

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
WORK STUDY MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2018**

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Sheldon Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, Trustee Miller and Trustee White. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Executive Assistant Selman, Public Safety Director Laurain, Attorney McCauley and an audience of four (4).

Supervisor McNamara announced he is clarifying potential railroad crossing accessibility in route options for the Iron Belle Trail and that he was recently contacted by the owner of Sandy's Marina over concerns regarding easements in relation to available parking at the marina. Further discussion will occur at the Board of Trustees meeting. Board discussion on the routes and issue as it relates to Sandy's Marina. Trustee Frazier requested the Board stick with the agenda. She expressed concern that the agenda only contained one item when a request for review of the Travel Policy, as it pertains to out of state travel and the approval process, had been requested. Frazier expressed to the Board that Trustees had no reason to be there since they had no influence and were not important citing a comment previously received by an audience member. The audience member disputed Trustees Frazier's claim. Supervisor McNamara called a five-minute recess to regain control of the meeting at 4:06 p.m. The meeting resumed at 4:11 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion on consideration of entering into opioid litigation. The law firm of Sommers Schwartz has joined forces with five nationally prominent law firms to pursue opioid litigation cases on behalf of Michigan governmental units. The opioid epidemic has impacted communities nationwide and opioid abuse is the leading cause of death in individuals under fifty years old. Board members expressed concern over agreement language requesting language be clarified and corrected to ensure no costs would be incurred by the Township prior to considering entering into the class action litigation.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further discussion Miller moved, Martin seconded to adjourn the Work Study Session at 5:42 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Date: _____.

Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Date: _____.