

**Essex Township - Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting  
December 16, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Visitors:** Commissioner Kam Washburn, Deputy Treasurer Ann Gifford, Assessor Beth Botke, Lynn 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:**

Assessor Beth Botke

- Board of Review was held on December 14, 2021.
  - o New construction included 5 new homes, 8 accessory buildings, 3 additions, and 2 solar panels.
  - o Petitions included 4 Principal Residence Exemptions and 1 Disabled Veterans Exemption.
- Consumer Price Index (CPI) is 3.3%

Kam Washburn, Clinton County Commissioner

- Covid cases are declining in Clinton County. In the past week there were 13 deaths, 60 positive cases in school aged children (down from 300), and 368 total new cases.
- Clinton County continues to assess how to distribute American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. County intends to reimburse licensing fees for restaurants and bars affected by Covid restrictions.
- County continues to study broadband options.
- An organizational meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2022, and a new chair and vice-chairperson will be appointed.
- Commissioner redistricting will take place in 2023. At that time, Essex Township will be in a district with Bengal, Eagle, Dallas, Lebanon, and Westphalia townships.

**Minutes of October 20, 2021 Meeting:** Gavenda moved to approve the meeting minutes; supported by Winsor. Motion passed and carried (MPC).

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed.

**Trustee Reports:**

- None

**Treasurer's Report:**

- The general ledger for the period 10/15/21 – 12/10/21 was reviewed including checks #7217 – 7239.
- Cemetery CD balance is \$6730.52
- Checking account balance is \$132,228.10

- Tax checking account balance is \$46,330.07.
- Gavenda moved to accept the treasurer's report; supported by Winsor. MPC.

**Clerk's Report:**

- Budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 was reviewed.
- Gavenda moved to accept the clerk's report, supported by George. MPC.

**Supervisor's Report:**

- Use of ARPA funds was discussed. Funds must be used by 2026 and Essex Township has been allocated approximately \$130,000. Donations to the ambulance and fire and rescue are being considered.
- Public Nuisance Ordinance #19 was reviewed. George moved to accept Public Nuisance Ordinance, supported by Gavenda, with the following corrections:
  - o Public Nuisances Ordinances No. 19.
  - o Section 3. 10. C. Exceptions: None of the prohibitions enumerated above shall apply ~~not~~ to the following:
  - o Section 4.1 and 4.2: "Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer" to be replaced with "Township Board"

Roll call vote was held:

Yeas: Gavenda, Winsor, Wardin, Conner, George

Nays: None

Ordinance #19 declared adopted.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

- Wardin moved to accept the Essex Township Federal Procurement Conflict of Interest Policy; supported by George. MPC.

**Adjournment:** Gavenda moved to adjourn the meeting; supported by Winsor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held February 16, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Conner, Essex Township Clerk