

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2012**

Supervisor White called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor White, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee Ostrowski and Trustee Partridge. Absent: None. Others in attendance: Parks and Recreation Director Wright, Public Safety Director McClanahan, Planning and Economic Development Services Director Carroll, DPW Director MacDonald, Executive Assistant/Assistant Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Secretary Cline and an audience of twenty-one (21).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Remove New Business Item # 2 “Consider intergovernmental agreement between the Charter Township of Van Buren and the City of Belleville for Emergency Dispatch and Lockup Services and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the Agreement.” and add New Business Item #2 “Consider initiation of Declaratory Judgment Action to consolidate certain individual parcels in Victoria Park a Planned Residential Development (PRD) into one lot.” Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Partridge moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes December 12, 2011; Closed Session Minutes December 12, 2011; Special Board Meeting Minutes December 13, 2011; Special Board Meeting Minutes December 19, 2011; Approval of Resolution 2012-01 the Board of Review Poverty Exemption Guidelines; Adoption of Resolution 2012-02 Wade Trim Engineering Services 2012 Rate Schedule (at the unchanged 2009 Rate); Approval of the reappointments of Margaret Thompson and Stephanie Soja to the September Days Senior Center Endowment Committee with terms to expire January 15, 2014.] Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Hart moved, Partridge seconded to hear public comment on the use of fiscal year 2012-13 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Partridge, Ostrowski, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Wright and White. Nays: None. None. Absent: None. Carried.

Supervisor White opened the public hearing at 7:35 p.m. Supervisor White went to Planning and Economic Development Services Director Carroll for an explanation. Director Carroll stated the Township is seeking comments from the public for potential projects that would meet the CDBG funding guidelines. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) objectives of the CDBG program are for the development of viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities. The three national objectives for projects are: to benefit low/moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slum and/or blight and to meet urgent community needs. The estimated funding level for the 2012 – 2013 fiscal year is around \$100,000.

The Board and audience had the following questions and comments. Clerk Wright suggested to use \$35,000 to finish the Beck Road Ball Diamond improvements for six new dug outs since there was not funding to complete the project paid by EQ host agreement. Trustee Partridge inquired about the sidewalk projects. Director Carroll stated the Township is meeting with Wayne County regarding the funding of the sidewalk projects, whether CDBG funds or Downtown Development Authority (DDA) funds will be used. Trustee Hart inquired how the CDBG funds were used last year. Director Carroll stated CDBG funds were used for obtaining easements for the sidewalk project. Trustee Jahr requested Director Carroll to state how residents can communicate ideas for CDBG projects that meet the guidelines to the Township. Director Carroll stated to contact Developmental Services at 734-699-8913. Supervisor White inquired how many homes the Township used CDBG funds to rehabilitate homes and the restrictions to qualify for CDBG home rehabilitation. Director Carroll stated three homes and anticipates rehabilitating four homes this year; noting residents must meet the low to moderate income guidelines. The Township does code improvements to the house and the improvements are secured against a lien on the property and becomes payable at the time sale of property. Director Carroll stated each year in addition to the CDBG funds for projects the Township receives approximately \$35,000 for housing rehabilitation improvements. Trustee Hart inquired to Clerk Wright why additional funds would be needed to complete the Beck Road Ball Diamond improvements. Clerk Wright stated due to the cost of

infrastructure some of the improvement were not done. John Delaney inquired if a water line was part of the project and did the EQ host agreement funds pay for the entire project or were CDBG funds used? Supervisor White stated the water line was part of the infrastructure and only the EQ host agreement funds (approximately \$520,000) were used on the improvement to the Beck Road Ball Diamonds. John Delaney also requested the Board to fast track the sidewalk project. Trustee Hart inquired what was holding up the sidewalk project. Director Carroll stated it a procedure problem with Wayne County. Larry Fix stated he supported the upgrades to the Beck Road Ball Diamonds and also questioned why the project was not completed entirely with the funds from EQ and wants to be sure the CDBG funds are appropriately spent.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing at 7:50 p.m.

Jahr moved Wright seconded to close the public hearing. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Partridge, Ostrowski, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Wright and White. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Budd moved, Jahr seconded to pull from the agenda New Business Item #1 "Consider amending current contract with McKenna Associates to include Electrical Inspection Services." noting when the electrical inspector job is needed for the Township to use the on call list of electrical inspectors including McKenna; in order to allow for enough time to work out issues with the Union and the Building Department so the Township can meet the needs of all parties concerns. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Ostrowski, Jahr, Partridge, Hart, Budd and Wright. Nays: White. Absent: None. Carried.

Wright moved, Ostrowski seconded to approve the initiation of Declaratory Judgment Action to consolidate certain individual parcels in Victoria Park a Planned Residential Development (PRD) into one lot. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the January 10, 2012 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Trustee Partridge announce the next Cultural Advisory Committee meeting is Thursday, January 26th at 11:00 a.m. in the Denton Room and Chairperson Dolph will be bringing information from the Rotary.

Clerk Wright announced on Tuesday, February 28th the Presidential Primary Election will be held and due to this Election being a "Closed Primary" all voters must choose which type of ballot prior to receiving a Republican Presidential ballot or Democratic Presidential ballot. Clerk Wright reviewed the changes on the state approved absentee applications noting there are several additions to the application for information. If you are not a registered voter in Van Buren Township the last day to register for the February 28th Presidential Primary is January 30th. On Election Day polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and election information can be found on the township website www.vanburen-mi.org. Also, the Township administrative offices will be closed on Monday, January 16th in honor of Martin Luther King Day.

Treasurer Budd stated the collection of the winter tax bills has been extended to February 29, 2012 noting there is a drop slot in the Public Safety Department and a mail drop box in the front of Township Hall for payments.

Director Wright announced the Van Buren Recreation Department is hosting the 17th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance (Masquerade Ball theme) on Friday, February 10th and on Saturday February 11th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Also, an Acting for Kidz:102 class on Mondays beginning January 23rd from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Van Buren Park Pavilion rentals are available for Van Buren and Belleville residents and on March 3rd will be open to all non-residents. Community Garden plots rentals at Van Buren Park are open on a first come first serve basis. For more information contact the Recreation Department at 734-699-8921 or visit the Township website www.vanburen-mi.org.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Comments were made from 8:56 p.m. to 9:06 p.m. by the Board and audience regarding the following topics: Public Safety Committee, election cost, Supervisor White, Developmental Services and Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA).

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Jahr moved, Partridge seconded to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright
Township Clerk

Date: _____

Paul D. White
Township Supervisor

Approved: _____