

Charter Township of Gun Plain

Special Meeting

January 10, 2011

A special meeting was called to order by supervisor Vandenberg at 7:00 pm. the following board members were present Moerman, Meert, Pearson, Corbin, Morrison, Kopka and Vandenberg.

Also present was township attorney John Lohrstorfer and one resident Monty Wilson.

The meeting was called by the supervisor after several complaints from tax payers regarding the treasurer not being in the office when they wanted to pay their taxes. The office staff has been accommodating by taking taxes for residents when they are paying with a check, but refuses to take cash payment,(per our cash handling policy.)

Many tax payers are confused and upset because they received a summer tax bill on December 1, 2010 instead of a winter tax bill. We have had hundreds of calls regarding this matter and many upset residents.

Corbin recommended that Morrison get a drop box, this would allow tax payers to pay their taxes outside the treasurer's office in a drop box that is located inside the building. Corbin and Kopka asked Morrison why he was only working two days a week especially during tax season. They reminded Morrison that during last year's budgets he insisted that he needed to work four days a week to maintain his work load that was the only reason that the board agreed to his raise. The board asked Morrison if he would work more during the busy time. If Morrison would agree to some schedule with more hours during the busy time.

Vandenberg brought up the fact that the accounts are not reconciled on a monthly base.

The township has also had complaints that the treasurer (Richard Morrison) is not living in Gun Plain Township and he is an elected official. Rick stated that his driver's license and voter registration are on Gainder Road in Gun Plain Township. Attorney Lohrstorfer stated that the law states it is where you sleep, not where your license and registration are. Rick stated that his wife is living in Otsego, and sometimes he stays there and sometimes stays at his brother's home.

Resident Wilson stated that he was very disappointed with Morrison; he told him that when he ran for office he stated that he wanted to be hands on treasurers and was willing to work hard. Wilson told him that his campaign was full of deception and he was very disappointed in his character. Wilson also told the board that the box idea was a bad idea people want a live body when they come in to pay taxes.

Vandenberg motioned to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Kopka seconded. Motion carried.