

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 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, Planning and Economic Development Deputy Director Best, Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson and an audience of twenty-nine (29).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Hart moved, Miller seconded to approve the agenda with the following amendments: Removal of new business items #2 and new business item #3. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Work Study Session Minutes of November 30, 2015; Closed Session Minutes of November 30, 2015; Board Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2015; Prepaid List of December 4, 2015; Prepaid List of December 10, 2015; Voucher List of December 15, 2015 and Extension of collection for the 2015 Winter property Taxes without penalty through Monday February 29, 2016]. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Deputy Director of Public Safety (Fire) Besson presented the following promotions: David McInally-Full time Fire Marshal, Ryan McCormick-Captain, Jason Martin-Lieutenant, LaMar Griffin-Firefighter (probation completed) and Chris Pierce-Firefighter (probation completed)

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Jahr moved, Miller seconded to approve the second (final) reading of General Code of Ordinance 12-1-15 prohibiting the use of coal tar products. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, Miller and McClanahan. Absent/Excused: Combs. Motion Carried. The Ordinance will become effective upon publication. Board members thanked Dr. Wilson (Environmental Commission) and Rebecca Esselman (Huron River Watershed Council) for bringing the issue to the Board and development of the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the appointment of John Delaney to the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) with a term to expire August 12, 2017. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr and Miller. Nays: McClanahan. Absent/Excused: Combs. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: October 2015 Budgetary Report was received. Copies are available at the Clerk's Office 46425 Tyler Rd., Belleville, MI 48111.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Clerk Wright announced the Township Administrative Offices will be closed December 24, 2015 through January 3, 2016 for the holiday season; the Clerk's office will be distributing "Coats for School Kids" to middle and elementary schools in the Van Buren Public School District before the winter recess and thanked everyone who donated; thanked Nicole Sumpter for her efforts in putting together Employee Appreciation Week and to those who provided donations to fund the event; gave an overview of Senate Bill 13 (elimination of Straight Party voting) and House Bill 4724 (no reason absentee

voting) presented as a tie bar and encouraged residents to contact their Legislators to oppose removal of the tie bar. The bills are being presented for a vote this week. The Association of Wayne County Clerks and the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks are in opposition of Senate Bill 13 and a removal of the tie bar; and gave praise and thanks to the work of the Firefighters, Police Officers, Dual Role Employees and the heroic efforts of Firefighter Henderson who saved the life of a small child when responding to the recent house fire on Denton Road. Treasurer Budd announced the deadline for payment of the winter tax is extended until February 29, 2016. Drop boxes are located in front of the main entrance and in the Public Safety Department at Township Hall and, on behalf of the Board, wished everyone in the community a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

NON AGENDA: Resident comments included: gave best wishes to Supervisor Combs and her husband; thanked Treasurer Budd and Clerk Wright for filing in during her absence; announced donations for the victims of the Denton Road house fire are being accepted at Mail Center One located at 847 Sumpter Rd. Suite 120. Please make checks payable to Van Buren Police Officers Association and indicate Savion Robinson in the memo section, collections jars will be also be placed throughout the community; and thanked the board for their appointment to the Local Development Finance Authority.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Date: _____.

Sharry Budd, Township Treasurer

Date: _____.