

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2013**

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Absent: None. Others in attendance: Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Fire Chief Besson, Secretary Cline and an audience of eighteen (18).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the agenda as amended removing New Business Item #2 "Consider the Executive Assistant Job Description." Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Minutes September 16, 2013; Closed Session Minutes September 16, 2013; Regular Board Meeting Minutes September 17, 2013; Work Study Minutes September 30, 2013; Approving Fire Works Proposal by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce immediately following the lighted Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7, 2013 to be set off from the (closed) Denton Road Bridge and authorize the Supervisor to sign the permit; Voucher List of October 15, 2013.] as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to open the public hearing to hear public comment on Dissolution of Industrial Development Districts 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 22. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Miller, McClanahan, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

Supervisor Combs opened the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. Supervisor Combs went to Assessing Coordinator Stevenson for an overview. Assessing Coordinator Stevenson stated this public hearing is to hear comments regarding the consideration of the Dissolution of Industrial Development Districts 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 22. These districts were created between the years of 1978 and 2009. In accordance with Act Number 198 of the Public Acts of 1974, as amended, the Board of Trustees has the authority to dissolve Industrial Development Districts within the Township boundaries. None of these districts have current tax abatement exemptions. By dissolving these districts it will allow the Township Board the opportunity to completely review each applicant on an as needed basis and institute a district approach when reviewing any new tax abatement applications. A notice of this public hearing notice with the legal descriptions was published for two consecutive weeks as required. All owners of the parcels located in the districts were notified by certified mail. Assessing Coordinator Stevenson stated out of the thirteen property owners who received notification she had received around six calls. The last time the Township dissolved Industrial Development Districts was in 1997.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Budd moved Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Jahr, Hart, McClanahan, Miller, Budd, Wright and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Combs read an email from Fire Chief Besson congratulating Fire Lieutenant Curtis Lunsford, Firefighter Ken Landstrom and Firefighter Elizabeth McCormick for their ten years of service with Van Buren Fire Department.

Supervisor Combs read an email addressed to Public Safety Director Laurain and Fire Chief Besson from Wildbrook Homeowners Association thanking them for attending their recent Home Owners meeting.

Supervisor Combs read a letter Thomas and Billie Welty thanking Police Officer Christopher Herrick, Lieutenant Charles Bazy and Dispatcher Julie Jones for the professional assistance they provided.

Chief Besson introduced two new Firefighters Christina Bojanic and Dale Willett and presented them with their badges and helmet shields. Chief Besson stated the Fire Department now has 49 paid on call firefighters.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Budd moved, Jahr seconded to adopt [Resolution 2013-16](#), Dissolution of Industrial Development Districts 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 22. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor Combs ordered the August 2013 Budgetary Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs made the following announcements. Applications are available for Van Buren Township residents who are eligible for Community Development Block Grant housing rehabilitation assistance program for information contact Developmental Services Department; September Days Senior Center is hosting a Veteran's Day Luncheon on Friday, November 8th at 11:00 a.m.; Recreation Department is hosting a Candy Loop on Saturday, October 26th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Quirk Park located behind Township Hall; October 19th the annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be held for township residents at Environmental Quality Company East parking lot located at 49350 North I-94 Service Drive from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Belleville Area Museum and Historical Society will host a Cemetery History Tour at Tyler Cemetery on October 19th from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; a thank you to the businesses who brought their trucks to the recently hosted "Touch A Truck" event where children were able to explore all types of trucks and thank you to the Recreation Department staff.

Clerk Wright announced the Public Board of Trustees Agenda Packet and the Public Work Study Packet are available on the Township website. Also, encouraged residents to attend the Cemetery History Tour at Tyler Cemetery and stated the pathways through Tyler Cemetery have been redone.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Comments were made from 7:17 p.m. to 7:29 p.m. by residents as follows: agenda packets on website; new paint on the outside of Township Hall; Public Safety budget; request for a Public Safety Committee; Little League baseball at Beck Road Ball Diamonds and Host Agreement with Environmental Quality.

ADJOURNMENT: Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor