

Essex Township - Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

December 19, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Supervisor Carla Wardin, Trustee James Gavenda, Trustee Mark Winsor, Treasurer Kathleen George, Clerk Lori Conner

Visitors:

Assessor Beth Botke, Rex Ferguson, Dan VanEtten, County Commissioner Kam Washburn

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:

County Commissioner Kam Washburn

- Clinton County retained the same board of commissioners following the November election.
- Clinton County's budget passed with 72% of the revenue coming from property tax.
- The county is acquiring extra footage in the basement of the court house which will likely become offices to house operations for indigent defense.
- The county voted to utilize Michigan's Public Safety Communication System which will allow towers outside of the county to be used for emergency communications.
- Clinton County is not acting on the marijuana issue at this time.
- The septic ordinance discussion is being tabled until July 2019. The ordinance, if passed, would require all residences to have their sewer systems inspected every ten years.

Beth Botke

- Reported all new construction projects have been visited.
- The Board of Review met on December 11th and had one petition.
- Consumer Price Index (CPI) is 2.4%

Dan Van Etten

- Purchased a house in Maple Rapids (323 E. Main Street) and would like his property taxes reviewed. Botke to follow up.

Minutes of October 17, 2018:

George 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

- Reported that the Maple Rapids Fire Department has had 65 medical runs and 25 fire runs thus far in 2018.
- Reported a 4th ambulance was donated by Elsie to Clinton Area Ambulance Services.

Treasurer's Report:

- The general ledger for the period 10/1/18 – 12/10/18 was reviewed including checks #6101-6144.
- The general fund balance is \$59,793.93. Total income for the period 10/1/18 – 12/10/18 was \$22,893.30 while total expenses were \$67,244,46.
- Cemetery CD balance is \$8358.10. Tax checking balance is \$1094.17.
- Gavenda moved to accept the treasurer's report, supported by Winsor. MPC.

Clerk's Report:

- Year to date budget was reviewed.
- Conner moved to transfer \$400 from "Unallocated: contingency" to "Election: supplies", supported by Winsor. MPC.
- Gavenda moved to accept the clerk's report, supported by George. MPC.

Supervisor's Report

- Wardin attended Clinton County Officers' Meeting.
- Hand-outs were distributed: "Recommended -- Road Projects 2019" and "Roads and Road Funding"
- Forest Hill bridge to be widened Spring 2020.
- Wardin received two calls regarding the proposed septic ordinance.

New Business:

- Gavenda moved to accept the Essex Township Ordinance No. 18, "Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments", supported by Winsor. MPC.
Roll call vote:
Ayes: Gavenda, Winsor, Wardin, Conner, George
Nays: None
- Gavenda moved to accept the "Federal Poverty Guidelines Used in the Determination of Poverty Exemptions for 2019", supported by George. MPC.
- George moved to approve the sitting board (Mike Townsend, Dan Findley, and Lawrence Pierce) for another two year term on the Board of Review, supported by Gavenda. MPC.

Old Business: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held February 21, 2019, at 8:00 p.m. at the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Conner, Essex Township Clerk