

Essex Township- Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

December 7, 2022 @ 7:00pm

Members Present: Supervisor Carla Wardin, Clerk Tim Karasek, Treasurer Kathy George, Trustee Mark Winsor, Trustee Jim Gavenda

Visitors: Beth Botke, Assessor, Bonnie Hale Cemetery Manager, Kam Washburn Clinton County Commissioner, Doug Steffen Clinton County Road Commission, Kevin Holt Clinton County Road Commission

Call to Order: Township Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:59pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitor Statements:

Beth Botke, Assessor

- State Tax Commission Ruled due to the Headlee Amendment along with the CPI at 7.8%, property taxes will see a 5% increase for 2023.
- The Assessor has completed measurements for the year 2022.

Bonnie Hale, Cemetery Manager No Report

Kam Washburn, Clinton County Commissioner

- Clinton County has hired a new county administrator. His name is John Fuentes.
- Still working on the broadband issue. An 11 member task force has been appointed. 7 companies have bid to service different parts of the county's broadband needs.
- This is Kam's last meeting. After 43 years of public service he is retiring. Supervisor Wardin both thanked and commended him on his years of service.

Doug Steffen, Clinton County Road Commission

- It was a good year for the Road Commission.
- "Pazer" system used to rate roads has Clinton County up 12 points in 2021 (the goal is to improve 1 or 2 points per year)
- Federal roads in Clinton county are 5th in the state out of 83 counties.
- The Commission is fully staffed going into winter.
- Costs for gravel will be up 12-15% for 2023.
- The new Road Commission building is under construction.

Kevin Holt, Clinton County Road Commission

- Introduced himself.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes were reviewed

Moved by Jim Gavenda, Support by Kathy George: Accept the October 19th minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Report:

Trustee Jim Gavenda: Questioned if anyone has looked at how Shiawassee funds their ambulance service? Discussion.

Trustee Mark Winsor: Nothing to report.

Treasurers Report: Kathy George,

- A review of minor changes on reporting as suggested by Patti Shaffer.

M Jim Gavenda, S Mark Winsor: Accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously (MCU).

Clerks Report: Tim Karasek,

- Discussion on budget adjustments.

M Kathy George, S Jim Gavenda: Reallocate \$350 from Clerk Education to Clerk Office Supplies.

MCU

M Kathy George, S Mark Winsor: Reallocate \$270 from Elections Maintenance to Elections Set Up Fees. **MCU**

M Kathy George, S Mark Winsor: Reallocate \$500 from Elections Capital Outlay to Elections Printing and Publications. **MCU**

M Kathy George, S Jim Gavenda: Reallocate \$110 from Elections Maintenance to Elections Printing and Publications. **MCU**

M Kathy George, S Carla Wardin: Reallocate \$50 from Cemetery Maintenance and Supplies to Cemetery Projects and Miscellaneous. **MCU**

M Kathy George, S Jim Gavenda: Accept the Clerks Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisors Report: Carla Wardin,

- Review and discussion of the distribution of the remaining 2022 ARPA fund balance.

M Carla Wardin, **S** Mark Winsor: \$15,707.58 of the remaining ARPA Fund balance will be distributed to the Clinton County Road Commission for the Essex Center Road project. **MCU**

M Carla Wardin, **S** Kathy George: \$17,000 ARPA Fund balance will be distributed to the Clinton Area Ambulance Service for ambulance and equipment purchases. **MCU**

- Review of the 2023 Township Meeting Schedule.
- Karen Martinez will be retiring from our cemetery maintenance staff.
- Phil Glinke will be retained to continue cemetery plowing.
- Various Road Commission projects were discussed.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Appoint Board of Review members Dan Findlay and Lawrence Pierce for a 2 year term.

M Carla Wardin, **S** Tim Karasek: Move to appoint Dan Findlay and Lawrence Pierce to the Board of Review for a 2 year term. **MCU**

Approve the 2 year Board of Review agreement.

- Discussion on the 2 year Board of Review agreement by Beth Botke.

M Carla Wardin, **S** Mark Winsor: Approve the presented Interlocal Agreement for a combined Board of Review. **MCU**

Discussion on the Poverty Resolution.

- Review of the Poverty Resolution by Beth Botke.

M Kathy George, **S** Jim Gavenda: Approve the resolution for adopting guidelines for poverty tax exemptions. **MCU**

Adjournment: **M** Carla Wardin, **S** Mark Winsor: Adjourn the meeting at 7:56pm. Motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held February 15, 2023 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Karasek

Essex Township Clerk