

Essex Township

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

April 19, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Supervisor Carla Wardin, Trustee James Gavenda, Trustee Mark Winsor, Treasurer Kathleen George, Clerk Lori Conner

Visitors: County Commissioner Kam Washburn, Assessor Beth Botke, Clinton County Road Commissioner Pete Blauwikel, Rex Ferguson

Call to Order: Township Supervisor Carla Wardin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitor Statements:

County Commissioner Kam Washburn

- A new health insurance plan for county employees was adopted.
- VFW Service Officer, Barry Walter, is available in the Commissioners' Room every Friday to assist veterans.
- The Clinton County Economic Alliance signed their contract.
- The Clinton Area Transit Authority met and approved their budget.

Township Assessor Beth Botke

- There were 6 petitions presented to the March Board of Review
 - o Three disabled veterans exemptions
 - o One agricultural
 - o Two residential
- Total Ad-Valorem:
 - o Assessed Value: \$102,398,400.00
 - o Taxable Value: \$55,742,732.00
- Total DNR-PILT
 - o Assessed Value: \$775,900.00
 - o Taxable Value: \$392,782.00

Clinton County Road Commissioner Pete Blauwikel

- There was a gas tax increase of 7.3 cents and a diesel tax increase of 11.3 cents. Money to be used to buy new equipment.
- Chloride treatments begin May 5th.

Minutes of March 15, 2017 Meeting: Gavenda moved to approve the meeting minutes, supported by George. Motion passed and carried (MPC).

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed.

Trustee Reports:

- Gavenda reported that there will be a vote on April 20th as to whether or not Clinton County will take over rescue service in Greenbush Township.
- Rescue runs are down in 2017
- There have been 11 fire runs 2017 ytd.

Treasurer's Report:

- The general ledger for the period 03/01/17 –04/16/17 was reviewed including checks #5807 - 5833.
- The total banking balance is \$153,426.41 with \$147,079.70 in the general fund and \$6,346.71 in tax checking. Total income for the period 3/1/17 – 4/16/17 was \$32,166.81 while total expenses were \$11,397.84.
- George is readying the summer newsletter. Items to include: Change in meeting location, veteran services available in the county, cemetery rules, recycling, fees for fire and rescue runs, and road project highlights.
- Gavenda moved to accept the treasurer's report, supported by Winsor. MPC.

Clerk's Report:

- Year to date budget was reviewed.
- There are broken tiles in mausoleum as well as missing glass in north window (Sowle Cemetery). Winsor will assess damage and report at next meeting.
- Ida Bancroft is to be hired to clean mausoleum at a cost of \$100.00.
- Software to track cemetery transactions and plots is being considered. More information to be gathered.
- George moved to accept the clerk's report, supported by Gavenda. MPC.

Supervisor's Report

- Packets were distributed outlining Road Commission projects for 2017.
- Ferralls cut and trimmed two dead trees (Sowle and Beach Cemeteries). Jim Bancroft removed brush.
- George moved to renew three year road millage on November election, supported by Winsor. MPC. Wardin to submit wording to county for millage renewal.
- Meeting location to be changed to Lowe United Methodist Church Hall as they offer free use of hall for the meetings. Elections will continue to be held in Maple Rapids

Community Center. Maintenance fee of \$500.00 and rent of \$375.00 to be paid for use of Community Center.

- Clinton County Community Development is establishing solar regulations. Comments can be submitted until May 1st.

Old Business:

- A thank you letter was received from the Maple Rapids Library for the township's yearly contribution.
- Doug Riley (Clinton County Community Development) reported that in regards to the Maniez project all spoils must be removed by November 1 and the site reclaimed by December 1.

New Business:

- Rex Ferguson commented that Jim Miller is doing an excellent job digging graves for the township cemeteries. He also recommended that flags not be left in cemeteries through the winter as they deteriorate and that flag tips be painted.

Adjournment: Winsor moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m., supported by Gavenda. MPC. The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held June 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Conner

Essex Township Clerk