

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN**  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**  
**Tuesday-December 8<sup>th</sup>,2015**  
**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm in the Board of Trustees room by Vice Chairperson Miller.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Miller, Atchinson, Barnabei, Senters, Jahr, McKenna

Absent Excused: Grissett

Staff: Akers, Best, Halstead

Audience: 6

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

Motion Jahr, Second Barnabei to support the agenda as presented

Motion Carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Trustee Jahr asked that the phrase "with discretion" be removed from the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. He also stated that it takes four votes to pass a variance, but it is not clear if a majority vote is needed for a denial. Jahr requested staff to look into proper voting rules before approving the minutes from September.

Motion to postpone approval of Minutes Commissioner Barnabei, Seconded by Commissioner Senters.

Motion Carried

**CORRESPONDENCE: None**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The Sniders chose not to move forward with the variance request, but decided instead to build within the ordinance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1.) **Election of Officers** - Jahr motioned to open nominations, Seconded by Barnabei. Atchinson was nominated for Chairperson, Grissett was nominated for Vice Chairperson and Barnabei for corresponding secretary. (Barnabei was nominated for chairperson, which he respectfully declined). Jahr motioned to close nomination, seconded by Atchinson. Jahr motioned to approve the unopposed nominations for office, seconded by McKenna.  
Motion Carried

2.) **Adoption of 2016 Meeting Schedule** - The Township Board accepted the 2016 Meeting Schedule. The Board adopted the 2016 meeting schedule with the revised date of January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to replace the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting due to conflict with the Board of Trustees meeting.

**3.) BZA Training Session** - Director Akers went over what the training packet contained for commissioners and briefly gave an overview of the 9 articles that discuss the roles and responsibilities of the BZA. Akers mentioned various training courses and classes available that could benefit members of the BZA.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENTS, AND OPEN DISCUSSION:**

The Board welcomed David Senters as a new member. The Board welcomed Anna Halstead as the new Recording Secretary.

Chairperson Atchinson asked for an update on Menards. Director Akers gave an update of the plans and mentioned that Menards is planning on to starting construction in April 2016.

**Motion Miller, second Barnabei to adjourn at 8:43 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Halstead, Recording Secretary