

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 7, 2015**

Treasurer Budd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Excused/Absent: Supervisor Combs (Treasurer Budd announced the Supervisor had been ill for the past few days; that the Board was recently notified that her brother is quite ill; and therefore the Supervisor would be traveling south to be with him and most likely would not be in the rest of the week) Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Developmental Services Director Knowles, Executive Assistant Clair and an audience of six (6).

Treasurer Budd asked for a motion to appoint a Chair for the meeting. Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to appoint Treasurer Budd as Chair. Motion Carried

Treasurer Budd requested the addition of item #11 under the consent agenda: approval of the attorney recommendation for settlement of case #13-010175-CH to the consent agenda.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes March 16, 2015; Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2015; Prepaid List of March 20, 2015; Prepaid List of March 27, 2015; Prepaid List of April 2, 2015 Voucher List of April 7, 2015; Approval of the Personal Leave of Absence request for Firefighter Skotak until October 6, 2015 in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement; Approval of Resolution 2015-08 the Annual Wayne County Special Events Permit; Approval of Resolution 2015-09 the Annual Wayne County Pavement Restoration Permit; Approval of Resolution 2015-10 the Annual Wayne County Maintenance Permit and Approval of the attorney recommendation for settlement of case #13-010175-CH.] Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Clerk Wright introduced Shaylett Stuckey Van Buren Township resident and winner of the 2015 Mrs. Michigan America contest. Mrs. Stuckey thanked the board for their acknowledgement and highlighted the achievements in her life and focus for the future.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** McClanahan moved, Wright seconded to approve the request by Elro Corporation for an extension of the Planned Residential Development (PRD) Agreement and Final preliminary Plat for the Bedford Cove subdivision for 5 years, to expire on April 9, 2020, and to require a written report from the developer every 2 years. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Budd, Wright, Hart, Miller and McClanahan. Nays: Jahr. Motion Carried. Trustee Jahr expressed that he did not have any problem with the developer however felt the extension period was too long considering the Township PRD ordinance is in the process of being reconsidered.

Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 03-17-15 to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance by rezoning approximately 1.99 acres of land (Parcels V125-83-018-02-0134-006, -007, -008, -009 and -010) located on the northeast corner of Michigan Ave. and Denton Road from C (Local Business) to C-1 (General Business). Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** McClanahan moved, Miller seconded to approve the job description for the Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development and Personal Services Agreement between the Township and Darryl Fecho and authorized the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve Resolution 2015-13 to defer the review of applications pertaining to Medical Marijuana establishments. Motion Carried. The 6 month moratorium will provide the Township the opportunity to establish a subcommittee to study provisioning center placement, solicit input from residents and provide a

recommendation to the board based on their findings. Board members expressed the desire to actively move forward on developing a plan of action on this topic. Trustee Miller has developed a preliminary timeline and strategic plan that would assure completion of the process within the 6 month timeframe and volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Trustee Hart encouraged Director Knowles to attend the Special Board Meeting Strategic Planning follow-up session on April 14, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. where further discussion on the matter would occur.

McClanahan moved, Miller seconded to approve Resolution 2015-12 the Declaration of Intent to Establish a Special Assessment District-First Hearing for the Venetian, Jeanette, and Dewitt Road Improvement SAD. The Township was awarded \$750,000 through the Wayne County Roads Initiative for improvements to local county roads. The initiative requires a 20% match. Residents of Dewitt, Jeanette and Venetian circulated petitions and 70% of those within the proposed district supported an assessment. The Township will provide the 20% upfront which would be reimbursed through the assessment district. It was expressed that although the board is keenly aware that the roads are the responsibility of Wayne County they are also aware that the County does not have adequate funding and the initiative allows an opportunity to get the work done that might not otherwise. The Township is also working with Walden Woods on a project however they would not need to establish a special assessment district because they have the required 20% in available funds.

**REPORTS:** The January 2015 and February 2015 Budgetary Reports were ordered received and filed. Copies are available for review at the Clerk’s Office.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Clerk Wright announced that ballots for the May 5, 2015 Special Election have been mailed. Registered voters who wish to have an absentee ballot may contact the Clerk’s office for an application. Applications are also available on the Township website or State of Michigan website. For more information contact the Clerk’s office at 734-699-8909; Registered voters who wish to vote in person on election day please note the following room locations for each precinct: Precinct 1-McBride Middle School- Half Gym, Precinct 3-Township Hall Board Room, Precinct 4-Township Hall Gym, Precinct 5-Tyler Elementary-Gym, Precinct 6 & 7-Belleville High School-Auxiliary Gym, Precinct 8-Haggery School-Gym, Precinct 9-Savage School-Gym and Precinct 10-Owen Intermediate School-Room 2. These room changes were necessary due to schools being in session on Election Day. Treasurer Budd announced that Midwest Energy has begun performing line clearance activities in the community; Yard Waste Pick-up began April 6, 2015 maximum of 30 leaf bags/can maximum curbside weekly; Frog Night at Riggs Park April 17, 2015 6:00-8:00 p.m. this outdoor activity requires pre-registration and is open to all ages \$2.00 per person. Contact recreation at 734-699-8921; September Days Flea Market April 23 and April 24, 2015 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Invited the public to the Distinguished Graduate Hall of Fame and NHS Induction Ceremonies at Belleville High School April 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.; reminded residents that the Van Buren Public Schools upcoming Sinking Fund Millage Renewal will appear on the ballot for the May 5, 2015 Special Election and invited everyone to the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon hosted by Wayne County Senior Citizen Services and Warren C. Evans May 14, 2015 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center 15801 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, Michigan. Please R.S.V.P to Fran Gruda 734-727-7373 by May 8, 2015.

**AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items):** Resident expressed that it was a “shame” that people felt afraid to speak out or sign their name to articles in the paper for fear of retaliation when speaking about a few blended rate abusers and that some individuals were not working 33-36 hours straight for civic mindedness but for the money.

**CLOSED SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hart moved, Miller seconded to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leon Wright, Township Clerk

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

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

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_.