

**Essex Township - Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting
October 20, 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, Cemetery Manager Bonnie Hale

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:

Kam Washburn, Clinton County Commissioner

- Clinton County is in the process of finalizing their budget and are scheduled to adopt it in November.
- The Clinton County Road Commission is planning to build a new complex on their existing site.
- Clinton County continues to evaluate how to best spend American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.
 - o \$2 million has been allocated to assist small businesses negatively affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The county selected the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) to administer the program, which will deliver grants ranging from \$10,000-\$25,000 to small businesses with 100 or fewer employees physically located in Clinton County.
 - o Clinton County hired Guidehouse to assist in writing guidelines for using federal funds.
 - o The availability and capacity of broadband throughout the county is being evaluated.
- The new cellular tower located at Rainbow Lake will have equipment installed on it to assist emergency services.

Bonnie Hale, Cemetery Manager

- Foundations will continue to be poured until November 1.

Minutes of August 18, 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:

- Trustee Gavenda reported that the Maple Rapids Fire Department purchased a fire truck from the Fowler Fire Department.

Treasurer's Report:

- The general ledger for the period 8/3/21 – 10/15/21 was reviewed including checks #7178 – 7216.
- Gavenda moved to accept the treasurer's report; supported by Winsor. MPC.

Clerk's Report:

- Budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 was reviewed.
- Conner moved to reallocate \$3500.00 from account **941 Contingency** to account **567-930 Cemetery: Maintenance & Supplies**; supported by George. MPC.
- Gavenda moved to accept the clerk's report, supported by George. MPC.

Supervisor's Report:

- Jack Anderson repaired the mausoleum door. A sign now hangs on the door directing visitors to contact Bonnie Hale if they wish to have the mausoleum unlocked.
- Essex Township has received acknowledgement that they will receive ARPA funds.
- The Clinton County Road Commission has completed all scheduled road work for 2021.
- The law office of Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes was contacted to discuss options for regulating solar operations in the township. Their office will draft an ordinance for review by November 5.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: George moved to adjourn the meeting; supported by Gavenda. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held December 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Conner, Essex Township Clerk