chairman Bouril brought the meeting to order.

**VISITORS**

Chief Berchtold and Eric Hermick attended.

Solicitor George Verlihay also attended, but said he was attending as a visitor and wished to speak later, as a visitor.

**MANAGER**

Township Manager Mark Taylor had the following items for discussion or action:

1. Hiring of Eric Hermick at the Chippewa Police Department:

Manager Taylor said that Eric Hermick would like to become a part of the Chippewa Police Department. He said that he has spoken to the Chief and they feel Mr. Hermick will be a good fit and a good addition to our department. He said that he would recommend hiring him to work in our Police Department in an administrative role.

**MR. HOENIG MOVED TO HIRE** Eric Hermick to work for the Chippewa Township Police Department. Ms. Lamey seconded the motion and with no further discussion the motion carried.

2. Center Street Parking Complaint:

Manager Taylor spoke about the complaints made at the last meeting regarding Center Street parking. He provided the Supervisors with a copy of the amended ordinance that shows the restrictions for parking in certain areas of the Township. The Manager read the list of areas where parking is restricted. He and Chief Berchtold spoke regarding why parking in certain areas was addressed in the past. Manager Taylor said that Code Enforcement Officer Dawna Pella is currently dealing with some code issues in the Center Street area. He said that the street crew uses a smaller truck in that area in the winter so they don't have problems there. Ms. Pella spoke about the issues she is handling in the Center Street area. She said she has around 6 open files, but they are not all for vehicle problems. She said that she and Chief Berchtold are looking into these. Chairman Bouril said that he would like to see someone talk to the residents who are parking there. Manager Taylor said he could do this but he will let the Chief and Dawna Pella see what they can do first. Ms. Pella said that she always suggests that the neighbors talk to each other about their problems before getting the government involved.

3. Urban Farming Ordinance:

Manager Taylor said that other communities are looking into permitting residents to raise chickens. He said that Chippewa Township has always taken a pretty hard stance on this. He said presently he asks the Chief and Ms. Pella deal with the chicken issues. Ms. Pella said that she has had 3 or 4 questions regarding chickens this year and Manager Taylor said that he also has been asked about this. He said that one man insisted that his chicken is a pet and said that the chicken itself can't be eaten and the chicken's eggs cannot be eaten. Mr. Taylor told the Supervisors that chickens are only allowed if people have acreage and are in an agricultural district. Dawna Pella said that the Tractor Supply store located in the Township sells chickens. She told someone at the store that they might want to ask their customers where they reside before they (the customers) purchase chickens, since Chippewa is stricter about chickens than other communities.

4. Code of Ordinances Changes:

Manager Taylor said that Ms. Pella has been going over code issues with him. He said that loopholes may need to be addressed. He said that the grass issue in residential areas vs. agricultural areas should be addressed. He feels this should be decided by the use, and not the district. Ms. Pella said that the property maintenance code needs to be looked at. She said the wording in the motor vehicle section needs a few changes. She said she would like to have a tight ordinance with no appeals, since she hasn't yet lost a case.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Attorney Verlihay voiced a complaint about loud booms being heard at his residence that were also heard by his neighbors and others in the Township. He said foundations shook. He said the concussion he experienced was greater than anything he experienced in the military. He said it was so bad that he called 911. He has since heard that it was Tannerite, which is used at shooting ranges. He then showed those at the Supervisors' table a video of a container full of Tannerite blowing up a barn. There was some discussion about where the incident that Attorney Verlihay heard actually took place. Others at the table said that they also felt the booms at their residences and relayed that there were many rumors including that it was a gas explosion. Manager said that Tannerite can be purchased at Dunham's store in the Township. Attorney Verlihay feels that the windows may have been shaken loose. He feels that it is legal, but maybe only to a certain extent. He said this was "disturbing the peace". Manager Taylor said that Chippewa Township has a law about shooting guns, but other municipalities do not. Chief Berchtold will check to see if any charges were filed anywhere about this incident.

With nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

---

Secretary

---

Chairman