

Essex Township

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

December 21, 2016 @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, Kate Neese

Call to Order: Township Supervisor Carla Wardin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Maple Rapids Community Center followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitor Statements:

Kate Neese, Clinton County Recycling Coordinator

- Clinton County recycling programs were highlighted, including Clean Community Event, medication disposal programs, and battery recycling
- Further information can be found at the Clinton County Department of Waste Management website. Fliers were distributed.

County Commissioner Kam Washburn

- *9-1-1 tower in the south east corner of the county is now operational*
- *Don Sisung retired from the road commission.*
- *A 2% pay increase was approved for non-union workers in the county.*
- *Barry Walter was appointed as liaison for veterans.*
- *Washburn was re-elected in the November 8th election. Dwight Washington was elected the new commissioner and Bob Showers will be the chairman for 2017*

Township Assessor Beth Botke

- Board of Review met and evaluated three petitions.
- Building permits are up (primarily barns).
- In February 2017, assessment notices will go out. Board of Review will meet in March.
- No change recommended by Michigan Tax Tribunal

Minutes of October 19, 2016 Meeting: George moved to approve the meeting minutes. Supported by Gavenda. Motion passed and carried (MPC)

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed.

Trustee Reports:

- Mark Winsor was welcomed to the board.

Treasurer's Report:

- The total banking balance is \$115,134.56 with \$55,431.68 in the general fund and \$59,702.88 in tax checking. Total income for the period 10/16/16 – 12/20/16 was \$18,082.88 while total expenses were \$40,755.42.
- George will collect taxes at her home on December 26, 2016 and February 28, 2017 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. A drop box is also available at her residence.
- Gavenda moved to accept the treasurer's report, supported by Winsor. MPC.

Clerk's Report:

- The general ledger for the period 10/19/2016 – 12/19/2016 was reviewed including checks #5745 – 5775.
- Software is being considered to track cemetery transactions and plots. Information is being gathered as to what other townships are using.
- The general election on November 8th, 2016, ran smoothly with 1006 township residents voting.
- Oath of Office was administered to all board members.
- Gavenda moved to accept the clerk's report, supported by George. MPC.

Supervisor's Report

- Road projects for 2017 were discussed. The county's top recommendations are to seal 2 bridges (Essex Center Road north of Colony and Essex Center Road south of Colony), culvert work on both Moss and Essex Center Roads, and the chip sealing or gravelling of various roads. Final determinations to be made in 2017.
- 2017 meetings for the Clinton County Township Officers Associations are scheduled for 1/26, 4/27, 9/28, and 11/16. Wardin is stepping down as president.
- Quotes were obtained to remove a dead tree in Beech Cemetery and dead branches in Sowle. Ferrall's would charge \$690 for work in Beech and \$300 for Sowle. Jamison's would charge \$950 and \$300. George motioned to hire Ferrell's, supported by Gavenda. MPC.
- There was a zoning violation within the township for a pole barn without a building permit.
- Doug Riley of Community Development informed the township that any issues regarding Maniez pond project will be dealt with through the courts and independent counsel.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Gavenda motioned to approve the Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority Contract, supported by George. MPC
- George motioned to adopt the Federal Poverty Guidelines, supported by Gavenda. MPC.
- All members of the Board of Review will be reappointed for two more years.

Adjournment: George moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., supported by Winsor. MPC. The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held February 15, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Maple Rapids Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Conner

Essex Township Clerk