

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
July 19, 2016 7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order/Pledge/Roll Call:

Craig Bradfield 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 Craig Bradfield, Sheri Wozniak, Linda Rudlaff, Hank Johnson, David Brawley and Ashley Wentz answered roll call. Mike Daly was absent. Commissioner Bob Ziliak, Stacy Srivastava of Cass County Council on Aging (COA), Sheriff Candidate Terry Ellis and Mamie Okeke of COA were also in attendance.

Approval of Agenda:

The floor was open to the residents concerning the Agenda. No comments were made. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Rudlaff to approve the Agenda, carried.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Wentz to approve the June 21, 2016 regular meeting minutes as written, carried.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Rudlaff read the June 2016 financial report into the record. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Brawley to accept the June 2016 monthly financial report as presented with a beginning balance of \$856,273.88 and an ending balance of \$810,289.53, carried.

Approval of Bills

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

Departmental Reports

Supervisor Bradfield reported 26 fire calls in June 2016; Chief Leneway was unable to attend the meeting due to a current fire call. A motion was made by Wentz, supported by Brawley to appoint Chad Kuehn to the fire department as a firefighter, carried. Trustee Wentz reported revenues of \$635,951.22, expenditures of \$223,065.50 and checks written in the amounts of \$99,987.62 for June 2016 at SMCAS. Preliminary audit information illustrates a much better direction this year for SMCAS. Losses of \$104,000 last audited year to about \$11,226 audit year. Park Board Member Gordon reported that maintenance of the parks continues and someone reported the little league to the health department. The Township is required to have the well water tested and will do so soon. A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Brawley to approve the monthly reports, carried.

Information

Edwardsburg Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with SCORE is hosting a complimentary workshop "Simple Steps for Growing Your Business" on Friday, August 19 at the Ontwa Township Hall. Cass County is hosting a Used Passenger Tire Collection Day on Saturday, August 20 from 9 am-12 pm (or until two (2) trailers are full). Stacy Srivastava from the Cass County COA explained the August Election Ballot Proposal for the COA. The August 2016 Primary Election is on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. The polls will be open 7 am until 8 pm.

Old Business

None

New Business

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Wozniak to accept the resignation of Jan Smith from the Township Planning Commission effective immediately, carried. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Rudlaff to approve Neil Coulston as the Township's Miss Dig contract for 2016-2017, carried. A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Wentz to approve Resolution 2016-005 supporting the COA Ballot Proposal, carried.

Correspondence

None

Other Business from the Board

A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Bradfield to increase the 2016-2017 General Fund Road Budget by \$19152 to provide the residents with a dust control treatment for all the dirt roads in the Township, carried, Brawley voted no.

Public Comment

Terry Ellis introduces himself and announced his candidacy for Cass County Sheriff. Mr. Jeff Price thanked Treasurer Linda Rudlaff for all of her hard work and the Board for supporting their residents living on dirt roads. He reiterated the importance of dust control to protect health, homes and vehicles. EPA confirmed the dangers of dust particles to our health. Mr. Scott Teter introduced himself and announced his candidacy for District Court Judge. Mr. Kniss described the overgrowth along dirt roads, specifically Burnlynd, and asked the Board to address the issue with the Road Commission.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Brawley to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., carried.

Sheri Wozniak
Howard Township Clerk