

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 12, 2018**

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:38 P.M.
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, present; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present.
Citizens: Two citizens were present: Michael Krager, Jr. and Craig Yeager
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 October 1, 2018 Board meeting as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report: General Fund Balance:** \$324,035.82; Receipts: \$11,589.36; Expenditures: \$22,425.13; **New General Fund Balance:** \$313,200.05; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$163,480.27; Receipts: \$15,024.95; Expenditures: \$270.00; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$178,235.22; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$67,738.06. *Motion by Butts to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** Butts asked that Adding Assistant Fire Chief to the Responsibilities of the Township Supervisor be added to New Business.
8. **Guest Comments:** No guest was present.
9. **Public Comments:** There were no Public Comments.
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** (There were three monthly reports.) Four Building Permits were issued in August for \$1,113.00; Seven Building Permits were issued in September for \$1,021.00; Three Building Permits were issued in October for \$1,372.00.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** There was no report.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** Three Electrical Permits were issued for \$517.00.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Five Mechanical Permits were issued for \$950.00.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** One Plumbing Permit was issued for \$205.00.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that there will be a meeting of the Board of Review on December 11 at 1:30 P.M. He said that the results of the AMAR study have not yet come in.
 - G. **Cemetery Manager:** Krager reported that there had been no sales of lots or plots and that there had not been any burials.
 - H. **Fire Board:** The minutes of the Fire Board meeting were placed on file. Butts reported that there had been twenty-three runs in October. He said that 100 gallons of foam to be used to put out fires have been banned by the EPA. He said that the Penn Township Fire Chief is applying for a grant to replace all of the foam supplies held by the fire departments in the county with a 10% match by each fire department.
 - I. **Blight Inspector: (1.) Coulter, David:** Mosier wrote that there are still several violations and that Coulter did not get a zoning permit to put up the fence he has erected. **(2.) Fisher, John:** Mosier wrote that there are ducks and chickens on the property and that the shed has not been moved far enough from the property line. Because of the non-compliance Mosier issued Fisher a citation as directed by the Township Board requiring a court appearance on December 7; **(3.) Harris, Sheila:** Mosier wrote that Harris has complied except for a small pile of debris which is a mixture of wood and non-burnable items at the north end of her property; **(4.) Roggow, Michael:** this case is now closed; **(5.) Thielmann, James:** Thielmann has continued to be active in cleaning up the property; **(6.) Wilds, Kurt:** Butts said that he had received a complaint concerning junk and trash on Wild's property which is oat 53130 Ridge Rd. Reich was unable to send a letter last month but will send Mosier to speak to Wilds for the December 3 meeting.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s): (1.) Baker, Shannon and Michelle:** the Bakers have not yet taken out a Demolition Permit; **(2.) Canniff, Robert:** Butts said that Canniff has built a deck on the second floor which is directly under a power line. He will check with the electric company to see if this is a violation.
 - K. **Zoning Violation(s): (1.) John Fisher:** see Blight Report; **(2.) Gant, Bruce:** Gant was served with a citation to appear for a hearing at the magistrate's office. The citation lists the violations of the Building Code and the Zoning Ordinance and a violation of the ADA due to using a cement block at the rear door of the home. The hearing is scheduled for November 30.
 - L. **Planning Commission:** The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on December 13, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.
 - M. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** No meeting(s) was held.

- N. **Dowagiac District Library (DDL):** Reich said that with the approval of the millage to expand and renovate the library, work will begin on planning for construction to begin.
- O. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts reported that in the report for September there had been 8 Priority One runs; 18 Priority Two runs and 1 Priority 3 run. The overall average was 9:21 minutes. He said that he had been told that the Ambulance Special Assessment District could no longer charge only those parcels that are occupied by a dwelling or a business. This would, if true, have a big impact on farmers who have many parcels that would be assessed even though they are not occupied. Reich said that he would check with the Township's attorney on the accuracy of what Butts had been told.
- P. **Treasurer:** Fusko went over her very thorough written report. She said that she had billed the City of Dowagiac for its share of the Water District. She said that the amount of money Dowagiac owes will pay for six months of the interest on the loan. Fusko said that the Township had received the largest revenue sharing check it had ever been paid. She said that she has given Griggs the specifications needed for her computer by the software that the County is purchasing to collect taxes (higher "specs" may require that she get a new computer).
- Q. **Clerk:** Reich said that the budget for Land Divisions needed to be updated because of more Land Divisions than expected. ***Motion by Reich to increase the Land Divison Fee line item to \$1,000.00 and increase the Land Division Permit revenue line item to \$1,000.00. Support by Maley. Roll call vote: Kurt Reich, yes; Judith Fusko, yes; Frank Maley, yes; James Griggs, yes; Frank Butts, yes. With five yes votes and zero no votes, the motion to amend the budget carried.***
- R. **Supervisor:** Supervisor Butts: (1.) said that Joe Bonczynski had contacted him about taking down a fence on his property. The fence is also being used by Shawn Sirk who has attached an electrical wire(s) to keep his dog(s) in. The issue is if Bonczynski can remove his fence when Sirk does not want it removed. Butts needs to study the issue of fence rights/responsibilities; (2.) reported that the Road Commission has not responded to his call about the missing "No Dumping" sign on Rudy Rd.; (3.) said that he will be contacting the Road Commission about the damage done to the pavement (on the east portion of Gage St. east of O'Keefe Rd.) by large farm vehicles hauling liquid hog manure and if the Township can recoup some of the funds to repair the pavement; (4.) reported that a GAMPS ruling may take away much of the power of Planning Commissions in saying where agricultural animals can be kept; (5.) said that all three of the ballot proposals had passed and we will need to find out how they will affect townships; (6.) went over the information from the County Treasurer's office concerning the retirement of Diane Klapchuk, a township resident, and a retirement party planned in her honor; (7.) reported on the highlights of a meeting with the Road Commission that he had attended with Frank Maley; (8.) said that the two top Road Commission managers will be coming to the Township Hall on either November 21 or 28 to discuss road projects. He asked Reich to post the date as soon as he knows when it will be; (9.) reported that the 911 Center has three full time job openings; (10.) said that the cost of a bond to cover the Treasurer, Clerk (and their deputies) and the Supervisor is \$688.00 for \$50,000.00; (11.) reported the highlights of the MTA Regional meeting; (12.) said that there is still an issue with the pier on the south end of the little lake.
- S. **Township Website:** Griggs had nothing to report.
- T. **MEANDRS:** Maley said there had been a meeting on October 23 but that he had not been able to attend the meeting.
11. **Payment of Bills: *Motion by Maley to pay the list of bills including the bill from HS Fleet Services for \$7,467.28 to repair the Fire Department's tanker (the bill had not been ready for the Fire Board's meeting and included \$4,000.00 HS had paid to Freightliner of Kalamazoo for engine repair). Support by Griggs. Motion carried.***
12. **Old Business:**
- A. **Township Hall/Fire Station Sign:** Butts said that Creative Vinyl will create and install the top portion of the sign as drawn up by Griggs and cover the posts with metal and vinyl for under \$2,000.00. He said that the Township will take care of installing the underground wiring, putting concrete around the posts and putting in foliage around the sign. ***Motion by Butts to approve the installation of the rest of the sign as agreed to by Creative Vinyl for no more than \$2,000.00. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.***
- B. **Culverts:** The list of culverts was discussed. The Road Commission has agreed to the list of unfinished culverts that have been identified by Butts.
- C. **Hallway Floor Covering:** There was consensus to have the floor covering be 1/8th inch thick.
13. **New Business:**
- A. **"No Dumping" Signs on Rudy Road:** This issue arose when a resident on Rudy Rd. said that a

“No Dumping” sign is gone. Butts said that the Road Commission is still charging \$200.00 to put up a sign. He said that he had inspected the missing sign and said that the post is still present and that the other “No Dumping” sign has many gun shots through it. Butts said that he will speak with the Road Commission to see if we could place new signs on the posts which are already present. ***Motion by Reich to spend up to \$200.00 per sign to replace the “No Dumping” signs on Rudy Road. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***

B. Appointment of Butts to the Position of Assistant Fire Chief: Butts said that when he was appointed Assistant Fire Chief the first time, the Township Board had made the position a part of the Supervisor’s job responsibility. He said that the State law has been changed to allow such an appointment without input from the Township Board but that he believed it would be better if the Board did as it had done so previously. ***Motion by Griggs to make the position of Assistant Fire Chief part of the Supervisor’s job responsibilities. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk