

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 2, 2016**

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Planning and Economic Development Director Akers, Information Technology Director Rankin, Assistant DDA Director Lothringer, Public Services Director Taylor, Consultant Sloan, Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Cable Director McCracken and an audience of nine (9).

Supervisor Combs requested the agenda be amended to remove new business items #4 and #5.

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

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Work Study Session Minutes of January 11, 2016; Board Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2016; Prepaid List of January 15, 2016; Prepaid List of January 29, 2016; Voucher List of February 2, 2016] Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to open the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. to receive public comment on the use of program year 2016 Community Development Block Grant Funds. Motion Carried. This is the first of two public hearings regarding CDBG funding levels for 2016. Proposed total allocation of funds for 2016 are estimated at \$163,896. The majority of funds, \$119,173, if approved, will be allocated to Public Facilities to make improvements to Van Buren Park. The balance allocated to Youth Services, Senior Services and Planning and Administration. The second public hearing will be held February 16, 2016 during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting. No public comment was received. Hart moved, Budd seconded to close the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. Motion Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor Combs read two letters from Rawsonville School principal and Social Worker thanking Clerk Wright for his donation of Coats for School Kids and thanking the Public Safety Department for including the students in the Shop with a Hero program. Clerk Wright thanked all those who provided donations for the Coats for School Kids project. Michigan House Representative Kristy Pagan provided a legislative update on recent legislation and initiatives which include a bill banning coal tar sealant, appropriation of emergency funding for the Flint water crisis, a bill on pipeline safety, recently passed campaign finance bill, elimination of straight ticket voting, introduction of a bill to allow pre-registration of 16 and 17 year olds to vote and invited the community to her coffee hour on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month in Canton and the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month in Van Buren Township at Leo's Coney Island. Trustee Miller read a letter she wrote to DTE energy along with the response she received regarding on-going power outage issues in the community. DTE, in their letter, advised that several projects to improve reliability were underway to address the concerns which include upgrades and tree clearance. Cable Director McCracken, in collaboration with Clerk Wright, showed a Public Service Announcement regarding the March 8, 2016 Primary Election. The PSA will air on cable channel VBT12.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Wright moved, Jahr seconded to approve the purchase of BS&A software for animal licensing, human resources, electronic timesheets and electronic purchase orders and to amend the budget to increase capital outlay in the amount of \$46,190 which will be offset utilizing MMRMA reimbursement funds. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, McClanahan seconded to adopt Resolution 2016-02 to establish Industrial Development District #17. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Jahr seconded to adopt Resolution 2016-03 authorizing an eight (8) year Industrial Facilities Exemption for Mayser Polymer USA, Inc. and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the Tax Abatement Agreement. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Clerk Wright announced the Township administrative offices will be closed on Monday February 15, 2016 in observance of Presidents Day; Absentee ballot for the March 8, 2016 Primary Election have been mailed to all registered voters who have completed an absentee ballot application; and gave an summary of the health care savings realized though the AMERAPlan program which totaled \$226,669 in 2014 and currently stands at \$192,000. Treasurer Budd announced the deadline for winter tax payments has been extended until February 29, 2016. Trustee Miller announced the Wild game dinner at Trinity Episcopal Church is Saturday March 5, 2016. Doors open at 5:00 with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 ages 6-12. All proceeds to benefit Trinity's J2A youth mission trip.

**NON AGENDA:** Resident commented on a desire for the Board to open discussions with the Belleville Strawberry Festival Committee and community leaders in an effort to encourage a change of venue for the festival from downtown Belleville to Van Buren Park.

Board members thanked Robert McKenna, who recently resigned from the Planning Commission, for his many years of service and dedication to the community. Mr. McKenna will continue to serve as an alternate member of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Budd moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Motion Carried.

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Leon Wright, Township Clerk

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Combs, Supervisor

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