

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

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

Visitors: Assessor Beth Botke, Commissioner Kam Washburn, Cemetery Manager Bonnie Hale, Deputy Tracy Barber

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:

Beth Botke, Township Assessor

- A student from Bath High School will be job shadowing to learn more about the work of an assessor

Kam Washburn, Clinton County Commissioner

- The Clinton County 9-1-1 project is progressing on time and on budget
- Judge Barkman and Judge Schlegel are the current Circuit Court Judges in Clinton County
- Covid cases have dropped throughout the county and Smith Hall is no longer being used for vaccine clinics. Visitations are now permitted at the jail by appointment.
- Mid-Michigan District Health Department director, Marcus Cheatham, is retiring
- The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is allocating money to Clinton County to address covid related issues. Money received must be spent by 2026. Clinton County is considering capital improvements and broadband access programs.
- The 4-H fair will be held in 2021 minus the use of Smith Hall
- Motz Park is open and the Mint Festival is scheduled to held August 13-15, 2021

Bonnie Hale, Cemetery Manager

- Pictures of dead tree and branches in Sowle and Lowe Cemeteries were submitted
- A new phone and contract were purchased for use by the cemetery manager

Deputy Tracy Barber

- Fraud complaints and phone scams are up in Clinton County
- Deputy Barber to resume work in schools 2021-2022
- Deputy Barber to submit items for future township newsletters

Minutes of April 21, 2021 Meeting: Wardin moved to approve the meeting minutes; supported by Gavenda. Motion passed and carried (MPC).

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed.

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Gavenda:

- The Maple Rapids Fire Department (MRFD) has had 48 fire and medical runs in 2021

Treasurer's Report:

- The general ledger for the period 5/1/21 – 6/9/21 was reviewed including checks #7129 – 7149.
- Checking balance is \$150,654.41.
- Tax checking balance is \$7694.26.
- CD Balance is \$6730.52.
- Summer tax bill collection total is projected to be \$798,734.39
- 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 transfer \$150.00 from account 941: Contingency to account 101-915: Legislative: Organizational Dues, supported by George. MPC.
- Conner moved to amend the current budget by adding line item 567-850: Cemetery: Phone and to transfer \$325.00 from account 941: Contingency to account 567-850: Cemetery: Phone, supported by Wardin. MPC.
- Wardin moved to accept the clerk's report, supported by George. MPC.

Supervisor's Report:

- New home construction and solar panel installations are up in Clinton County
- A new culvert has been installed on Wacousta Road. Spot gravel is complete. Second application of chloride is scheduled for second week in July.
- ARPA funds potentially to be used to support Maple Rapids Fire and Rescue. Further discussion to follow.
- Estimates are being sought for dead tree and branch removal in Sowle and Lowe Cemeteries

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: Wardin moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m., supported by George. MPC. The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held August 18, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Conner, Essex Township Clerk