

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 6, 2012**

Supervisor White called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor White, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee Ostrowski and Trustee Partridge. Absent: Clerk Wright (excused). Others in attendance: Parks and Recreation Director Wright, Public Safety Director McClanahan, Planning and Economic Development Services Director Carroll, DPW Director MacDonald, Chief Loyer, Executive Assistant/Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, DDA Director Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of twenty-six (26).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve the agenda adding New Business Item #2 “Consider Computer Use Policy.” Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Jahr, Hart and Budd. Nays: Partridge, Ostrowski and White. Absent: Wright (excused). Motion failed.

Ostrowski moved, Partridge seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Ostrowski, Partridge and White. Nays: Jahr, Hart and Budd. Absent: Wright (excused). Motion failed.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of the revision of Computer Use Policy for discussion only and to be considered at the next Regular Board Meeting. Trustee Jahr withdrew his motion **after Supervisor White objected to the motion stating this would be in violation of state law** and no vote was taken.

Treasurer Budd read a tribute to Donna Hall-Esser a former Van Buren Township Trustee and Treasurer who recently passed away. Trustee Partridge also recognized Donna Hall-Esser. A moment of silence was observed in honor of Donna Hall-Esser.

Partridge moved to add New Business Item #2 “Consider Computer Use Policy.” to the agenda. Motion failed due to lack of support.

Ostrowski moved, White seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Ostrowski and White. Nays: Jahr, Hart, Budd and Partridge. Absent: Wright (excused). Motion failed.

Jahr moved, Partridge seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of New Business Item #2 “Computer Use Policy, revised March 5, 2012.” Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Budd, Hart, Jahr, Ostrowski and Partridge. Nays: White. Absent: Wright (excused). Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Jahr moved, Ostrowski seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes February 21, 2012; Closed Session Minutes February 21, 2012; Regular Board Meeting Minutes February 21, 2012; approve the appointments of Joe E. Baskin, Jr. and Edward J. Miller to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) with terms to expire March 9, 2016.] Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Jahr moved, Hart seconded to open the public hearing to hear public comment on Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund 2012 Grant Application. Carried.

Supervisor White opened the public hearing at 8:18 p.m. Supervisor White went to Planning and Economic Development Services Director Carroll for an explanation. Director Carroll stated last

year the Township Board approved the Recreation Master Plan which included a five year capital improvement plan containing the restoration of the road into Van Buren Township Park from Old Denton Road. This public hearing is required as part of the grant application process for funding through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for a 2012 grant in the amount of \$232,760. This grant requires a local fifty percent match (\$116,380) of the cost. The project would include a ~~45 inch~~ box culvert and the reestablishment of the road. This is the long term solution to correct this problem. Director Carroll stated these repairs have become an emergency issue due to erosion of the road exposing the sanitary sewer line and endangering the water main. Director MacDonald explained the emergency repairs are needed to the sewer line which services the U of M Boat House, the beach house and the restrooms at the south end of the park. Director MacDonald stated he is working on getting the sewer line reestablish in the interim noting, if the Township is awarded the Trust Grant funds would not be available until 2013. Director Carroll stated the Grant Application will come before the Board in a future Board Meeting for the Board's approval. Trustee Partridge requested Director MacDonald explain what a box culvert is. Director MacDonald stated it is a large square cement box that would direct the water flow preventing further erosion. Trustee Jahr stated the Environment Commission had discussed this grant application and support it. A resident, John Delaney stated this reestablished road would also be as a second access to the park for emergency use by Public Safety. Trustee Jahr stated the Environmental and Recreation Committees had both discussed the road being a second access to the park for emergency use by Public Safety.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing at 8:27 p.m.

Budd moved Partridge seconded to close the public hearing. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Ostrowski, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Partridge and White. Nays: None. Absent: Wright (excused). Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor White read a Proclamation declaring the month of March as Women's History month in Van Buren Township.

Supervisor White read the 2012 State of the Township.

Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara gave a synopsis of what is going on in Wayne County as follows: the rebuilding of roads and road improvements in the township, a new jail, if residents have flooding problems contact Wayne County Drain Commissioner and a Juvenile Diversion program in conjunction with the 34<sup>th</sup> District Court.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Hart moved, Partridge seconded to approve Resolution 2012-04 the Capital Improvement Plan. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to adopt the Computer Use Policy (revised March 5, 2012) as presented. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Budd, Hart, Jahr and Ostrowski. Nays: Partridge and White. Absent: Wright (excused). Carried. Treasurer Budd stated she does not believe this policy is against state law. Trustee Partridge stated she believes the policy needs to be revised but would like to wait for Attorney McCauley to address the Board. Supervisor White stated he thinks this is a violation of State Charter Township Act 359 of 1947 specifically MCL 42.10 paragraph (a) and paragraph (n). **Supervisor White withheld the results of the vote and made the statement anyone voting in the majority can change their vote and then announced the results of the vote.**

**VOUCHER LIST:** Partridge moved, Ostrowski seconded to approve the March 6, 2012 voucher list as presented. Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Trustee Partridge announced Belleville Area Council for the Arts fund raising dinner on Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Masonic Temple in the City of Belleville from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Treasurer Budd thanked her staff noting the tax season has ended and tax records are balanced.

Director Wright announced open registration for the three summer camps started on March 5<sup>th</sup> and spaces are still available. Also, the Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting applications for seasonal employment for camp counselors, gate keepers, beach attendants and seasonal maintenance. For more information contact the Recreation Department at 734-699-8921.

Supervisor White announced the Conference of Western **Wayne** meeting will be held at Van Buren Township Hall on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

**AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items):** Comments were made from 9:42 p.m. to 9:54 p.m. by the Board and audience regarding the following topics: Van Born Road; State of Township; Public Safety Department number of employees; electrical inspector rates; Supervisor White; Freedom of Information Act requests; Township Attorney costs; Denton subdivision break-ins.

**CLOSED SESSION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hart moved, Partridge seconded to adjourn at 9:54 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Leon Wright  
Township Clerk

Date: March 20, 2012

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Paul D. White  
Township Supervisor

Approved: As amended.

**AMENDMENTS:** Adding bolded language and removing strikethrough language to minutes as follows: Under Approval of Agenda, paragraph three “Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of the revision of Computer Use Policy for discussion only and to be considered at the next Regular Board Meeting. Trustee Jahr withdrew his motion and no vote was taken.” to read “Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of the revision of Computer Use Policy for discussion only and to be considered at the next Regular Board Meeting. Trustee Jahr withdrew his motion **after Supervisor White objected to the motion stating this would be in violation of state law** and no vote was taken.”; Under New Business second paragraph “Budd moved, Hart seconded to adopt the Computer Use Policy (revised March 5, 2012) as presented. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Budd, Hart, Jahr and Ostrowski. Nays: Partridge and White. Absent: Wright (excused). Carried. Treasurer Budd stated she does

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