

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

July 6, 2021

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.
(It is to be noted that proper Social Distancing was observed by all present and all five Board members have been vaccinated.)
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, present; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present.
Citizens: Craig Yeager, Nancy Tabbert and Taylor Phillips
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge to the United States flag was led by Trustee Griggs.
4. **Invocation:** Supervisor Butts gave the invocation.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** *Motion by Maley to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2021 Regular Board meeting with Support by Fusko. Motion carried.*
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$507,861.57; **Receipts:** \$9,618.06; **Expenditures:** \$16,666.88; **New General Fund Balance:** \$500,812.75; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$236,218.62; **Receipts:** \$1,417.44; **Expenditures:** \$1,741.94; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$235,894.12; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$48,586.30. *Motion by Griggs to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
7. **Approval of Agenda:** *Motion by Maley to approve the Agenda as printed. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.*
8. **Public Comments: Taylor Phillips:** Phillips said that he has inquired how big the public access around each of the lakes is at Twin Lakes. He said that he has gotten many different answers to this question. Jim Griggs said that there is no exact answer since the water level changes and some parts of the lake has a "beach" area well past the 100 feet deep lot size. Phillips asked who has liability if a person gets hurt in the access points (**no one could answer this**); can piers be put in at the access points (**no overnight piers are allowed**); where did the speed limit signs go (**the County Road Commission took them out**).
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Building Inspector:** Herter turned in a report for permits issued from May 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021 totaling \$23,511.40.
 - B. **Zoning Administrator:** No report was turned in.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** Four Electrical Permits were issued for \$747.00.
 - D. **Mechanical Inspector:** Six Mechanical Permits were issued for \$1,075.00.
 - E. **Plumbing Inspector:** Three Plumbing Permits were issued for \$570.00.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts reported that the July meeting of the Board of Review is going to be held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 1:30 P.M.
 - G. **Cemetery Report:** Craig Yeager said that there had been two full burials and two cremation burials. He added that all four burials were of not residents of Wayne Township.
 - H. **Fire Board:** Chief Butts said that there had been 11 runs in May with three of the eleven being house fires. He said that the department had "donated" \$100.00 to the Council on Aging for the picture ID's that had been completed for the firemen. Butts added that the department is applying for a 50/50 matching grant to purchase a total of \$2,300.00 worth of new fire hose.
 - 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 Moore Excavating has voiced interest in purchasing the A-frame on Morton St. after Butts had spoken to him about a possible demolition there.
 - K. **Zoning Violations:** The case is in the hands of the Township's attorney.
 - L. **Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission's met on June 10. Short-Term Rentals was discussed. There was no action taken since the State may take the subject out of the hands of local municipalities. (The MTA is fighting the State on taking more and more issues out of local control.) There has been no word from the solar company that had been so interested in the regulations of solar farms by the township.
 - 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 there had been 31 runs in Wayne Township in June.

- P. **Treasurer:** Fusko explained her written report. She said she will start to collect summer taxes on July 1.
- Q. **Clerk:** Reich said he is working with Ferrell Gas to get a uniform low price 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 reviewed the status of the Robert Motter property on Twin Lakes Rd. He said it appears that the travel trailer is empty; **(2.)** Griggs has been able to get the Poverty Exemption application on the website as required by the State; **(3.)** he attended the County Supervisor's meeting which he said was poorly attended; **(4.)** the American Recovery Plan application for funds is five pages long and has used the term non-entitled units for townships.
- S. **Township Website:** Griggs said that he has been informed that the address .gov is now free. ***Motion by Butts to keep the Township's web address .gov Support by Maley. Motion carried.***
- T. **MEANDRS:** Maley said there was nothing to report. Butts added that the Mill Pond Association is seriously considering asking that the Township set up a Special Assessment District to get money to buy chemicals that will kill weeds.
11. **Payment of Bills:** ***Motion by Fusko to pay the list of bills adding \$36.55 for postage for the Treasurer and \$6,343.34 for the Pine Lake Drain. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.***
12. **Old Business:**
- A. **Roads:** The contracts have arrived with the 50% bill to be paid.
- B. **Siding & Roof:** no report
- C. **Rudy Road Drain:** Butts said the road above the drain continues to sink. The Drain Commissioner has accepted the low bid to put in a new concrete drain.
- D. **Barking Dogs on Flanders St.:** There have been no new complaints.
13. **New Business:**
- A. **Setting the Date for the Ambulance Special Assessment Hearing:** ***Motion by Reich to hold The annual Ambulance Special Assessment Public Hearing on Monday, August 2, 2021 at 7:30 P.M. Support By Fusko. Motion carried.***
- B. **Resolution to Set the Property Tax Administration Fee for 2021 at 1%:** ***Motion by James K. Griggs to approve Resolution R-21-07-01 setting the Property Tax Administration Fee for 2021 at 1%. Support by Frank H. Maley. 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, Resolution R-21-07-0-1 was approved.***
14. **Public Comments:** none
15. **Adjournment:** ***Motion by Griggs that the meeting be adjourned. Support by Maley. Motion carried.***
The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 P.M.
- Kurt Reich, Clerk