

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 2, 2018**

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, present; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present. Two Township residents (Nancy Tabbert and Craig Yeager) were present.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge to the United States flag was led by Maley.
4. **Invocation:** Butts gave the invocation.
5. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - A. **Motion by Fusko to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2018 Budget Hearing as printed. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.**
 - B. **Motion by Fusko to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2018 Board Meeting with the correction that Frank Maley was present at the meeting. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
6. **Treasurer's Report: General Fund Balance:** \$394,300.52; Receipts: \$44,225.70; Expenditures: \$13,592.60; **New General Fund Balance:** \$424,933.62; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$123,251.06; Receipts: \$58.19; Expenditures: \$2,468.58; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$120,840.67; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$40,790.56. **Motion by Reich to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.**
7. **Approval of Agenda:** Butts asked that Data Theft Insurance be added to New Business as item C.
8. **Guest Comments:** No guest was present.
9. **Public Comments: Nancy Tabbert:** Tabbert said that she had seen a large rat coming from the property of Scott Hodge. She said that she would wait a month before she makes a formal complaint about the junk on his property.
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** Don Herter reported that four Building Permits were issued during the month of March for a total of \$978.00.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** Mark Davis had no report.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** John Peters reported that two Electrical Permits were issued for \$346.00.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Two Mechanical Permits were issued for \$380.00 by Dobberteen Inspections, Inc. during the month of March.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** No Plumbing Permits were issued by Dobberteen Inspections, Inc. during the month of March.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that 18 appeals had been heard by the Board of Review. He said that all of the decisions had been mailed out.
 - G. **Cemetery Manager:** Craig Yeager (reporting for Michael Krager, Jr.) reported that there had been no burials and no sales of lots or plots.
 - H. **Fire Board:** The minutes of the Fire Board meeting were placed on file. Butts reported that there had been fourteen runs in March. He said that the Firemen's Appreciation Dinner will be April 21 with appetizers starting at 6:00 P.M. and dinner at 7:00 P.M. Butts said that the Fire Board had approved the purchase of ten pagers, each of which has a five year warranty and many more options than the old pagers.
 - I. **Blight Inspector: (1.) Coulter, David:** Mosier had been able to speak to Coulter who said that the boats are licensed and that one of the trailers still needs a plate which he plans on getting as soon as he can work out its status with the Secretary of State. Mosier said that Coulter agreed to get rid of the tires, wheels and other junk in the yard; **(2.) Earl, Kenneth:** there was no report; **(3.) Graham, Robert:** Mosier wrote that Mrs. Graham had stated that her husband is working on all three vehicles to get them running; **(4.) Holmes, Ken:** Mosier had written that Mr. Holmes had returned his call and agreed to clean up the property without burning it; **(5.) Kladis, Dawn:** the ownership of the property is still unclear. Kladis says she has turned the house over to the bank while the County still has her as the only owner; **(6.) Roggow, Michael:** this case is on hold; **(7.) Thielmann, Jerrita:** Mrs. Thielmann's son has been contacted concerning his mother's property; **Wynbolt, Christian:** Mosier wrote that Wynbolt is using a couple of the vehicles for races and is looking into putting up a storage building to put the cars in and to be able to work on them inside.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s):** There is a cottage owned by David Harkness that is caving in. **Motion by Griggs that a letter be sent to Harkness informing him that his cottage needs to be demolished. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
 - K. **Zoning Violation(s): (1.)** Butts confirmed that more vehicles are being brought onto the property that used to be Big Bouys Toys. **(2.)** There has been no action concerning the house on Lakeshore Dr.
 - L. **Planning Commission:** At the March 8 meeting all of the current officers were re-elected: Floyd

Groner as Chairman, Judy Clark as Vice chairman and Lyle Springsteen as Secretary. The members discussed the fact that the owners of the former Big Bouys Toys are bringing in more vehicles. The members were in consensus that the Township's Attorney should take over the case to see that the Planning Commission's decision to not grant a Special Use Permit be enforced. The issue of Solar Panels/Parks was discussed. Griggs said that he would work on a possible amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to regulate solar panels/parks being used on a commercial basis.

