

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 15, 2019      7:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order/Pledge/Roll Call:**

Sheri Wozniak called the regular meeting of the Howard Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Howard Township Business Office. Pledge to the flag was given. Board members Sheri Wozniak, Linda Rudlaff, Mike Daly, Mike Gordon, Hank Johnson and Bill Kasprzak answered roll call. Craig Bradfield was absent. County Commissioners Robert Benjamin and Mike Grice, Sheriff Behnke, and Deputy Ryan Shields were also present.

A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Johnson to appoint Bill Kasprzak as meeting moderator, carried.

**Approval of Agenda:**

No comments were made concerning the Agenda. A motion was made by Daly, supported by Johnson to approve the Agenda, carried.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Daly, supported by Rudlaff to approve the December 18, 2018 regular meeting minutes as written, carried.

**Financial Report:**

Treasurer Rudlaff read the December 2018 financial report into the record. A motion was made by Gordon, supported by Johnson to accept the December 2018 monthly financial report as presented with a beginning balance of \$381,252.16 and an ending balance of \$303,990.10, carried.

**Approval of Bills**

A motion was made by Wozniak, supported by Gordon to approve the monthly bills for payment, carried.

**Departmental Reports**

Assistant Fire Chief Joe Korp reported 10 fire calls and 24 medical calls for December 2018. He also stated there were a total of 364 calls for 2018. Sheriff Behnke announced Animal Control Clinic for Feb 9 and 23, 2019. The sheriff also announced that some county burglaries had been solved and the suspect apprehended. Lastly, Sheriff Behnke stated the budget proposal has been completed and the township should receive it this week.

Trustee Kasprzak reported that SMCAS remains busy and that all the LUCAS machines are in service; SMCAS employees will be training the firefighters on the LUCAS machines during a Bloodborne Pathogen training on Thursday. Also, SMCAS has disposed of two (2) old ambulances; one being sold to a South Bend school for a high school class they are offering. Trustee Gordon stated the Park Commission would be finishing their budget proposal during the February 4 meeting. He also mentioned the ongoing issue at the end of Hatcher Avenue; a portion at the end of the road not publicly owned.

**Information**

Treasurer Rudlaff presented the Howard-Ellis School Principal Michelle Asmus with the donations collected on our Christmas Tree for children in need at the school. Trustee Kasprzak responded to Park Commission and announced that after careful investigation and conferring with the Township Attorney, Zoning Administrator Linda McGregor confirmed the Park Commission is not required to follow the Township Zoning Ordinance.

**Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

A motion was made by Daly, supported by Gordon to table the acceptance of a new flag pole bid for further investigation of bid, carried. A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Wozniak to schedule budget workshops for January 29, February 13 and Mar 5, 2019 at 5:30 pm, carried. A motion was made by Kasprzak, supported by Wozniak to appoint Christopher Corzine as the Howard Fire Chief; effective February 1, 2019, carried.

## **Correspondence**

None

## **Other Business from the Board**

Treasurer Rudlaff informed all board members of the upcoming MTA Conference in Grand Rapids. Trustee Daly there was no January meeting for the Milton/Howard Township Committee, and the next meeting has not been scheduled.

## **Public Comment**

Commissioner Robert Benjamin introduced himself and informed the board of his replacement at Milton Township; Kelly Sweeney is the Supervisor at Milton. Mr. Benjamin said Mr. Sweeney would be contacting everyone on the Milton/Howard Committee. He also announced a free Board of Review Training coming up. Mr. Benjamin also stated that he was appointed Chair of the County Board of Commissioners and that he would be working toward getting the Cass County Road Commission cleaning the road right of ways. Mr. Bruno Eidietis announced that the Barron Lake Association would be working with a firm out of Galien, MI for weed eradication.

## **Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Gordon to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., carried.

Sheri Wozniak  
Howard Township Clerk