

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 6, 2020**

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.
(It is to be noted that proper Social Distancing was observed by all present. Also, all Board members wore appropriate face masks. The meeting was open to the public.)
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, present; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present.
Citizens: Craig Yeager was present.
Guests: Sheriff Roger Behnke
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 1, 2020 Board Meeting as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$458,480.56; **Receipts:** \$10,408.85; **Expenditures:** \$14,652.56; **New General Fund Balance:** \$454,236.85; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$198,782.66; **Receipts:** \$221.97; **Expenditures:** \$-0-; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$199,004.63; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$48,971.70. *Motion by Reich to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** No changes were made to the agenda. A bill for toner will be added to the list of bills.
8. **Guest Comments:** Sheriff Behnke went over a variety issues. He said that there are a lot of duplications in reporting the number of people testing positive for the pandemic virus. He said that the riots across the nation and the spread of the virus helped lead to a tripling in new gun registrations and a doubling in concealed weapons permits. Behnke said that his office is fully open with some restrictions. HJe asked
9. **Public Comments:** none
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** There was no report.
Butts said that Herter had signed a two year extension of his contract with the Township.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** There was no report.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** Three Electrical Permits were issued for \$504.00
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** One Mechanical Permit was issued for \$180.00
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** Two Plumbing Permits were issued for \$150.00.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that the State may require that the July Board of Review meeting be a full day meeting in order for people to appeal their assessment. The reason for this is because some Board of Reviews in the state did not finish their March hearings due to the shutdown in response to the Coronavirus 19. Butts said that the Wayne Township Board of Review had totally finished its work before the shutdown started. Bill Kays told Butts that it is unclear whether Board of Reviews that had finished their work have to hold a day-long meeting in July.
 - G. **Cemetery Manager:** Yeager said that there had been one full burial and that one grave site had been sold in May.
 - H. **Fire Board:** Butts said that the fire department had responded to twelve calls in May making a total of 73 for the year.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** (All action by the Blight Inspector is on hold due to the virus.) Yeager said that the junk from scrapping that was in the road at Wanda Allen's property is now gone-apparently in response to the letter sent to Allen.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s):** The case involving the Meltons is moving ahead slowly. The Township's attorney has been helping the owners to get a business to remove a trailer. There is some concern as to why the business is saying they will be working on only one of the two parcels.
 - K. **Zoning Violations: (1.) M-51 Auto Parts:** Butts said that so far the business operators are following the agreement they had made with the Township; **(2.) Tim La Violette:** Butts said that the sign advertising large dogs has been put up in the yard again.
 - L. **Planning Commission:** The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for June 11, 2020.
 - M. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** Butts noted that there is still a vacancy on the Board.
 - N. **Dowagiac District Library (DDL):** Reich shared the construction schedule the library Director had e-mailed to him. The completion for the library is scheduled for the end of February of 2021.

- O. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts said that there had not been a meeting to report on. He did share the latest ambulance run sheets with the Board. It does appear that Pride Care will not be using the Fire Station to house an ambulance and ambulance crew.
- P. **Treasurer:** Butts said that once again Fusko's monthly report was very thorough. Fusko passed out a draft of the summer newsletter. She only needs the article on absentee voters that Reich is writing.
- Q. **Clerk:** Reich said that the Secretary of State will be sending out Absent Voter applications to all Michigan voters except those who are on their Clerk's permanent Absent Voter list. He said that because of this there might be more people voting since they can do it at home. Reich added that the County Clerk is organizing a "Zoom" meeting with all the local clerks to discuss how all election inspectors must have a training session.
- R. **Supervisor:** Supervisor Butts: **(1.)** said that the issue of large, loud dogs on Flanders St. has come back to the forefront since La Violette has put the sign advertising large dogs back up; **(2.)** reported on a probable Land Division on Flanders St. resulting in two new homes; **(3.)** said that Fred Siegel (who lives on McKenzie St.) requested that the Township put up a speed limit sign or a sign that asks drivers to slow down because of children being present. (This request is moot because of the Road Commission's new sign policy); **(4.)** reported that the Building Inspector and Electrical Inspector received applications to install solar panels on a house on Dutch Settlement totaling \$27,000.00.
- S. **Township Website:** Griggs said that he has continued to work on updates as he gets them.
- T. **MEANDRS:** Maley said there is no news since there has not been a meeting.
- 11. **Payment of Bills:** *Motion by Griggs to pay the list of bills. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
- 12. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Road Update:** No contracts for road work have been signed except for Dust Control. Butts said that he had a phone conversation with Joe Bellina concerning road work. He said that the Road Commission is taking down most road signs including all that say "Slow, Children at Play."
 - B. **Dust Control:** The signed contract has been given to the Road Commission.
 - B. **Siding:** Griggs, Fusko and Butts met with Martin Buckland to look over the siding problems and issues with the roof as well. Griggs went over some of the details discussed. He said that breaking the work down into certain jobs is probably the way to handle the different issues. He said that Buckland gave a price of \$400.00 to correct the roof turbines and put insulation in the sides of the roof over the Township Hall to promote correct air flow. ***Motion by Butts to accept the cost of \$400.00 Buckland gave to correct the turbines and improve ventilation in the space over the Township Hall. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***
 - C. **Rudy Road Drain:** Butts said that he has not yet been contacted by the Drain Commissioner.
 - D. **Water Shed Grant:** There was no new information.
 - E. **Census:** Butts said that the internet part is complete and letters are now being sent. The final step will be visits to addresses that had still not responded in any way.
- 13. **New Business:**
 - A. **Fireworks Permit:** Butts said that Todd Bounds had submitted all of the required paperwork to get a Fireworks Permit for July 4. ***Motion by Griggs to grant a Fireworks Permit to Todd Bounds for July 4. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***
 - B. **Millage Rate Resolution:** Butts said that the Board must set the millage rate for the property taxes for 2020. ***Motion by Judith Anne Fusko to adopt Resolution R-20-06-01 to set the Millage Rate at .8607. Support by James K. Griggs. Roll call vote: Judith Anne Fusko, yes; Frank H. Maley, yes; James K. Griggs, yes; Frank L. Butts, yes; Kurt E. Reich, yes. With five yes votes and, zero no votes, the resolution was adopted.***
 - C. **Resolution to Collect Money to Clean Up the Property of Heather Truelove:** ***Motion by Frank H. Maley to adopt Resolution R-20-06-02 to Collect Money to Clean Up the Property of Heather Truelove. Support by Judith Anne Fusko. Roll call vote: Frank H. Maley, yes; James K. Griggs, yes; Frank L. Butts, yes; Kurt E. Reich, yes; Judith Anne Fusko, yes. With five yes votes and zero no votes, the resolution was adopted.***
 - D. **Remote Thermostats:** ***Motion by Reich to allow Butts to purchase two remote thermostats to help with the project to get better air flow in the attic above the Township Hall meeting room and office area as mentioned in the roof report in Old Business. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***
- 14. **Public Comments:** none
- 15. **Adjournment:** ***Motion by Griggs that the meeting be adjourned. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk