

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

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, present; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present. Four Township residents (Michael Krager, Jr., Nancy Tabbert, Wanda Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Baker and Craig Yeager) were present. Two guests, Cass County Sheriff Richard Behnke and Dennis Smith, Democrat candidate for the 59th State House District, were present.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Maley led the pledge to the United States flag.
4. **Invocation:** Butts gave the invocation.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** *Motion by Fusko to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2018 Board Meeting. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$400,709.00; **Receipts:** \$7,710.70; **Expenditures:** \$85,714.73; **New General Fund Balance:** \$322,704.97; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$140,459.02; **Receipts:** \$334.21; **Expenditures:** \$20.00; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$140,773.23; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$45,715.11. *Motion by Reich to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** Butts asked that item C., Memorandum of Understanding (between the Wayne Township Fire Department and the City of Dowagiac Fire Department) be added to Old Business and that item A., Weather Stripping for a Fire Department bay door be added to New Business.
8. **Guest Comments:** **Sheriff Behnke:** The Sheriff said that he was present to give the citizens present some facts to show the necessity of voting for the 911 millage request on the Primary ballot. He said that the .2 mill request would provide about \$480,000 and that it is needed because fewer citizens have land lines which provide the main source of revenue for the 911 Center. Behnke said that the revenue is needed to fund major improvements needed to the 18 year old system; **Dennis Smith, Democrat running for the 59th State House seat:** Smith, a retired Lutheran pastor, said that education will be his top priority if he is elected.
9. **Public Comments:** **Michelle Baker:** Baker said that her home had burned down this past Spring and that she needs to know how to get a permit to demolish the house. Butts said that she needs to see the Township Building Inspector to get a free Demolition Permit; **Wanda Allen:** Allen said that she is cleaning up her yard in compliance with the letter she had received informing her that she was in violation of the Township's Blight Ordinance.
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** There was no report from the Building Inspector.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** There was report from the Zoning Inspector.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** There was no report from the Electrical Inspector.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** One Mechanical Permit was issued for \$180.00.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** One Plumbing Permit was issued for \$205.00.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that the AMAR evaluation of the Assessing Department is starting to take place. He said that two points that were missed last time was that the minutes must be signed by the Board of Review chairperson and himself as secretary.
 - G. **Cemetery Manager:** Krager said that there had not been any sales of lots or plots and that there had been two cremation burials.
 - H. **Fire Board:** The minutes of the Fire Board meeting were placed on file. Butts reported that there had been nine runs in June.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** (1.) **Wanda Allen:** Mosier wrote that there was a large pile of trash near the road; (2.) **Coulter, David:** Mosier wrote that there was more junk in the yard and that it appears that Coulter is beginning a scrapping business. *Motion by Reich that Coulter be warned that if his property is not cleaned up by the end of July, Mosier shall issue a citation to clean up his property or appear before the Court Magistrate for a hearing;* (3.) **Holmes, Ken:** Mosier had written that Holmes had removed all but two items of trash from his property; (4.) **Rodriguez, Alejandro:** Mosier reported that the case can be closed; (5.) **Roggow, Michael:** this case is on hold; (6.) **Smith, Diane:** Mosier wrote that the case can be closed; (7.) **Stout, Thomas:** Mosier wrote that all of the trash had been removed and that the case can be closed; (8.) **Syx, Roger, Jr.:** Mosier wrote that that Syx has removed most of the unlicensed vehicles and that he is working to rehab. a wrecker on his property; (9.) **Thielmann, James:** Thielmann has continued to be active in cleaning up the property.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s):** **Baker, Shannon and Michelle:** Mosier wrote that the home had been gutted by fire and needs to be demolished. (see the Public Comments section)
 - K. **Zoning Violation(s):** **M-51 Auto Parts:** Butts said that the owner and operator has agreed

to stop leaving unlicensed vehicles outside and that the Township can make inspections at any time

- L. **Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals:** Butts said that the McManus hearing had been held by the Zoning Board of Appeals and that McManus' application had been turned down. Butts said that a variance hearing for Eric Haas will take place on July 12.
 - M. **Dowagiac District Library (DDL):** Reich reminded the Board that the election will be held on August 7.
 - N. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts went over the Incident Report.
 - O. **Treasurer:** Fusko went over her very thorough written report. She said that August is when the annual payment is to be made. ***Motion by Reich that the Treasurer make the annual payment in August. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*** Fusko asked that the corridor flooring be added to the August agenda so the subject won't be forgotten. Butts asked Fusko and Griggs to look at different ways to cover the floor of the corridor.
 - P. **Clerk:** Reich said that the last day to register for the State Primary is July 9 and that there will be a hearing by the Zoning Board of Appeals on July 12 at 7:00 P.M.
 - Q. **Supervisor:** Supervisor Butts: **(1.)** said that the Board of Review will hold its July "corrections meeting" on July 17 at 1:30 P.M.; **(2.)** reported that he had to send in much more information about the failure of the cement siding such as more pictures and measurements; **(3.)** said that the City of Dowagiac is monitoring water wells on Nubour St.; **(4.)** said that the Township is able to keep its millage rate at .8638 and that the special wording must be in the newspaper ad about the Budget Hearing next year; **(5.)** reported that the Assessor is giving the owner of land on Mud Lake five splits (land divisions); **(6.)** said that Howard and Milton Townships are studying the possibility of merging; **(7.)** reported that another "Imagine Cass" meeting will be held at the Council on Aging building on July 11; **(8.)** went over some of the changes that would result if the proposed bill on assessing is passed. He showed that most of the changes would hurt townships and the citizens in the townships by losing community control over the Board of Review.
 - R. **Township Website:** Griggs said that he continues to update the Township's website as usual.
 - S. **MEANDRS:** Maley said that the June 25 meeting had been cancelled.
11. **Payment of Bills:** ***Motion by Fusko to pay the list of bills. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.***
12. **Old Business:**
- A. **Township Hall/Fire Station Sign:** Butts said that posts are in and that the digital portion of the sign is attached and is ready to be programmed by Griggs.
 - B. **Culverts:** The Road Commission is working elsewhere so there has not been any progress on the Township's culverts.
 - C. **Memorandum of Understanding:** Butts said that there had been a meeting of the fire departments involved and that it was agreed that the part stipulating that the dual fire coverage would only be between 5:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. has been removed. Harry Wickett said that the Fire Board needs to approve the agreement and then the Township Board.
13. **New Business: Weather Stripping:** Butts said that he has made arrangements to get the weather stripping on one of the fire bay doors repaired.
14. **Public Comments:** Dennis Smith said that, if elected, he will oppose the proposed assessing bill.
15. **Adjournment:** ***Motion by Griggs that the meeting be adjourned. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk