

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

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, absent; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present; Judy Clark, Deputy Clerk, present.
Citizens: Michael Krager
Guests: none
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 December 2, 2019 Board meeting as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$345,583.29; Receipts: \$13,499.22; Expenditures: \$21,973.13; **New General Fund Balance:** \$337,109.38; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$185,058.69; Receipts: \$226.75; Expenditures: \$10,918.75; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$174,366.69; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$460,657.99. *Motion by Butts to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** There were no changes made to the Agenda.
8. **Guest Comments:** none
9. **Public Comments:** none
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** One Building Permit was issued for \$280.00.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** One Zoning Permit was issued for \$30.00.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** Two Electrical Permits were issued for \$306.00.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Three Mechanical Permits were issued for \$516.00.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** No Plumbing Permits were issued.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that six petitions had been filed during the December Board of Review meeting. He said that the Board had considered the petitions, made decisions and that the letters with the decisions had been sent. Butts announced the dates and times of the March Board of Review meetings: March 3 at 1:30 P.M. for the meeting to organize (not to hear appeals); March 9 from 2 to 5 P.M. and 6 to 9 P.M.; March 13 from 9 A.M. to 12:00 noon and 1 – 4 P.M.
 - G. **Cemetery Manager:** Krager said that there had been one full burial and three cremation burials. He said that there had not been any sales of lots or plots.
 - H. **Fire Board:** The minutes of the Fire Board meeting were placed on file. Butts said that there had been eighteen runs in December and a total of 181 runs in 2019. Of the 181 runs three were for structure fires in the Township and seventeen for structure fires outside the Township. Butts said that the Fire Department had won a matching grant from the State. The State will pay \$2,000.00 matching \$2,000.00 paid by the Township. These funds will be used for hand held radios. The Fire Safety Dinner will be held on April 18 and the County Fire Association will meet at the Wayne Township Fire Station on March 30.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** Jason Pompey said that he has been working a lot in the Randall Rd. area. He said there are currently four properties that are non-compliant. One is a property with a severely run down mobile home and an unlicensed vehicle. The owner

has asked for a month to comply. He has not heard from the other three. At Twin Lakes he said that the owners of the properties at Oak Ct. and at Manley have been ordered to comply. He asked the Board if it was prepared to get bids to clean up properties to being them into compliance. He asked if the Board had anyone in mind to do the work. Pompey said that the Township's lawyer will be able to recoup the costs in court. He said that the process used when the Township has to clean up a property will be to post a notice giving ten days to comply and to mail a first class letter. There was discussion about the Oak St. property. The Board told Pompey to proceed with the properties that had been discussed.

Pompey said that he may have to get a search warrant for the house on Twin Lakes Rd. He said that the home on Randall Rd. may be empty and that it has structural damage that would require the Building Inspector to accompany him for the inspection. He said that if it is uninhabited we could wait until spring. The property owned by Cassandra Melton is being dealt with by Roxanne

Seeber, the Township's attorney. Butts said that he will contact Seeber to for a report.
J. Unsafe Building(s): (1.) Baker, Shannon and Michelle: Yeager said that there is still a pile of debris left over from the demolition of the burned out home; **(2.)**

Melton, Joseph: the property owner, Cassandra Melton, is working with the Township's attorney on removing two mobile homes, several unlicensed vehicles and debris and junk in the yard.

K. Zoning Violations: (1.) Herter, Don: Butts did not report if Don Herter had found out about the State's Building Code regulations concerning the distance allowed between buildings; **(2.) M-51**

Auto Parts: Butts said that so far the business operators are following the agreement they had made with the Township and that the Township will have to keep monitoring the situation.

L. Planning Commission: The Planning Commission met on December 12 and concentrated on commercial solar installations. The discussion was tabled until the March 12th regular meeting.

M. Zoning Board of Appeals: no report

N. Dowagiac District Library (DDL): Progress on the expansion and renovation of the library continues.

O. Emergency Services Authority (ESA): Butts distributed copies of the Pride Care response times. There was discussion about the contract with the Cassopolis ambulance area which has shifts of 24 to 36 hours.

P. Treasurer: Fusko presented a very thorough written report. She noted that revenue sharing was up.

Q. Clerk: no report (It was noted that budget amendments would be taken up when Reich returns.)

R. Supervisor: Supervisor Butts: **(1.)** noted that a farmer on Dewey Lakes St. is using bio-chemicals which are friendly to the environment; **(2.)** reported that the federal government will be hiring workers to help with the census. Most of the jobs will last eight weeks and pay \$20.00/hr. He said that Census forms are being mailed out on March 10 and that the website

will open on March 15. Butts said that the deadline to return the Census forms is April 1; **(3.)** informed the Board that he had agreed with Mark Davis that a person can purchase a Zoning Permit for a carport; **(4.)** said that a property owner on Lawndale and Arnold had put up a fence

without getting a Zoning Permit. Butts said that the owners will get a permit and pay a penalty;

(5.) reported that old tires had been dumped along M-51 North on property owned by Michigan

Power. Butts called Michigan Power and asked them to remove the tires—which they did do;

(6.) said that the County Road Commission had decided to be pick up serious trash “dumps” along County and township roads as long as the townships contribute \$250.00 to a cleanup fund;

(7.) said that the P.A.116 approved by the Township last year had not been sent to the State

until he helped Reich complete the process; (8.) reported that a man who works for UPS has purchased a house at Twin Lakes and has inquired about lake rights of those who live off the lake.

S. Township Website: Griggs had no news.

T. MEANDRS: Maley said that dirt is being excavated and work continues on removing the dam at Pucker St.

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

12. **Old Business:**

A. Roads: Butts said that the Road Commission has a new policy concerning dangerous trees—

that the Road Commission will inspect the trees that the Township turns into them and will make a decision on removing the tree(s). The Board accepted a pamphlet “Winter 2020” from the Road Commission. Butts said that the culvert on Atwood Rd. is being repaired but that he has not heard anything about the bad culvert on Rudy Rd. Butts spoke about the road work for 2020. He said that chip and seal will cost \$20,000.00 per mile. The Board spent \$110,000.00 in 2019 on roads.

Chip and seal was discussed concerning using it in 2020. Butts wrote down all the roads being discussed and will send the list to the Road Commission to get firm estimates. The amount of money for road work will be discussed at the Budget Work Session in February.

B. Roof Problem: Butts said that nothing has been done on getting quotes to repair the roof on

the Township Hall. He said that the hose tower roof needs work as well.

13. **New Business:**

A. M-51 Auto Parts: Butts said that a new fence has been put up at M-51 Auto Parts. He said

that some neighbors have complained. It was decided to send Mark Davis, Zoning Administrator, to speak to the manager of the business.

B. Handicapped Door Quote: Butts said that the cost to install a handicapped door opener is

\$1,929.00 (does not include hooking up the electric). **Motion by Butts to accept**

the quote

from Automatic Door Service to install an automatic door opener with the cost not to

exceed \$2,000.00. Support by Maley. Motion carried.

C. New Fire Chief: Butts said that the Fire Board wants the position of Fire Chief posted on the

Township’s website and on the door of the Township Hall. He said that the closing date to submit

an application is February 10.

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 8:33 P.M.

Judy Clark, Deputy Clerk