

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 2, 2023**

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.
Citizens: Six members of the public (Craig Yeager, Catherine Yoder, Tom Jaslowski, and Dave Davis, Larry Davis, & Alan Middaugh) were present.
Press: none
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge to the United States flag was led by Trustee Griggs.
4. **Invocation:** Supervisor Frank Butts gave the invocation.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** September 7, 2023 Board Meeting: *Motion by Maley to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2023 Board Meeting. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$472,412.58; **Receipts:** \$105,458.85; **Expenditures:** \$81,804.88; **New General Fund Balance:** \$480,337.76. **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** 328,585.97; **Receipts:** \$22,000.00; **Expenditures:** \$2,818.36; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$347,767.61; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$212,821.46. *Motion by Griggs to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
7. **Agenda:** Butts asked that two bills be added to the list of bills: UHY \$857.50 & \$500. for Jim Griggs until he presents his outstanding bills, the \$500. approval is in place.
8. **Guest Speaker(s):** None.
9. **Public Comments:** none
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Administrator:** Butts said Saunders issued 3 permits-reroof/windows
 - B. **Zoning Report:** One
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** One Electrical Permit was issued for \$200.
 - D/E. **Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector:** Five Mechanical Permits were issued for \$815.
Plumbing Inspector: No Plumbing Permits were issued
 - F. **Assessor Report:** Land Division & created new Data Base for the County use for ambulance tax assessing for Special Assessment District
 - G. **Cemetery Report:** No burials/sales
 - H. **Fire Board:** Chief Yeager reported 10 calls. .
Big fire truck goes in for tire changes. New tires est. \$500. + \$50. for labor, in October. Township Board will be inviting Fire Board to the next Township Board meeting to discuss Fire Prevention week and a presentation will be made to the student who reported a fire which saved her family, she will be honored for her quick and decisive response with the awarding of a plaque.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** No report
 - J. **Unsafe Buildings:** The owners of house on 69th Street will be torn down and the electrical and water kept. Owner needs letter from Chief Yeager stating the fire is no longer lingering in any of the materials that would be hauled away to the disposal areas. This was requested by the disposal managers.
 - K. **Zoning:** Planning Committee met on September 14th and Jim Griggs reported they would be working with the County Planning on the Master Plan.
 - L. **Dowagiac District Library:** No report
 - M. **Treasurer:** Treasurer presented her report.
 - N. **Clerk:** Sadly, our Clerk was absent and is in PT @ The Timbers in Dowagiac, soon to be back to work and much improved. Greatly missed!
In the Budget Report: Supervisor Butts brought 4 items to the attention of members that needed adjustments. Motion to approve by Butts; 2nd by Maley. Motion carried.
 - O. **Supervisor Report:** Butts shared about the meeting held at Fire Keepers regarding legal Issues that arise and how to handle them more completely. Essential services, FIOA, solar ordinance, were a few mentioned.

- P. Website:** Jim Griggs reported the website was down in visitation, probably due to tax season being nearly over.
- R. MEANDRS:** Frank Maley brought interesting news regarding the work being done on the river. He noted that a meeting on September 25 gave opportunity to speak to others regarding the project. Eleven people attended

OLD BUSINESS:

Continued discussion on finding out the discontinuation of Pride Ambulance Service and the multiple meetings that have resulted in the dissolution of ambulance service. Jim Griggs reported that the signed contract and monies had been delivered to TL Roofing and Siding. Work will be completed before winter. The County Planning Commission received the \$1500.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fusko brought information regarding Charlene Brown and her desire to track the cemetery maps and indexes into a spreadsheet format. Ms. Brown hasn't consented as of now, but Fusko is hoping she will do this needed job, and for nominal monies.

A new contract was approved for Matt's Lawn Care and Snow Plow, A box was checked which gave the opportunity to hold a 3-year price-hold guarantee. Motion by Butts, 2nd Maley. Motion carried.

Resolution R-23-10-03 For partial termination of farmland development rights agreement, Motion Fusko, 2nd Maley. Motion carried.

Roll Call: Fusko, aye; Maley, aye; Griggs, aye, Butts, aye. Four: aye's 0: nays

Resolution R-23-10-02: Property tax poverty exemption guidelines

Motion Griggs; 2nd Maley. Motion carried

Roll Call: Griggs aye; Maley aye; Fusko aye; Butts aye. Four: aye's. 0: nays

Resolution R-23-10-01: Signature additions to three (3) township checking accounts

Motion Butts, 2nd Fusko Motion carried

Roll Call: Butts, aye; Fusko, aye; Griggs, aye; Maley, aye. Four: aye's. 0: nays

Discussion about hiring UHY Consultants to do accounting and a proposal from UHY via Audrey Salesberry with a cost analysis was shared. No decisions were made as it was introduced to be addressed in November and when our clerk would be present to have input and thoughts shared.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. by Maley, 2nd Griggs. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Reich
Deputy Clerk