

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
August 15, 2017 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 at 1345 Barron Lake Road, Niles. Pledge of allegiance was recited. Board members Craig Bradfield, Sheri Wozniak, Mike Daly, Mike Gordon, Hank Johnson and Bill Kasprzak answered roll call. Treasurer Linda Rudlaff was absent.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Minutes:

A motion was made by Daly, supported by Kasprzak to approve the July 18, 2017 special meeting, July 18, 2017 regular meeting minutes and the August 8, 2017 special meeting minutes as written, carried.

Financial Report:

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Gordon to accept the July 2017 monthly financial report as written with a beginning balance of \$880,077.46 and an ending balance of \$935,053.05, carried.

Approval of Bills

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

Departmental Reports

Trustee Bill Kasprzak reported 20 Total calls for the fire department in July. Sheriff Behnke reported three arrests in a burglary ring and the recovery of a lot of stolen property, including tractors, trailers, etc. Also, mail thieves operating in Berrien and Cass Counties in Michigan and St. Joe County in Indiana have been caught. Behnke also updated the board on the recent Niles murder, stating the husband has been charged with the crime and the police are still searching for the wife's vehicle. Lastly, the sheriff reminded everyone what a great tool Smart911 is and encourages all to participate. Trustee Kasprzak report personnel changes due to the loss of lead medics. SMCAS is also working on a program for a transfer vehicle. Many of the transfers are due to Lakeland Niles not keeping long term patients. And, Kasprzak reminded everyone that the SMCAS cost recovery renewal is coming up. Trustee Gordon reported the electrical check has been completed after the Jones Park vandalism and is ok and the post is reinforced. The Park Board is replacing the shed at Pepper Martin from the vandalism that took place there. And, the Pepper Martin Park bathrooms are having issues. A motion was made by Kasprzak , supported by Wozniak to approve the monthly reports, carried.

Information

The Barron Lake Triathlon will be August 26, 2017. There will be partial road closures from 8-9 am. Please be aware of the athletes when on the roads.

Old Business

None

New Business

A motion was made by Kasprzak, supported by Gordon to approve General Fund and Improvement Capital Fund budget amendments, carried. A motion was made by Kasprzak, supported by Daly to approve Resolution 2017-009, setting a public hearing for SMCAS on September 19, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at Hope Community Church on Lake Street, carried. A motion was made by Gordon, supported by Wozniak to accept the 2016-2017 Annual Audit, carried. A motion was made by Daly, supported by Bradfield to approve offsite storage of fire equipment during the construction process as long as properly insured, carried.

Correspondence

None

Other Business from the Board

Supervisor Bradfield requested permission to collect bids for roof, soffit, fascia and gutters for the Township Office. A motion was made by Daly, supported by Gordon to direct the Supervisor to collect roofing, soffit, fascia and gutter bids for the Township Office, carried.

Public Comment

A gentleman asked what the Township's stance on the medical marijuana laws. Supervisor Bradfield informed the audience member that Howard Township does not allow any dispensaries, growth operations or anything in the Township.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Kasprzak to adjourn at 7:39 p.m., carried.

Sheri Wozniak
Howard Township Clerk