

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 16, 2014**

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. Others in attendance: Deputy Director-Fire Department Besson, Secretary Montgomery, DDA Director Ireland, Developmental Services Consultant Sloan, Developmental Services Director Knowles, Attorney Crowley, DPW Director Taylor and an audience of seventeen. (17).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve the agenda titled Tentative Revised Agenda. Carried

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. [Regular Board Meeting Minutes December 2, 2014; Work Study Session Minutes December 8, 2014; Voucher List of December 16, 2014; Prepaid Lists December 5, 2014 and December 11, 2014; Acceptance of the resignations of Jere Dolph and Pastor Jim Richter, appointment of Helen Foster with term to expire 3-9-18 and Christopher Brown with term to expire 3-9-17 to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA); Approval of the contract with McKenna Associates to provide on-going Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) administrative services and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement; Confirm the appointment of Robert Carlesso (Van Buren Public Schools Representative) with a term expiration of 8-12-15 to the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA); Approval of the Municipal Center, Community Center, Multi-Purpose Room and Gymnasium meeting rooms policy, rules and regulations and the application forms with release and waiver of liability; Approval of the Wage Agreement between AFSCME Local 236 and Van Buren Charter Township. Carried.

Treasurer Budd requested to move Correspondence before the Public Hearing.

CORRESPONDENCE: DDA Director Ireland presented service awards to Jere Dolph for twenty four years and Pastor Jim Richter for eight years of service to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA); Deputy Director Besson presented a service award to Pastor Jim Richter for seven years of service as a Public Safety Chaplin; Presentation by DPW Director Taylor on the proposed water and sewer rate increase.

Point of order was requested by a resident who indicated the presentation by DPW Director Taylor was not properly placed and should have been indicated under unfinished business to allow for public comment.

Supervisor Combs stated the first and second items under New Business are to consider approval of the water and sewer fee schedules and budgets and there will be an opportunity for public comment.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to open the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. No vote.

Point of order was requested by a resident who informed the Board that proper posting and procedures had not been followed regarding publication of the Notice of Public Hearing for the Budgets and copies of the budgets had not been made available to the public in compliance with the law.

Supervisor Combs stated the Public Hearing would be postponed so proper procedures could be followed. Publication of Public Hearing notice regarding the Budgets will appear at least 7 days prior to a Public Hearing, Notice of Special Board Meeting will be posted and copies of the budgets will be available to

the public at the Clerk's Office in compliance with the law. Jahr moved, Miller seconded to postpone the Public Hearing. Carried. Budd moved, Hart seconded to remove New Business items #1, #2, #5, #6 and #7. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Residents expressed concern regarding the Budget, Landfill Fund, LDFA bonds, Museum and a Proposed Water and Sewer rate increase.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Hart moved, Budd seconded to adopt Resolution 2014-27 to reprogram 2012, 2013 and 2014 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Administration funds in the amount of \$24,062.57, create a new project-Emergency Warning Outdoor Sirens and allocate the funds to the project. Carried.

Hart moved, Miller seconded to approve Resolution 2014-31 Pledging Township's Limited Tax General Obligation, full faith and credit, to payment of Tax Increment Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2015 of the Local Development Finance Authority of the Charter Township of Van Buren.

REPORTS: October 2014 Budgetary report was received and filed. Copies are available at the Clerk's Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Clerk Wright announced the Township Administrative offices will be closed December 24, 2014 through January 4, 2015; thanked the contributors to the "Coats for Schools Kids" drive and announced 10 coats were delivered to six Van Buren Public Schools on Friday December 12, 2014. Supervisor Combs, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, wished everyone a safe and happy holiday. Trustee Hart announced the Senior Christmas Party was a great success and everyone had a wonderful time. Deputy Director Besson announced that donations for the Water's Edge Fire Victims were being accepted by Belleville Pointe Apartments, The Red Cross and several civic groups in the community. Supervisor Combs thanked the Recreation and Senior Department staff who assisted in transporting those displaced by the Water's Edge Apartment Fire to the Township until the Red Cross could arrive.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Resident commented on: freedom of speech when public comments stated are factual; Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) bylaws, bonds and member attendance. Resident asked for clarification on when the Special Board of Trustees meeting would be held. Supervisor Combs advised resident that notice of the meeting would be posted as soon as a Public Hearing publication date could be determined.

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Miller seconded to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Date: _____.

Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor

Approved: