

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 16, 2020 ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM**

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order electronically via Zoom meeting ID 99223132913 at 6:00 p.m. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, and Trustee Miller. Late Arrival: Trustee White (Others participating, facilitating and monitoring the meeting: Secretary Montgomery, Public Services Director Best, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Zaenglein, Public Safety Director Laurain and Deputy Director (Police Chief) Wright, Communication Specialists Albrecht and Nichols, and a maximum audience of forty-five (45).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA: Supervisor McNamara outlined the items appearing on the agenda.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Frazier moved; Miller seconded to approve the revised agenda to add discussion and to consider approval of the Covid-19 funding. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin and Miller. Absent: Trustee White (6:14 p.m.). Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA: Martin moved, Frazier seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Board Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2020, Prepaid List of June 4, 2020, Prepaid List of June 11, 2020, Voucher List of June 16, 2020] Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin and Miller. Absent: Trustee White. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: Eagle Creek will do a presentation to the Environmental Commission on the French Landing Dam on June 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The Meeting will be broadcast on zoom and recorded for future viewing. Conference of Western Wayne in conjunction with Belleville, Van Buren and the NAACP will participate in a listening tour to hear residents' concerns. The Township Administrative offices will be closed July 3rd in observance of the 4th of July holiday. As of Monday morning, there are 6,933 voters on the permanent absentee voter list representing 29% of all registered voters in Van Buren Township. The Clerk's Office has 4,160 requests averaging 300 per day. State began allowing residents to request an absentee ballot, register to vote, track their application and track their ballot. Anticipating a record absentee turnout.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): No public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Miller moved, Frazier seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 6-2-20 (1) to rezone parcel V-83-105-99-0035-000 (1043 Savage Rd) from M-1 (Light Industrial) to R-1B (Single Family Residential). Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Parks and Recreation Update. Parks and Recreation is closed to the public but is handling resident concerns as needed. All events and classes have been cancelled through Labor Day. Refunds are being issued. Van Buren Park, Quirk Park, Riggs Heritage Park and French Landing Park will be open on June 22, 2020. The play structures will be open for use but will not be sanitized. All pavilion rentals have been cancelled and refunds are being processed. The front rest rooms will be open and maintained at Van Buren Park however rest rooms at French Landing Park and Riggs Heritage Park will remain closed. The beach area will remain closed for 2020. The Splash Pad at Quirk Park will open July 6th, 2020. There will be no sanitation of equipment. Park goers are requested to observe social distancing and proper hygiene. The park in Haggerty sub will remain closed. All pavilion rentals have been cancelled but pavilions will remain open for use and residents are encouraged to follow CDC social guidelines and sanitation practices.

Public Safety Update. The recent protest was peaceful. The success was made possible by the group presenter and the Van Buren Public Safety Department. The Public Safety Department provided protestors a safe passage during their march from the Meijer parking lot to the Township hall. Supervisor McNamara thanked the assistance of the City of Belleville Police Department. Director Laurain, on behalf of the Township Police Department, denounced the actions of officers in the George Floyd assault. The Department has undergone police policy reform over the past year specifically in regards to the use of force. They are the latest in contemporary procedures in policing. De-escalation, the banning of choke hold, required intervention by other officers in all use of force which is reported and reviewed. In 2018 there were 23,592 calls for service, 13,049 arrests, 22 uses of force all reviewed and deemed appropriate. In 2019 there were 241,72 calls for service, 15,049 arrests, 36 uses of force which were all reviewed and deemed appropriate. The Public Safety Department is committed to protecting and serving the community with professionalism and respect for human life.

Presentation by Plante Moran. Budd moved, Frazier seconded to accept and approve the 2019 Annual Audit of Township Funds. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried. The Township received the highest level of assurance of audited funds which included General Revenue Funds, Special Revenue Funds, Water and Sewer Funds, DDA Funds and LDFA Funds. Board members acknowledged the professionalism of the auditing firm of Plante Moran, the efforts of Deputy Treasurer Bellingham, Accounting Coordinator Towles, Bookkeeper Tyler, and the Clerk's and Treasurer's Office staff for their assistance with the audit process.

Discussion on and to consider approval of an increase of ten (10) thousand dollars to the Covid expense line item. McNamara moved; Frazier seconded to approve an increase of ten (10) thousand dollars to the Covid expense line item. Budd moved to request a friendly amendment, supported by Frazier to increase the Covid expense line item to sixty (60) thousand acknowledging the current thirty-five (35) thousand in revenue. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

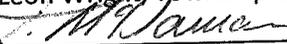
PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Public commented on the following: Resident wanted to know if the German Volunteer position was voted down and if it could be brought back again. McNamara indicated the motion failed and would require two trustees in support of bringing it back up again in the future. Frazier and White indicated they would support bringing it back to the board for discussion and McNamara indicated he would have further discussion with the resident. Resident questioned why the Haggerty subdivision park would not be opened. McNamara indicated it is too small to monitor and social distancing is difficult.

BOARD COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Clerk Wright requested support of the Board to consider allowing Department Directors the opportunity to perform some of the work duties at home.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved; Frazier seconded to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Motion Carried.



Leon Wright, Township Clerk



Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Date: 7/8/2020

Date: 7/8/2020