

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
August 16, 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, Mike Daly, David Brawley and Ashley Wentz answered roll call.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Minutes:

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Wentz to approve the July 19, 2016 regular meeting minutes as written, carried.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Rudlaff read the July 2016 financial report into the record. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Daly to accept the July 2016 monthly financial report as presented with a beginning balance of \$810,289.53 and an ending balance of \$815,622.03, carried.

Approval of Bills

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

Departmental Reports

Fire Chief Leneway reported 43 calls for service in July 2016, 27 medical and 16 fire calls. Chief Leneway informed the Board that Truck 465 (medical/grass rig) was out of service for repairs. Trustee Wentz stated SMCAS will be purchasing two (2) ambulances in the near future to replace older ambulances. Park Board Member Gordon reported the water test at Pepper Martin has been conducted and results should be received soon. Also, the grant project at Pepper Martin is nearing completion with the split rail completed and working of the walking path. A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Johnson 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).

Old Business

None

New Business

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Wozniak to purchase the used skid unit for the grass rig for \$5,000.00, carried. A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Brawley to appoint Dawn Stanage to the Planning Commission, carried. A motion was made by Wozniak, supported by Wentz to reappoint Jan Gordon to the Zoning Board of Appeals, carried, Johnson voted no. A motion was made by Daly, supported by Brawley to set a special meeting for Tuesday, September 20 at 6:00 pm for a 2015-2016 Audit Workshop, carried.

Correspondence

Supervisor read a letter of resignation from Ed and Julie Wainwright as the Plumbing Inspectors for the Township effective August 15, 2016. Mr. Bradfield also stated that two candidates were being considered to fill the position.

Other Business from the Board

Clerk Wozniak informed the Board that Dollar General has an approved site plan and are asking for a variance for a section of the large farmed parcel across from the Phillips 66 Station. The sale has not been completed; pending approvals for building a store there. Treasurer Rudlaff asked if there would be another Clean Up Day this year. Supervisor Bradfield stated that would be set up for October.

Public Comment

Ron and Annette Stull of 2751 Mannix, Niles asked the Board of Trustees to inspect the property at 2771 Mannix. They informed the Board that it hasn't been mowed this year and it is dilapidated. The vacant property is a source of irritation for the neighborhood and makes it difficult to take pride in their street, neighborhood and community; especially with school starting soon and many more will be traveling down the street. They ask that the township clean up and mow the property. Supervisor Bradfield informed the couple, that we had not received a complaint on the property until that day and he is investigating the situation. It is owned by Fannie Mae and the Township cannot recoup money spent on the cleanup from Fannie Mae. Mr. Scott Teter introduced himself, explained his experience and announced his candidacy for District Court Judge.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Rudlaff to adjourn at 7:40 p.m., carried.

Sheri Wozniak
Howard Township Clerk