

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 17, 2015**

Treasurer Budd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Absent/Excused: Supervisor Combs. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Planning and Economic Development Director Akers, Public Safety Deputy Director (Police) Wright, Public Safety Director Laurain, Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson, Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Department of Public Services Director Taylor, DDA Director Ireland, DDA Assistant Director Lothringer and an audience of nine (9).

Wright moved, Miller seconded to appoint Treasurer Budd as Chairperson for the meeting. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** McClanahan moved, Wright seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Hart moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Special Work Study Session Minutes of October 15, 2015; Closed Session Minutes of October 15, 2015; Special Board Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2015; Work Study Session Minutes of October 19, 2015; Closed Session Minutes of October 19, 2015; Board Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2015; Special Board Meetings-Budget Preparation Minutes of October 22 and 23, 2015; Prepaid List of October 22, 2015; Prepaid List of October 30, 2015; Prepaid List of November 6, 2015; Prepaid List of November 12, 2015; Voucher List of November 3, 2015; the commercial Fireworks Display Permit Application by Great Lakes Fireworks LLC.; Resolution 2015-39 the amended and restated Van Buren Charter Township Governmental Non-ERISA Retirement Plan; Re-appointments of Edward Miller and Joseph Barnabei as full members of the Board of Zoning Appeals, both terms expiring December 1, 2018 ; the 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule; the 2016 Holiday Schedule; Resolution 2015-38 the 2016 Departmental Fee Schedules with an effective date of January 1, 2016; confirmation of the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) appointment of Mr. Jelani Karamoko (Wayne County Representative) with a term to expire at Wayne County's discretion] Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Wright moved, Hart seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on Resolution 2015-41 the 2015 amended and 2016 proposed General Fund Budget, the 2015 amended and 2016 proposed Special Revenue Funds and Salaried Employee Wage Schedule at 7:05 p.m. Resident John Delaney questioned if duty crews at the fire stations would be eliminated indicating the passage of the 4 mil Public Safety millage in 2007 was for fire stations manned 24/7, boots on the ground and a 5 beat system that never materialized. Audience member Donald Schoenberger commented in opposition to elimination of a duty crews and raises for salary employees. Hart moved, Miller seconded to close the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Audience members commented on the need to fill the final vacancy on the Local Development Finance Authority Board, requested additional time to review the 2016 proposed water fee schedule, the settlement of a lawsuit involving water shut off and the Township's overall liability exposure. Clerk Wright commented that best practice initiatives are being put in place to eliminate lawsuits and accidents, the Township's insurance carrier MMRMA has a Stop-Loss program with a total deductible of

\$75,000 for the year included in the Township’s annual rate and the insurance premium this year was \$486,000 of which \$257,000 has been reimbursed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the second (final) reading for adoption of Ordinance 10-6-15 to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance by rezoning parcel V-125-83-064-99-0002-002 from R1B (Single Family Residential) to C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) with conditions and parcel V-125-83-064-99-0002-003 from C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) to C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) with conditions. Roll Call vote. Yeas: Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, Miller, McClanahan. Absent/excused: Combs. Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the part-time Public Safety (Fire) Administrative Assistant job description. Motion Carried.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to postpone New Business item #2 to consider approval of Resolution 2015-40 the 2016 Water and Sewer Rates and Fee Schedule until the next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Clerk Wright announced the Township administrative office will be closed on Thursday November 26, 2015 and Friday November 27, 2015 in observance of Thanksgiving, thanked all Veterans for their service and sacrifice, thanked the precinct workers who worked the polls during the November 3, 2015 Special Election, thanked Bob and Marie Krouse for placing flags at the gravesite of all Veterans in Township cemeteries, thanked City of Wayne Clerk Matthew Miller for the donation of 17 voting booths valued at over \$1700.00, thanked the Civic Fund for the donation of a shed for cemetery maintenance and wished everyone in the community a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday. Trustee Jahr thanked Developmental Service Director Aker and Deputy Director Best for their quick response to the recent blue-green algae bloom in the lake. Treasurer Budd requested a moment of silence in remembrance of former Township Clerk and community advocate Doreen Craven and for the people of France lost in the recent attack. Board members thanked the Public Safety Millage committee for their efforts and support of the millage proposal.

**NON AGENDA:** Residents commented on: the failed Public Safety millage, requested the budget process start early, requested the board to consider reinstating the Public Safety Committee to provide public input on millage funding and provide open communication to the public on Township financial matters. Treasurer Budd clarified that a millage committee must be independent from the Township.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion Carried.

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Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Date: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_.