

# WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 11, 2017, 7:30 P.M.

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*The following minutes were taken at the January 11, 2017 Regular Board Meeting and are currently unapproved.*

1. The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Board members present: Josh Westgate, Maureen Carmody, Tracy Worrell and Gary Karr. A motion was made by Worrell and supported by Carmody to excuse the absence of Rick Schoenborn. Motion carried. No parking in the reserved fire spaces was announced.
2. The 2017 Berlin Raceway schedule was added to the agenda as new item number five, with subsequent agenda items moved down.
3. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Carmody to approve the bills for December, 2016 in the amount of \$127,017.34 and to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried. A motion was made by Worrell and supported by Karr to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2016 Regular Board Meeting as written. Motion carried.
4. State Representative Roger Victory was in attendance to give a report on various items under consideration in the State Legislature.
5. Nick Mesman presented the tentative 2017 Berlin Raceway schedule to the Board for review. Mesman noted that opening night was moved to April 22<sup>nd</sup>, the week after Easter. After Board discussion, a motion was made by Karr and supported by Worrell to approve the 2017 Berlin Raceway schedule as written. Motion carried.
6. Discussion was held regarding Ordinance 129 Wright Township Cemetery Ordinance. This Ordinance would replace Ordinance 93, the previous Wright Township Cemetery Ordinance. Carmody presented a draft of the new Ordinance which addresses various operational and administrative issues that have arisen in recent years. Karr suggested that Section 12, subsection (f) should include the wording "under the direction of the Township Clerk". A motion was made by Karr and supported by Worrell to adopt Ordinance 129 Wright Township Cemetery Ordinance with the addition. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Westgate, Worrell, Karr, Carmody. Nays: None. Absent: Schoenborn. The Supervisor declared Ordinance 129 adopted.
7. Resolution 17-01-01 Polling Location Change for Precincts 1 & 2. Carmody explained to the Board that due to inadequacies such as size, parking, mechanical issues, safety, and handicap accessibility, it is necessary to establish a new polling location for both Precinct 1 & 2 in Wright Township. It was determined that the parish hall at St. Mary's Church, 15164 Juniper Dr., Marne MI 49435, would be an ideal location for the establishment of both Precincts in one location. Having both Precincts in one location also facilitates the consolidation of Precincts for small special elections. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Worrell to adopt Resolution 17-01-01. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Karr, Carmody, Worrell, Westgate. Nays: None. Absent: Schoenborn. The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted. New voter ID cards will be mailed to all registered voters in Wright Township in February.
8. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Carmody to Re-appoint Ben looks, Rita Carmody and John Carmody to the Wright Township Board of Review for the term January 2017-January 2019. Motion carried. The Board also recognized retiring Board of Review member Robert Molyneux for his forty years of service.

9. Dates were set for the 2017-2018 Budget meetings. The Pre-Budget workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. The Budget Prep Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Regular Board Meeting. A Special Meeting with the Budget Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m. The Closing of the Books will be on March 30.
10. Reports were given. Worrell presented the fire report, and there was discussion regarding the high number of calls. There was no Planning meeting in December.
11. In the Supervisor's report, Westgate informed the Board that the Pastors from St. Mary's Church and the Seventh Day Adventist church accepted the Board's invitation to open a Regular Board Meeting with a Prayer. Westgate also reported that a survey of Wells Cemetery on Cleveland Ave. was recently completed, and the survey results showed that fencing on a neighboring property encroaches significantly onto the cemetery property. The Supervisor requested Board approval of the cost for the Supervisor to attend a two-day Assessing Class in Marquette. The Supervisor could then obtain a minor certification as an Assessing Technician, which would enable the Supervisor to assist the Wright Township Assessor in providing Assessing services to Township property owners. Karr moved and Worrell supported that the Township underwrite the costs of the class, travel and lodging for the Supervisor to attend the assessing class. Motion carried. Also brought to the Board's attention was the State's requirement that all property records in the Township be updated. As our Assessor is part-time and works for multiple jurisdictions, he is not able to perform this task in a timely manner. The Supervisor and Treasurer have proposed that they assist the Assessor in updating property records in order to comply with the State's mandate. This would require additional hourly compensation for the non-statutory duties. The Supervisor also plans to attend the MTA Conference in Lansing in April.
12. During Board concerns, Carmody requested Board approval to set rates for Election Worker compensation. A motion was made by Westgate with support from Karr to approve \$16.00 per hour for Election Chairpersons, \$14.00 per hour for Election Inspectors and a \$25 meeting rate plus \$14.00 per hour for Election Inspectors serving on the Receiving Board for elections. Motion carried.
13. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Maureen Carmody, Clerk