

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 20, 2010**

Supervisor White called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor White, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee Ostrowski and Trustee Partridge. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Swallow, Parks and Recreation Director Ross, DPW Director Knepper, Public Safety Interim Director McClanahan, Chief Loyer, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of forty-five (45).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: White moved, Partridge seconded to approve the agenda with the removal of New Business Item #5 “Consider approval of Job Description for Senior Director and authorize the Supervisor to begin a search for the position.” Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

MINUTES: Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes April 5, 2010 as presented. Carried.

Partridge moved, Ostrowski seconded to approve the Regular Board of Trustees Minutes April 6, 2010 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Interim Director McClanahan read a letter regarding a recent letter to the editors in local newspapers expounding allegations that there are leaders in the Van Buren Police Department in positions to harm our township, and that he is inundated with daily challenges to correct. He stated those allegations are totally untrue and further stated with complete confidence not one official in the Van Buren Police Department would do anything to harm the Township nor are they incompetent and in need of constant correction. The Board supports the comments made by Interim Director McClanahan.

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Friends of the Library and Historical Museum will present a cultural event to be held at the Belleville Area Museum on Thursday, April 29th featuring former Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack speaking on “Municipal Leadership”

Supervisor White stated the General Electric Company and Van Buren Township received a Community Impact Award from Trade & Industry Development magazine for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology and Software Center at the Grace Lake Corporate Center (formerly Visteon Village). Supervisor White honored Director Swallow and Executive Assistant Ireland for the work they put into this project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Budd moved, Jahr seconded to approve the contract for the Linda Vista water and sewer connection to the Mission Pointe Project and award the bid to Blade Action at a cost not to exceed \$157,616.50 and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign any necessary documents. Carried.

Partridge moved, Wright seconded to accept the consideration of the construction administration proposal from Wade Trim for the Linda Vista water and sewer connection to the Mission Pointe project. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Wright moved, Partridge seconded to approve Resolution 2010-10 establishing a moratorium on the submission of receipt of applications, and any and all Township permits, licenses or approvals for the growing, sale or dispensation of medical marihuana. Carried.

Hart moved, Partridge seconded to allow Trustee Jahr to abstain from voting on New Business #5 “Consider approval of Resolution 2010-11, contingent upon proper execution by David and Linda Frankling of the Full and Final Release of all Claims.” since Trustee Jahr sits on the BZA and this item relates to a pending item before the BZA, per the attorney’s recommendation. Carried.

Ostrowski moved, Partridge seconded to approve Resolution 2010-11 contingent upon proper execution by David and Linda Frankling of the Full and Final Release of all Claims. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Partridge, Ostrowski, Wright and White. Nays: Hart and Budd. Absent: None. Abstention: Jahr. Carried.

Treasurer Budd stated for the record voting she is voting no because she agrees this will set a precedent for future law suits, there is not a lawsuit that the Board is aware of being filed and also on the advice of the attorney it should have a nuisance value. Clerk Wright stated for the record he does not think it will set a precedent and if it did the attorney would have advised the Board.

Jahr moved, Wright seconded to allow Trustee Ostrowski to abstain from voting on New Business #3 "Consider approval of proposal by EMPCO, Inc. [Public Safety Director Assessment Center] and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the proposal." because he had worked the representative. Carried.

Wright moved, Partridge seconded to approve the proposal by EMPCO, Inc. [Public Safety Director Assessment Center] and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the proposal. Yeas: White, Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr and Partridge. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstention: Ostrowski. Carried.

Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the proposal from Plante and Moran to develop a three-year financial model expensed from 101-101-956-000 Township Board line item Other, to be billed on the basis of the standard hourly rates in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the proposal. Carried.

Hart moved, Jahr seconded to freeze all longevity at the current rate and no longevity for new employees. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Hart, Budd and Jahr. Nays: Wright, Ostrowski, Partridge and White. Absent: None. Failed.

Budd moved, Wright seconded as of May 1, 2010 new hire salaried employees will not receive longevity, no changes to current salaried employees longevity and to discuss longevity during the Budget Preparation process. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to grant an easement to the City of Belleville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for streetscape improvements to the Museum Area and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the documents. Carried.

Budd moved, Ostrowski seconded to approve the agreement with DTE Energy to supply electrical power to the water tower site and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Carried.

Partridge moved, Jahr seconded to approve the agreement between the Township and Gonczy's Property Maintenance LLC for grass cutting and related services for enforcement of the grass and weeds ordinance and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Carried.

Jahr moved, Partridge seconded to accept attorney recommendation for settlement with the Arrow Uniform agreement termination. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the April 20, 2010 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Clerk Wright made the following announcements: The Clerk's and Treasurer's Offices are pleased to announce that a drop box has been installed at the west side of Township Hall near

the Public Safety entrance. The drop box may be used for Water Payments, Tax Payments (Checks and money orders only please) Absentee Ballot Applications and Absentee Ballots. Township staff will check the box daily Monday-Friday. Also, the May 4th Board of Trustees Board Meeting and Work Study of May 3rd are both cancelled due to the May 4th Lincoln Consolidated School District Election for those who reside in the Lincoln Consolidated School District.

Trustee Partridge announced on Saturday, April 24th the Belleville Area Council for the Arts Student Art Show will be held at Belleville High School from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Director Ross reported the Parks and Recreation Department has received a \$3,000 tree planting grant from DTE Energy Foundation. This grant is part of the Youth Learning Grant the Township previously received. Also, a Detroit Tiger trip has been scheduled for Friday, July 9th between the Detroit Tigers and Minnesota Twins. The cost is \$33 per person which covers transportation, admission and bus parking. For more information on programs or events contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 699.8921.

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce will host their Annual Auction on April 30th at the Woodlands of Van Buren.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Comments were made from 10:11 p.m. to 10:22 p.m. by the audience and Board regarding the following topics: Public Safety Department, the Frankling settlement, Robert Rules of Order, Board Rules of Conduct, a thank you to Recreation Department for the “Get Up and Get Active” programs.

Treasurer Budd stated the Board needs to address where the funds will come from to pay the \$55,000 to the Frankling’s because this item is not in the budget and before a check can be issued there needs to be a designated budget item.

Budd moved, Ostrowski seconded to take \$55,000 from General Fund, Fund Balance to 101-101-956-000 Township Board line item Other to pay the \$55,000 for the Frankling settlement. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Partridge, Ostrowski, Wright and White. Nays: Hart and Budd. Absent: None. Abstention: Jahr. Carried.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Partridge moved, Wright seconded to adjourn at 10:22 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright
Township Clerk

Date: May 18, 2010.

Paul D. White
Township Supervisor

Approved: As corrected.

Amendment: Correction on the second page paragraph three add the word “with” should read “because he had worked with the representative.”