

**WAYNE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2023**

1. **Call to Order:** Supervisor Butts called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M.
2. **Attendance:** Frank Butts, present; Kurt Reich, present; Judith Fusko, present; James Griggs, present; Frank Maley, present.
Citizens: Two members of the public (David Davis, Craig Yeager,) 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.
Approval of Minutes: November 9, 2023 Board Meeting: **Motion by Butts to approve the November 9, 2023 Board Meeting. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.**
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **General Fund Balance:** \$458,650.98; **Receipts:** \$60,563.06; **Expenditures:** \$26,647.70; **New General Fund Balance:** \$492,566.34; **Fire Department Fund Balance (includes Sinking Funds):** \$363,993.08 **Receipts:** \$247.00; **Expenditures:** \$29,464.84; **New Fire Department Fund Balance:** \$347,775.24; **Trust and Agency Accounts (Property Taxes, Special Assessment, and Fire Escrow) Balance:** \$141,449.14. **Motion by Griggs to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
7. **Agenda:** Butts pointed out that five new bills had arrived and will be discussed at the Bill Paying part of the meeting. **Motion by Fusko to approve the agenda with the addition of five new bills. Support by Maley. Motion carried.**
8. **Guest Speaker(s):** County Commissioner James Lawrence gave a brief report highlighted by what to spend the Opioid funds on and had no comment on the progress of renovating the Old Courthouse. He did say that Lucas machines could be funded by the Opioid monies.
9. **Public Comments: Allen Middaugh:** Mr. Middaugh voiced concern that the Township Board was not following the procedures stipulated by the Wayne Township Blight Ordinance. Trustee Griggs read sections of the ordinance that listed the procedures that are to be followed but are not being followed at the present time. Butts said that the issue would be addressed at the Blight Reports section of the agenda.
10. **Reports:**
 - A. **Administrator:** Butts said that Saunders had issued one Building Permit.
 - B. **Zoning Report:** There was no report.
 - C. **Electrical Inspector:** Two Electrical Permits were issued for \$386.00.
 - D/E. **Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector:** Seven Mechanical Permits were issued for \$1,140.00.
 - F. **Assessor:** Butts said that the December Board of Review meeting will be held on December 12, 2023 at 1:30 P.M. in the Township Hall.
 - G. **Cemetery Report:** Craig Yeager said that there had been one full burial and one lot had been sold.
 - H. **Fire Board:** Chief Yeager said that there had been 19 fire runs in November. He reported that the Fire Board had approved funds to funds to repair several radios and \$1,500.00 to replace several nomax hoods which are very old.
 - I. **Blight Inspector:** Griggs went over the report provided by Zoning Solutions. He said that Zoning Solutions had not been following some of the procedures written in the Blight Ordinance. He went over ways to correct what is required by the Zoning Ordinance.
 - J. **Unsafe Building(s):** no report
 - K. **Zoning Violations:** There was no report.
 - L. **Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing on December 14 on the proposed Short Term Rental amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. The County Planning Commission is discussing a new person to act as a consultant for a revised Master Plan.
 - M. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** No new variance applications had been taken in.
 - N. **Dowagiac District Library:** Reich had no report as he had not been able to attend the Library Board meeting.
 - O. **Emergency Services Authority:** Butts said that the Authority was holding a meeting on December 4.
 - P. **Treasurer:** Fusko had another excellent written report. She went over highlights in her report. She said she renewed several CDs.
 - Q. **Clerk:** Reich said that no budget amendments were needed. He said that he has several issues with the budget and will be working to get them fixed.
 - R. **Supervisor:** Supervisor Butts said that the township's Solar Ordinance must be "in line" with the State's for the township to be able to enforce its ordinance.

- S. **Township Website:** There was no news.
- T. **MEANDRS:** Maley said that a meeting had been held.
- 10. **Payment of Bills:** *Motion by Fusko to pay the revised list of bills. Support by Griggs. Motion carried.*
- 11. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Ambulance Report:** Butts said he had attended a SMCAS Board meeting. He said the agreement has been renewed for 90 days
 - B. **Siding Report:** There was unanimous agreement that the new siding looks great.
 - C. **Homeless Encampment:** Butts said there is not a homeless encampment on Flanders St.
 - D. **Accounting Assistance:** There was consensus to pay UHY for four hours of help per month.
 - E. **Absentee Ballot Drop Box:** The Drop Box has arrived and will be installed very soon.
 - F. **Road Tour With the Road Commission:** The tour will take place as planned on Friday at 3:00.
- 12. **New Business:** There was no New Business.
- 13. **Public Comments:** There were no Public Comments.
- 14. **Adjournment:** *Motion by Griggs to adjourn the meeting. Support by Maley. Motion carried.*
The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 P.M.