

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

December 6, 2021

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M.
(It is to be noted that all five Board members have been vaccinated and that masks were worn because Cass County is one of ten counties in the State with a high number of new COVID cases.)
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, present; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present.
Citizens: Craig Yeager & Nancy Tabbert
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge to the United States flag was led by Trustee Maley.
4. **Invocation:** Supervisor Butts gave the invocation.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** *Motion by Fusko to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2021 Board Meeting as corrected. Supported by Maley. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$394,499.33; **Receipts:** \$52,666.14; **Expenditures:** \$25,233.79; **New General Fund Balance:** \$421,931.68; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$281,330.50; **Receipts:** \$512.95; **Expenditures:** \$29,442.02; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$252,401.43; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$162,362.93. *Motion by Reich to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** Reich read a list of new that had just arrived. *Motion by Griggs to approve the Amended Agenda. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
8. **Guest Speaker:** There was no Guest Speaker.
9. **Public Comments:** **Nancy Tabbert:** Tabbert said that someone had stolen some items that had been in the carport in her yard.
 - A. **Building Inspector:** There was no current report. Don remains in the hospital with Covid 19.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** There was no current report. Mark has been helping with Building Permit questions.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** Three Electrical Permits were issued for \$533.00
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Four Mechanical Permits were issued for \$650.00
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** One Plumbing Permit was issued for \$115.00.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that Kays was working on material for the December Board of Review meeting which will be held on December 14 at 1:30 P.M. Butts said an Alternate to the Board of Review is still needed.
 - G. **Cemetery Report:** Craig Yeager said that there was no news. He added that he had taken a suggestion to add the township's web address to the sign at the cemetery.
 - H. **Fire Board:** Chief Butts said that there had been 14 runs in November. He reported that he had sent a letter to an insurance company requesting pay for foam used in a house fire.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** The report that came with the bill was gone over.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s): Morton St. A-Frame:** Butts said there is still no news on the building or property.
 - K. **Zoning Violations:** no news
 - L. **Planning Commission:** Griggs said he will be bringing MTA articles on solar and wind power to the December meeting.
 - M. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** no news
 - N. **Dowagiac District Library (DDL):** Reich said that Brad Ruminer is leaving the library
 - O. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts went over call numbers and times from two reports that had arrived.
 - P. **Treasurer:** Fusko: **(1.)** said the credit cards have arrived; **(2.)** went over information she is giving to residents concerning access to the internet; **(3.)** brought up the need for office holders to have assistants who can take over if the office holder is absent or otherwise incapacitated. She said the budget should reflect using assistants regularly.
 - Q. **Clerk:** Reich said no budget amendments are needed this month.
 - R. **Supervisor:** Butts reported the following: **(1.)** did not hear any more information concerning the North Red Mill School building. It is clear that the 4-H group cannot own a building; **(2.)** Comcast fees are going up; **(3.)** ISO has contacted code enforcement; **(4.)** the Supervisor's group has met recently. The proposal for a county ordinance allowing ATV's on roads is still being considered. There was a discussion about the Board passing another motion showing it does not support the proposal. *Motion by Griggs that the Wayne Township Board does not approve allowing ATV's on county roads. Support by Fusko. Motion carried;* **(5.)** the county will be getting \$10 million from the federal government for Covid relief. The county administrator said he would like the county to work with the townships in hopes that the funds could go further; the county is getting \$100,000 from marijuana sales.

- S. **Township Website:** Griggs said our website will now end with .gov
- T. **MEANDRS:** Maley said a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at the Pokagon township hall.
11. **Payment of Bills: Motion by Griggs to pay the amended list of bills. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
12. **Old Business:**
- A. **Snow Plowing Bids:** Reich said that just one bid (sent by Matt Burks) has been received to plow snow on township property. **Motion by Griggs to accept the bid of Matt Burks to plow snow on township property. Support by Fusko. Motion carried. Motion by Butts to send a letter thanking Joe Van Tuyle for past service plowing snow for the township. Support by Fusko. Motion carried.**
13. **New Business:**
- A. **Resolution 21-12-01: 51% Petition Resolution:** There was a discussion about the Board accepting a petition from owners of at least 51% of the Mill Pond's land mass to kill milfoil weeds in the water. **Motion by Frank Maley to adopt Resolution R-21-12-01. Support by Judith Fusko. Roll call vote: Frank Maley, yes; James Griggs, yes; Frank L. Butts, yes; Kurt Reich, yes; Judith Fusko, yes. With five yes votes and zero no votes, the resolution was adopted.**
- B. **Cost Recovery:** Butts said that the Fire Board had discussed a "User Pay" concept at its last meeting to have property owners' insurance companies pay for fire runs. Butts said that the Dowagiac Fire Department may charge for runs if we do not. He said there is a company that collects such funds. No action was taken by the Fire Board.
14. **Public comments:** Griggs made a statement about computer security. He said that if a website or e-mail requests a telephone or account number we should go to the company website to provide information.
15. **Adjournment: Motion by Maley that the meeting be adjourned. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.**
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk

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