

## Essex Township

### Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

June 21, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

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

**Visitors:** County Commissioner Kam Washburn, Assessor Beth Botke, Deputy Micheal Leasher, Sara Morrison, John Anderson, Lee Anderson, Graham Filler, Peggy Pirhonin

**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 received its yearly financial audit and results were positive.
- New zoning ordinance was passed in regards to solar energy.
- A study is underway to assess possible upgrades to Smith Hall.

##### *Township Assessor Beth Botke*

- The Board of Review will be meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in the Lowe United Methodist Church.

##### *Sara Morrison, Briggs District Library*

- Annual report 2015-2016 was distributed.
- Briggs is now offering digital magazines.
- Upcoming library events were highlighted.
- Briggs is in the process of upgrading their facility and gutters have been replaced.

##### *Graham Filler, Michigan Attorney General's Office*

- Business cards were distributed.
- Mr. Filler is available to help navigate State of Michigan government

##### *Deputy Micheal Leasher*

- Highlighted number of police events within Essex Township for month of May.

##### *John Anderson, Instone Data Solutions*

- Presented Instone cemetery mapping software.

**Minutes of April 19, 2017 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:**

- Gavenda reported that Clinton County received a \$750,000 grant to be used for fire truck radios. Also, a chicken barbeque to support the Maple Rapids Fire Department is scheduled for July 29.
- Winsor to check on keys for Board of Review.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- The general ledger for the period 04/16/17 –06/15/17 was reviewed including checks #5834 - 5871.
- The total banking balance is \$146,656.89 with \$145,577.65 in the general fund and \$1,079.24 in tax checking. Total income for the period 04/16/17 –06/15/17 was \$26,428.77 while total expenses were \$27,877.56.
- Copies of summer newsletter were distributed.
- Winsor moved to accept the treasurer's report, supported by Gavenda. MPC.

**Clerk's Report:**

- Year to date budget was reviewed.
- George moved to hire John Anderson (Instone Data Solutions) to digitalize cemetery records at a cost not to exceed \$7000, supported by Gavenda. MPC.
- George moved to reallocate \$5500 in the budget from "Contingency" to "Cemetery Project", supported by Winsor. MPC
- An election is being held on August 8 to consider two millage proposals for Fulton Schools. Essex Township is consolidating with Fulton Township.
- George moved to accept the clerk's report, supported by Gavenda. MPC.

**Supervisor's Report**

- Winsor moved to use ballot proposal #1 in May 2018 election (Renew Extra-Voted Millage), supported by Gavenda. MPC.
- Doug Riley is monitoring the Maniez consent agreement and all is in compliance.
- Israel O'Boyle submitted a rezoning request to construct a driveway on wetland. No concerns from township.

- Mausoleum is in need of repair.
- A tree in violation of the cemetery ordinance has been removed from Sowle Cemetery.
- Plastic flowers will be removed from cemeteries in the winter if they are not secure and begin to blow around.
- Board of Review is to be held at same place as township meetings.
- Gavenda moved that board would adopt and embrace MTA's Principals of Governance, supported by Winsor. MPC.
- Township correspondence was reviewed.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

- New voting equipment is scheduled to arrive in 2018. Payment schedule to be discussed at future meeting.

**Adjournment:** George moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., supported by Winsor. MPC. The next regular meeting of the Essex Township Board will be held August 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lowe United Methodist Church Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Conner

Essex Township Clerk