

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 3, 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, present; Frank Maley, present.
Citizens: Two citizens were present: Michael Krager, Jr. and Craig Yeager
Guests: Two guests were present: Sheriff Richard Behnke and County Treasurer Hope Anderson
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 Maley to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2018 Board meeting as printed. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** General Fund Balance: \$313,200.05; Receipts: \$45,733.86; Expenditures: \$21,116.04; New General Fund Balance: \$337,817.87; Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds): \$178,235.22; Receipts: \$168.92; Expenditures: \$27,748.32; New Fire Department Fund Balance: \$150,655.82; Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance: \$29,666.11. *Motion by Griggs to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Reich. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** Butts asked that Ambulance Special Assessment be added to Old Business, as Item D.
8. **Guest Comments:** **A. Hope Anderson, Cass County Treasurer:** (1.) As the new County Treasurer, Anderson said that it is an honor to serve the people of Cass County; (2.) she said that Michigan has taken a step forward by offering a new property tax assistance program which offers an interest free loan on the total of taxes owed. If the person stays in their home for five years the loan will be forgiven. Anderson said that it has already helped 125 homeowners in Cass County; (3.) Anderson said that there is a scam going on with fake letters being sent to taxpayers from the Michigan Department of Treasury.
B. Sheriff Richard Behnke: (1.) warned that fake jury notices are being received by residents that try to collect payments for the person not appearing for jury duty. The fake notice is trying to get account information to steal funds from the resident; (2.) said that with the passage of the legalization of recreational marijuana local municipalities must pass a resolution to "opt in" or "opt out" of the effects of the passage of the proposal. (This information resulted in a lengthy discussion about "opting in or out" and when a resolution needed to be passed.)
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:** Two Electrical Permits were issued for \$441.00.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Three Mechanical Permits were issued for \$660.00.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** No Plumbing Permits were issued.
 - 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 AMAR report pointed out just one error in the paperwork submitted by the assessor, Bill Kays, and that the correction has already been sent 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 ten runs in November. He said that another new firemen, Matthew Geer, has signed up but that Aaron Hartle will be leaving the department in January for a new job in Indiana.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** There was no report as Mosier was out of state and will be performing the inspections in the middle of the month.
 - 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:** A hearing was held in front of the magistrate. Fisher said that he had owned the property before the Township's Zoning Ordinance section on keeping farm animals had been adopted. The magistrate held the hearing over for the Township to prove when the farm animal section had been adopted; (2.) **Gant, Bruce:** Gant's hearing was held over as well so the Township could provide more information on the Building Code and the Zoning Ordinance.
 - 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, a meeting is going to be held at the library to go over the architects' plan and to suggest possible changes.
- O. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts went over the ambulance run report.
- P. **Treasurer:** Fusko went over her very thorough written report. She said that the tax bills had been sent out on November 30 as required by state law.
- Q. **Clerk:** Reich said that the budget for the setup of the election machines had to be increased.
Motion by Kurt Reich to increase the Election Machine Setup line item to \$4,000.00.
Support by Judith Fusko. 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 passed.
- R. **Supervisor:** Supervisor Butts: (1.) said that Comcast had sent out a sheet detailing price increases for certain cable programs; (2.) reported another new home is going up in the Township; (3.) said that SMC is hosting an open house for its new nursing education center; (4.) reported on a hearing by the Public Service Commission for an I & M rate increase; (5.) said that the MTA is working on a proposed resolution for townships to adopt concerning the passage of the Recreational Marijuana proposal; (6.) said that he had completed putting caulk at the bottom of the west entrance door; (7.) reported that there is still no way for the fire departments in the county to get rid of the fire killing foam they have on hand.
- S. **Township Website:** Griggs said that Kerry Collins had told him there is a problem with the website technology resulting in no movement from the home page.
- T. **MEANDRS:** Maley said that no new meeting has been scheduled.
11. **Payment of Bills:** *Motion by Fusko to pay the list of bills with the addition of the new bills that had come in today and to not send the check to the Road Commission until the culverts are completed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
12. **Old Business:**
- A. **Township Hall/Fire Station Sign:** There was agreement on the color for the top portion of the sign. The total cost of the sign will be \$1,710.00. Motion by Griggs to pay \$900.00 as a down payment for the sign. Support by Maley. Motion carried.
 - B. **Culverts:** The culverts are about completed.
 - C. **Hallway Floor Covering:** The next step is to get a business to install the floor coating.
 - D. **Ambulance Special Assessment:** Butts reported that the Township Attorney said that the law under which Wayne Township had set up its Ambulance Special Assessment District allows it to charge only improved parcels for ambulance service.
13. **New Business:**
- A. **Discussion of the List of Road Work Projects for 2019:** The Board discussed the list of road work projects that the Road Commission had proposed the Township consider for 2019. Butts had provided the last year work had been done on the roads listed. There was consensus to look over the roads listed so a list of work could be given to the Road Commission at the January 7 meeting.
 - B. **Implications of the Passage of Recreational Marijuana Usage on the Township Personnel Policy Handbook:** There was a lengthy discussion of how the legalization of recreational marijuana will affect the personnel policy which prohibits the usage of alcohol and drugs. It was agreed that we will have to study how the issue is dealt with by other municipalities.
 - C. **Appointments/Reappointments to Township Boards/Commissions/Committees:**
 1. **Board of Review:** *Motion by Butts to appoint Rudy Klobucar, Joe Van Tuyle & Michael Watts to the Board of Review for two year terms ending December 31, 2020. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.*
 2. **Cemetery Committee:** *Motion by Judy Fusko to appoint David Accoe to the Cemetery Committee to fill out the term of David Seifferlein until March 31, 2019. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
 3. **Planning Commission:** *Motion by Butts to reappoint Floyd Groner and Lori Schoff to the Planning Commission for three year terms ending December 31, 2021. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
 4. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** *Motion by Reich to reappoint Jeff Larsen and Ned Sutherland to the Zoning Board of Appeals for three year terms ending December 31, 2021. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.*
 - D. **Missing Key:** Griggs said that his truck had been broken into and many things were stolen. Among the items stolen were keys to the Township Hall. There was discussion of what to do

about the issue. There was consensus to not rekey the door since the key was not identified and because the door is part of the alarm system.

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 9:25 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk