

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan, Trustee Miller and Secretary LaMothe. Absent/Excused: None. Others in attendance: Assessor Linda Stevenson, Director James Taylor, Director Steve Rankin, Planning Consultant Patrick Sloan, Environmental Commission members David Brownlee and David Wilson, and an audience of thirty-six (36).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the agenda as amended, moving CORRESPONDENCE to the beginning of the meeting. Prior to the vote, Trustee Miller requested that it be placed on the record her disagreement with how the notecard question and answer process would be conducted during CORRESPONDENCE. Roll call vote: Yeas: Combs, Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr and McClanahan. Nays: Miller. Absent: None. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes August 18, 2014; Closed Session Minutes August 18, 2014; Regular Board Meeting August 19, 2014; Voucher List September 2, 2014; Combination of Lots V125-83-094-01-0213-313 and V125-83-094-01-0213-314; and Assessing Office Inspection of Records Policy as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Van Buren Township Board of Trustees invited USEcology/EQ representatives in to share a presentation on the acceptance of fracking waste at its hazardous waste landfill located in Van Buren Township on the North I-94 Service Road. Kerry Durnen, Director of Operations for EQ and Joseph Weismann, Certified Health Physicist and Vice President of US Ecology's Radiological Programs shared a 30 minute presentation. Following the presentation, Board members asked Durnen and Weismann questions regarding the landfill's liner, violations received, physical description of waste received, the blending of waste, traffic/travel details, and for clarification that, indeed, the generator of the waste maintains cradle to grave ownership of the waste. Public participation consisted of questions and comments on 27 notecards, some of which were multiple questions on one card or one question per card. Durnen and Weismann answered these questions, some of which addressed: radioactivity, proprietary compounds, fuserap, landfill capacity, violations and fines, half-life, how hazardous waste is made safe, liability insurance and liner life expectancy.

PUBLIC HEARING: Given that the two public hearings involved the same applicant, the Board agreed to discuss both public hearings at once. Hart moved, Jahr seconded to open the public hearing for public comment on the request to approve an Industrial Facilities Exemption and a PA 328 Property Tax Exemption for Constellium Automotive USA, LLC. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

Supervisor Combs opened the public hearing at 8:40 p.m. Supervisor Combs went to Assessment Coordinator Stevenson to discuss the Industrial Facilities Exemption and a PA 328 Property Tax Exemption. Stevenson referenced the agenda packets, and reiterated that the facilities exemption would be for one-half taxes for 11 years, and the property tax exemption would be zero taxes for six years. All notices were sent to taxing authorities via certified mail regarding the public hearing, and the notice was published in the paper of record. Supervisor Combs shared that this matter was discussed and questions were thoroughly answered at the work study session. Trustee Jahr verified that the resolution for property tax exemption approval would be for six years rather than seven years. Resident

Diane Madigan inquired as to the impact on the budget for these exemptions and expressed concern regarding the impending Visteon repayment.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing at 8:52 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

McClanahan moved, Hart seconded to approve the GIS Technician job description and authorized posting of the position. Carried.

Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 09-02-14 to amend the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92 as amended, to revise Section 4.01 deleting the sentence, which states, "Uses for enterprises that are contrary to Federal, State, Local Laws or Ordinances are prohibited." Carried.

Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve adoption of Resolution 2014-22 authorizing the Industrial Exemption for Constellium Automotive USA, LLC and authorizing the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the Tax Abatement Agreement. Carried.

Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve adoption of Resolution 2014-23 authorizing a PA 328 Property Tax Exemption for Constellium Automotive USA, LLC. Trustee Jahr stated he would have preferred there was an option for a 50% exemption, but understands this process is part of the State of Michigan's economic development package. Supervisor Combs congratulated Constellium on the expansion and thanked them for bringing more jobs to Van Buren Township. Carried.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs made the following announcements: The Belleville Area Museum is hosting its Antiques Appraisal Day on Thursday, September 18 from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Residents expressed and shared the following opinions, questions and concerns: the presentation this evening was not transparent; there is conflicting information regarding the landfill's acceptance of fuserap; landfill violations; interest in serving as a volunteer on a Governor's panel as a representative for Van Buren Township; how landfill gases are monitored; controlling a chemical reaction and the effect on the containment liner when "proprietary ingredients" are unknown; that you can't trust everything companies tell you; that although state laws supersede local power, the local Board could still make things difficult; that a few of the answers provided were unsatisfactory; that other states' are pushing for more local control and/or passage of bans on fracking; personal participation on a committee to ban fracking and the acceptance of fracking waste in Michigan; a newsletter from LETSBANFRACKING.ORG; pleasure that some Board members are against fracking; the need for more LDFA members for a quorum; cancellation of committee meetings; questioned if a new agreement between Sheldon Acquisitions and Cobblestone Ridge had been made, and that ordinance

issues exist that still need to be addressed. Supervisor Combs stated there is no new agreement between said parties and that she would contact Lt. Bazy to discuss outstanding issues, respond to the resident and notify the Board of the results.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, Jahr seconded to adjourn at 9:43 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor