

# Essex Township

## Clinton County, Michigan

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Carla Wardin, Supervisor  
Angela Bunn, Clerk  
Kathleen George, Treasurer  
Rex Ferguson, Trustee  
James Gavenda, Trustee

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### 3/16/2016 REGULAR MEETING

Township Supervisor Carla Wardin determined to move the meeting to the Maple Rapids Village Office, due to a power outage at the Community Center. Notice was posted on the door of the Community Center, informing the public of the move. Supervisor Wardin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Maple Rapids Village Office. She began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL

Present: Supervisor Carla Wardin, Trustee James Gavenda, Trustee Rex Ferguson, Treasurer Kathleen George and Clerk Angi Bunn

### VISITORS

County Commissioner Kam Washburn, Deputy Clerk Lori Conner,

### VISITOR CONCERNS AND STATEMENTS County Commissioner Kam Washburn

Washburn reported the recent activity by the County Commissioners, including: the Commissioners have determined the Clinton Area Transit Authority millage question will be on the November 2016 ballot.

The remonumentation project, which measures and verifies the corners of the County, Townships and sections within the Townships, is 2/3 complete.

The County is in the final stages of negotiating the new healthcare contract. Washburn anticipates the new contract will have a less than 3% increase employee costs.

Washburn said that while the Commissioners are aware that the City of St. Johns is undergoing an internal investigation, he has been assured it is not financial in nature.

The County has not heard anything from Forest Hill Energy since their special use permit expired.

APPROVAL OF 2/17/2016  
MEETING MINUTES

The reading of the 2/17/2016 regular meeting minutes was waived. Gavenda moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Supported by Ferguson. Motion passed and carried (MPC).

APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA  
TRUSTEE'S REPORT  
Fire and Medical run  
document

The agenda was reviewed

Ferguson brought to the table the current Fire and Medical Run charges document that is on the Township website, and pointed out the document is old and inaccurate. Bunn will correct.

MRFR run report

Gavenda reported that Maple Rapids Fire and Rescue has been on 15 medical runs and six fire runs so far in 2016.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported the general fund balance is \$139,787.91. She reviewed income and expenditures since the last meeting. 95.2% of Township taxes have been collected. George also reported she has investigated several local banks and credit unions to determine if there is a better option for Township banking. She has discovered that all the local banks she spoke with charge for ACH payments (electronic payments, which is how tax allotments are distributed). At this time, George has determined it is in the Township's best interest to remain with Mercatile Bank. Bunn moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, supported by Ferguson. MPC.

Banking options

CLERK'S REPORT

Bunn reviewed the general ledger for the fiscal year and reviewed checks #5593-5613. She also reviewed the fiscal year-to-date financial report.

Presidential Primary

Bunn reported the March 8, 2016 Presidential Primary election went well. The Township had 456 voters, or 34% voter turnout. She will be submitting a reimbursement request for this election.

George motioned to accept the Clerk's report as presented, supported by Ferguson. MPC.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT  
CCRC annual meeting

The Township's annual meeting with the Clinton County Road Commission will be April 7 at 8:00 am. The meeting will be to discuss road projects within the Township. The highest priority project recommended by the CCRC is extensive work, re-ditching and gravel on Essex Center Road, between Colony and Kinley Roads. It is a \$29,820.50 project.

Website

Wardin spoke with Jane VanElls and Jason Denovich about redesign and upkeep of the Township website. VanElls will redesign the website for \$600, and maintain and update the site for

\$250 annually. Denovich has offered to redesign and maintain the site gratis, as a Township resident. The website would only cost the Township for domain and hosting.

CC Township Officers meeting

The Clinton County Township Officers Association meeting April 12 will be hosted by Essex Township in the Maple Rapids Community Center.

FY 2016-2017 meeting schedule

The Fiscal Year 2016-2017 regular meetings for Essex Township will be:  
April 20, June 15, August 17, October 19, December 21, February 15, and March 15. All meetings will be held at the Maple Rapids Community Center at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

There being no further business before the Board, Bunn motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15 pm, supported by George MPC.

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

Supervisor Wardin then convened the Public Budget Hearing. The proposed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year was reviewed. The balance forward was changed to \$139,000. All categories and line items were reviewed.

Approval of budget

Gavenda motioned to approve the budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, supported by Ferguson. Roll call vote: Gavenda-Aye; Ferguson-Aye; Wardin-Aye; Bunn-Aye; George-Aye. MPC. Budget declared adopted.

Board salaries remain the same as 2015-2016:  
Supervisor - \$10,000  
Clerk - \$12,937.40  
Treasurer - \$12,937.40  
Trustees - \$105.18 per meeting  
Assessor - \$12,920

BUDGET MEETING ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board regarding the 2016-2017 fiscal year budget, George motioned to adjourn, supported by Gavenda. MPC.

The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be April 20, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Maple Rapids Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Bunn  
Essex Township Clerk