- M. **Dowagiac District Library (DDL):** Reich reported that the Library Board had approved the plan to add a two story addition to the library. He said that the Board is more inclined to delay the vote to pay for construction of the library addition/renovation until next year.
- N. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts said that the monthly report on runs had not arrived. He did say that Pride Care had been very busy during the previous month.
- O. **Treasurer:** Fusko went over her written report which was very thorough. She said that she has been very busy sending back taxes that were mailed late. These must be sent back for the property owner to contact the County Treasurer to get the amount of interest and penalty payments. Fusko said that all of the municipal treasurers in Cass County will be getting the new BS&A software in May. She said that the new software will keep a record of who has changed information such as who changed the address of the tax payer. Fusko asked the Board about sending a return envelope in the tax bill. There was Board consensus not to do this because of the added expense for envelopes, postage, and extra time to stuff the tax bill. She said that she is interested in joining the Michigan Municipal Treasurers' Association for the educational programs it offers. **Motion by Griggs to pay the \$50.00 dues for Fusko to join the Michigan Municipal Treasurers' Association. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
- P. **Clerk:** Reich said that the Board needed to approve a couple of amendments to line items in the budget. He went over the proposed amendments and there were no questions. **Motion by Reich to reduce the Tax Roll and Statement Preparation line item in the Supervisor's section by \$300.00 and increase the Training line item in the Supervisor's section by \$300.00; and reduce the Heat line item under the Township Hall section by \$100.00 and increase the Telephone line item under the Township Hall section by \$100.00. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.**
- Q. **Supervisor:** Supervisor Butts: **(1.)** reminded everyone that the County's Hazardous Waste collection is May 19 at the Fair Grounds from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon; **(2.)** reported that Wolford Electric has received the materials to replace the lights in the east bay of the Fire Station; **(3.)** said that he had received a note from SMC announcing their revised website to address financial concerns of the public (all of the Board members had received the same note); **(4.)** said that the second "Vision for Cass County" meeting is to be held on May 9; **(5.)** reported that he had informed the Road Commission about lack of a street sign for Hatch St. at the east end of the street; **(6.)** said that the Mill Pond Association canceled the meeting they had set up for Saturday but is still planning for the Thursday evening meeting in May. He reported that the Township attorney had estimated that it would cost about \$5,000.00 to set up a "Weed Special Assessment District" for the Mill Pond and that our assessor said that the software to handle the special assessment taxes would cost about \$5,000.00; **(7.)** said that Bruce Campbell had answered questions about the condition of the drain on Big Twin and had said that the drain is working as designed; **(8.)** reported that the tube between the lakes on Twin Shore Dr. is collapsing; **(9.)** said that the individual buying property on Morton St. that has a shoreline on Mud Lake is hoping to have several land divisions of the property.
- R. **Township Website:** Griggs said that he continues to update the Township's website.
- S. **MEANDRS:** Maley said that the March meeting had been canceled.
- 11. **Payment of Bills:** **Motion by Fusko to pay the list of bills with the addition of four bills that had come in today: \$304.00 to Dobberteen Inspections for two Mechanical Permits; \$62.00 for the post office rental; \$77.10 to Leader Publications for the notice of the ZBA meeting for the Gant variance application and \$46.00 to EMC insurance to cover the new Jaws of Life set. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
- 12. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Township Hall/Fire Station Sign:** Butts and Griggs are going to set up a test for the location of the sign.
 - B. **Junk Yard on M-51 N.:** There is consensus that more cars are being brought in and that the Township is going to have to move ahead with legal options. Reich said that he has contacted our attorney informing her of what is going on.
- 13. **New Business:**
 - A. **Fireworks Permit:** Butts said that he has received most of the paperwork from Kirk Proshwitz to run a fireworks show on Big Twin Lake for the Twin Lakes Improvement Association. Butts

said that he only needs the Proof of Insurance which may not come before the June or July meeting. He asked the Board to approve the application on the condition that Proshwitz turns in the Proof of Insurance before the program. (Proshwitz had told Butts that they need to get a permit from the DNR as well since it is to be held over the lake.) **Motion by Griggs to approve the Fireworks Permit contingent on Butts receiving all of the required paperwork.**

- B. Contract for Replacing a Culvert on the west end of Swamp St.:** Butts said that he had received a proposed contract to replace a culvert on Swamp St. He said that he had not been contacted by the Road Commission at all and was totally unaware of a problem with the culvert needing replacement. Butts said that he had gone to see the problem and agrees that the culvert does indeed need to be replaced. There was discussion about the fact that the Township needs to be "in the loop" concerning repairing or replacing any culverts because of the impact on the Township financially. It was pointed out that the expense for such a contract is not in the budget yet and needs to be before any motion to approve the proposed contract. **Motion by Fusko to amend the new budget by adding a new line item under Road Expenses and include \$6,500.00 for the expense (this is the Township's share of replacing the culvert being discussed). Support by Reich. Roll call vote: Judith Fusko, yes; Kurt Reich, yes; Frank Maley, yes; James Griggs, yes; Frank Butts, yes. With five yes votes and zero no votes, Butts declared the motion carried. Motion by Butts to approve the contracts with the Road Commission for replacing the culvert and for pavement line markers. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.**
- C. Data Theft/Computer Hacking Insurance:** Butts and Reich said that they had met with the Township's Insurance agent who recommended that the Board consider purchasing insurance to cover data theft and computer hacking. There was discussion about what would be included in the coverage. **Motion by Butts to purchase Data Theft insurance for \$399.00. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
14. **Public Comments: Nancy Tabbert:** Tabbert asked if she can put up posts with a rope to stop cars from using her driveway as a turnaround point if they pass up Hatch St. since there is no sign yet. Butts said that she could do so as long as the posts are 33 feet from the center of the road.
15. **Adjournment: Motion by Griggs that the meeting be adjourned. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk