

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 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, absent; Frank Maley, present
Three Township residents (Michael Krager, Jr., Joe Van Tuyle and Joe Van Tuyle, Jr.) 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:** *Motion by Maley to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2017 Board Meeting as printed. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report: General Fund Balance:** \$330,469.31; Receipts: \$5,860.19; Expenditures: \$11,968.67; **New General Fund Balance:** \$324,360.83; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$145,378.43; Receipts: \$64.68; Expenditures: \$2,622.54; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$142,820.57; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$438,441.26. *Motion by Reich to accept the December Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** There were no requests to change the agenda. Reich said that two bills had arrived that day--\$78.58 from Doubleday Office Products and \$40.00 to pay for USDA translation requirements.
8. **Presentation(s) by Guest Speakers:** No guests were present.
9. **Public Comments:** There were no Public Comments.
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** There was no report.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** There was no report.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** There was no report.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Three Mechanical Permits were issued for \$455.00.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** No Plumbing Permits were issued.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that the Board of Review went over twenty-seven appeals. He said that the work has been completed. He thanked Fusko for having helped after he had to leave the meeting for an animal rescue by the Fire Department.
 - G. **Cemetery Manager:** Michael Krager reported that there had been no burials and no sales of lots or plots. He said that a large limb had fallen from a tree at the north end of White Cemetery and that the fence had been damaged. Krager said that he was going to check to see if David Schoetzow wanted the wood.
 - H. **Fire Board:** The minutes of the Fire Board meeting were placed on file. Butts reported that there had been twelve runs in December. He said that Chief Wickett had informed him that the new extrication equipment will be delivered on January 16 and the agent will come to train the firemen on how to run the equipment.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** There were no new reports due to the snowy, very cold weather. **(1.) Earl, Kenneth:** Mr. Earl's daughter had included a letter with the property tax payment which asked what work still needs to be completed; **(2.) Graham, Robert:** Reich said that he had noticed that work was being done to remove some of the vehicles; **(3.) Kladis, Dawn:** Butts said that he had gone by the home and that the large tree limb is still on the house; **(4.) Roggow, Michael:** this case is on hold; **(5.) Jerrieta Thielmann:** Reich said that the letter he had sent to Thielmann had been returned by the post office. He said that he will try to find a working address.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s):** none
 - K. **Zoning Violation(s):** The Planning Commission voted to deny the Special Use Permit and the property will be observed for compliance to the Zoning Ordinance.
 - L. **Planning Commission:** The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be held in March.
 - M. **Dowagiac District Library (DDL):** Reich said that the Director, Matt Weston, had met with the Dowagiac City Manager who suggested that each of the Library Board members attend a meeting of the entity they represent to get their input on which of the two versions (one story or two stories) of a library addition was their preference. Reich asked for input from the Township Board. Maley suggested that the Library Board consider purchasing the former Huntington Bank building and turn it into a library addition. (Joe Van Tuyle, a member of the audience, supported Maley's suggestion.) There was a suggestion about saving the current front addition for use rather than tearing it down. There was more support for a two story addition rather than the one story plan. Fusko suggested that the Library Board seriously consider putting in a basement saying it was a cheap way to have badly needed storage space. She said that the Decatur

library had done that when it added on and has been very happy they had decided to do so. Reich said that he would report the suggestions made at the next Library Board meeting.

- N. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts said that there had been nine Priority One calls in November with an average time of six minutes eight seconds and eleven Priority Two calls with an average time of nine minutes. The average of the twenty calls was eight minutes fifty-three seconds. He said that he has spoken to Pride Care headquarters in Kalamazoo to discuss the few times an ambulance crew is staying at the Township Fire Station as evidenced by the number of times there are no ambulance crew cars in the parking lot at the Township Hall. Butts said that he was told there is more space at the ambulance building in Dowagiac (there are four bays) and it is easier to change shifts there.
- O. **Treasurer:** Fusko went over her written report. She said that she has been busy collecting taxes. Fusko said that she has completed the Limited English Proficiency Plan as required by the USDA because of the grant and loan the Township had received. She said that she has been able to find a person to translate if needed.
- P. **Clerk:** Reich announced that the Dowagiac Union School District has chosen to have an election in May. He said that the new voting machine requires that the laptop computer used for the election must have a Windows 10 operating system. Butts told him to look for a laptop now.
- Q. **Supervisor:** Supervisor Butts: (1.) reported that Reich had sent the most recent P.A. 116 application to the State of Michigan; (2.) said that a letter has been sent out to the owner of the new home on Gage St. requesting that he contact his insurance company to get it to pay the \$250.00 bill to bring in equipment to raise the roof of the house to put out the fire underneath it; (3.) reported that the County Administration is hosting a forum which will discuss the future of the old Court House and the future of the County; (4.) said that I & M must get a renewal of the erosion permit it had taken out to install the substation on the north side of the Township on Glenwood Rd.; (5.) reported that the Township has registered with the Census Bureau in the LUCA program to make sure that new Township residences with new addresses are registered with the Census Bureau; (6.) said that the Township attorney has suggested that the Township Board adopt a resolution to require an escrow account be used in Special Use Permit application cases. The escrow could be used to have the applicant pay for the Township's extra expenses in connection with the Special Use Permit; (7.) said that Michigan Die Casting is being charged for the Township Attorney fees expended to get the IFT transferred from Premier Die Casting to Michigan Die Casting.

R. **Township Website:** There was no report.

S. **MEANDRS:** Maley said that there had not been a meeting in December.

11. **Payment of Bills:** *Motion by Fusko to pay the revised list of bills. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*

12. **Old Business:**

A. **Township Hall/Fire Station Sign:** Work on the sign has been suspended until Spring.

B. **Road Work for 2018:** Butts gave the members of the Board a detailed worksheet of possible road projects for 2018 and the cost of each with the Road Commission's matching funds figured in. The list he had provided took into account the date of the last work and type of work done, the location of the road (number of people served by the road), among others. Butts said that the Road Commission wants contracts finished by March. Butts said that the Board would need to make project decisions at its February meeting.

13. **New Business:**

A. **Pier Problem at Twin Lakes:** Butts said that he had received a letter from a realtor concerning a pier that has been put on a road end at Twin Lakes. The realtor and a property owner contend that the pier "apparently owned by Gary and Dawn Pontius" is harming on-lake property owners from having room to put in their own piers. There was discussion about the Township's resolution # R-17-07-02, saying that the Township will not grant pier permits on road ends at Twin Lakes. *Motion by Butts to send a letter informing Pontius of the situation with a copy of Wayne Township Resolution R-17-07-02. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.*

B. **Budget Work Session:** There was discussion about when to hold the Budget Work Session for the 2018 – 2019 budget. *Motion by Butts to schedule the 2018 – 2019 Budget Work Session for Monday, February 26 at 7:30 P.M. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*

14. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

15. **Adjournment:** *Motion by Maley that the meeting be adjourned. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.*

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk