

## **Essex Township- Minutes of the Monthly Meeting**

**October 15, 2025 @ 7:30pm**

**Members Present:** Supervisor Eric Verlinde, Clerk Tim Karasek, Treasurer Kathy George, Trustee Jacob Klaus, Trustee Isreal O'Boyle

**Visitors:** Bonnie Hale- Cemetery Manager, Beth Botke- Assessor, Zach Rudat- Clinton County Commissioner, Paul Sorah- Maple Rapids Trustee, Kelby Lieby- MRFD, Jodi Smith- Clinton Transit

**Call to Order:** Township Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:31pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

### **Visitor Statements:**

#### **Bonnie Hale- Cemetery Manager**

- Cemetery computer program crashed. Looking at new cemetery software. Current software is unsupported.
- Discussion on options. Existing program is limited. Asked Bonnie to continue with fleshing out options.

#### **Beth Botke- Assessor**

- Just received 5 applications for PA 116 submission. All from Jandernoa's property. Will need to address tonight.

#### **Zach Rudat- Clinton County Commissioner**

- Clinton County public budget hearing last night. 10% of revenue derived from state or federal funding.
- Lansing Area Partnership Council expires this year. If not renewed, dollars will go into general fund.
- Fairgrounds: working on a project scope with a 20 year master plan. Comparing now with other counties. Anticipated 7-8 month process.
- Discussion on planning and zoning split decision on Duplain 5 acre reassessment from agriculture to residential. Vote 4-3 against. Decision revisited and reversed.

#### **Paul Sorah- Maple Rapids Trustee**

- CAAS bylaw change and contract discussion.
  - o Main change is offloading points of the contract to the bylaws. Modification of the bylaws will only require 2/3 majority vote to pass.
  - o Bylaws will carry the same weight as the contract.
  - o Discussion ensued.

#### **Kelby Lieby- MRFD**

- Essex Township runs so far this year: Fire 4, Medical 40.

- Now 23 members in the Fire Department.
- Discussion on equipment and activities.

**Jody Smith- Clinton Area Transit**

- Clinton Transit Authority passed audit with flying colors.

**Approval of Board Minutes:**

Approval of the August 20, 2025 Board Minutes.

**M. Kathy George, S. Isreal O'Boyle: MCU**

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Additions:**

1. PA 116 approvals
2. Newsletter

**M. Eric Verlinde, S. Jacob Klaus: MCU**

**Trustee Report: Jacob Klaus**

- Board discussion on bylaw revisions and funding for the previous CAAS meeting and 2/3rds voting change.
- Will invite public to next board meeting for their input on the topic.

**Treasurers Report: Kathy George,**

- Review of Transaction Detail Report.
- Newsletter ideas: Roads, CAASA, veteran exemption changes.

**M. Eric Verlinde, S. Tim Karasek: Accept the Treasurers Report as presented. MCU**

**Clerks Report: Tim Karasek,**

- Review and discussion on budget reports.

**M. Eric Verlinde, S. Kathy George: Accept the clerks report as presented. MCU**

**Supervisors Report: Eric Verlinde,**

- Road repairs on Anderson Rd. bridge will not happen. Bridge not as bad as anticipated.  
A \$31000 savings to the budget.

- Discussion on the Maple Rapids Rd. culvert. Proposed abandoning the road.

**M.** Kathy George, **S.** Jacob Klaus: Accept the Supervisors report as presented. **MCU**

**New Business:**

- Review of proposed PA 116 applications.
- Township Assessor Beth Botke reviewed and displayed proposed properties via her computer. Discussion on Jandernoa properties.

**M.** Tim Karasek, **S.** Isreal O'Boyle: Approve the 5 Jandernoa properties presented to be accepted into PA 116. **MCU.**

**Adjournment:**

**Motion to Adjourn 9:17pm.**

**M.** Isreal O'Boyle, **S.** Eric Verlinde. **MCU**

**Next Meeting December 17, 2025 7:30pm**

Respectfully submitted by:

Timothy Karasek

Essex Township Clerk