

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

August 2, 2021

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:38 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 and Tom Jaslowski
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 July 6, 2021 Regular Board meeting. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$500,812.75; **Receipts:** \$60,614.62; **Expenditures:** \$107,148.97; **New General Fund Balance:** \$454,278.40; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$235,894.12; **Receipts:** \$10,013.93; **Expenditures:** \$1,274.47; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$244,633.58; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$70,406.45. *Motion by Maley to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Butts. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** Butts asked that "Ambulance Special Assessment Resolution" be added to the agenda as New Business item C. *Motion by Griggs to approve the Amended Agenda. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
8. **Guest Speaker:** Cody Davis of the Cass/Van Buren Counties Health Department presented a short program on mosquitoes and ticks. The presentation included different types of each insect, how to control them, diseases they carry and a period of answering questions.
9. **Public Comments:** There were no Public Comments.
10. **Reports: (Unless noted otherwise, the permits were issued the month before the meeting.)**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** Two Building Permits were issued in June for \$134.00 and three Building Permits were issued in July for \$732.00.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** No report was turned in.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** Four Electrical Permits were issued for \$705.00.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Seven Mechanical Permits were issued for \$1,410.00.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** Three Plumbing Permits were issued for \$721.00.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts reported that the July meeting of the Board of Review heard sixty-two appeals.
 - G. **Cemetery Report:** Craig Yeager said that there had been one full burial and one cremation burial. Butts noted how busy Yeager had been mowing due to the large amount of rain that had fallen. Yeager heartily agreed. Yeager added that there had not been any sales.
 - H. **Fire Board:** Chief Butts said that there had been 19 runs in July with three of them being house fires.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** Beth Pompey had sent a very thorough written report of all of the open cases with an explanation of those cases that had been taken to court.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s): Morton St. A-Frame:** Butts said that he had not heard from Moore Excavating about purchasing the property.
 - K. **Zoning Violations:** The M-51 Auto Parts case is in the hands of the Township's attorney. There had been a hearing scheduled but it was rescheduled for August 6, 2021
 - L. **Planning Commission:** The next meeting is September 9, 2021.
 - M. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** A one year extension on a variance was granted to Karen Centracchio-Coyle for a garage on Twin Lakeshore Dr.
 - N. **Dowagiac District Library (DDL):** Reich said the regular hours of the library are 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. He said that the Finance Committee will be holding a meeting to work on next year's budget.
 - O. **Emergency Services Authority (ESA):** Butts said that Pride Care continues to have trouble hiring enough personnel for its ambulances.—even with starting pay of \$60,000.00.
 - P. **Treasurer:** Fusko explained her written report. She said that people are beginning to use credit cards to pay their taxes. She reported that it is legal to put township funds in credit union accounts. Fusko added that a resolution must be passed by the Township Board to give her permission to put a lien on Heather Truelove's property to collect the township funds spent to clean up her property.
 - Q. **Clerk:** Reich said he has been able to get a uniform low price for propane for both the Township Hall and Fire Station. He added that no budget amendments were needed this month.
 - R. **Supervisor:** Butts reported the following: **(1.)** he had been able to get the application for American Recovery Rescue Plan funds filed with the State on time; **(2.)** he had attended the

second Township Supervisors' meeting—meetings he has found to be very useful.

- S. **Township Website:** Griggs said he had been able to get the explanation of how to pay property taxes using credit cards on the website.
- T. **MEANDRS:** Maley said the first in-person meeting is about to be held.

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

12. **Old Business:**

- A. **Roads:** Dust control applications have been completed and the bill paid.
- B. **Siding & Roof:** In spite of all the rain, no leaks have, thankfully, materialized.
- C. **Rudy Road Drain:** The Township has paid its share of a new drain so work can begin as soon as the company with the low bid is ready to go to work.

13. **New Business:**

- A. **Resolution to Adopt the Federal Conflict of Interest Policy:** *Motion by Kurt Reich to adopt Resolution R-21-08-01 to adopt the Federal Conflict of Interest Policy. Support by Judith Anne Fusko. Roll call vote: Kurt E. Reich, yes; Judith Anne Fusko, yes; Frank H. Maley, yes; James K. Griggs, yes; Frank L. Butts, yes. With five yes votes and zero no votes, the resolution was passed.*
- B. **Cracks in the Parking Lot:** There was a discussion about the large number of cracks in the parking lot. There was consensus that the cracks need to be filled before the winter months. There was a discussion about what business to get to fill the cracks. There was consensus to hire Shembarger if he would do the job for no more than \$2,000.00.
- C. **Resolution Setting the Ambulance Special Assessment Rate:** *Motion by James K. Griggs to adopt Resolution R-21-08-02 setting the ambulance special assessment rate per household at \$0.00. Support by Judith Anne Fusko. Roll call vote: James K. Griggs, yes; Frank L. Butts, yes; Kurt E. Reich, yes; Judith Anne Fusko, yes; Frank H. Maley, yes. With five yes votes and zero no votes, the resolution was adopted.*
- D. **Truelove Property Lien:** The procedure to add a property lien onto the property of Heather Truelove at Twin Lakes had never been finalized. A new resolution is needed and then turned into the County Clerk to be added to the property records. *Motion by Judith Anne Fusko to adopt Resolution R-21-08-03. Support by Frank H. Maley. Roll call vote: Judith Anne Fusko, yes; Frank H. Maley, yes; James K. Griggs, yes; Frank L. Butts, yes; Kurt E. Reich, yes. With five yes votes and zero no votes, the resolution was adopted.*
- E. **Pier Violations:** Butts said that he had not heard from Donald Tate or David Urban in response to the letter sent to each of them concerning the pier they were using at the small park on the northeast part of the big lake. (The pier is in violation of Resolution R-17-07-02.) *Motion by Fusko to refer Tate and Urban to Pompey to begin enforcement procedures against them. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*

14. **Public comments:** none

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 P.M.

Kurt Reich, Clerk