

**WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 – 7:30PM**

***The following minutes were taken at the SEPTEMBER 14, 2016, Regular Board Meeting and are currently unapproved.***

1. Josh Westgate called the meeting to order with a pledge, and a prayer at 7:30 P.M. Board members present: Josh Westgate, Theresa Frank, Tracy Worrell, Gary Karr, and Rick Schoenborn. No Parking in the reserved fire spots was announced.  
Public present at the meeting; Mary Alt, Linda Triick, Suzanne Clum, Ted Clum, Betty Brown, Kristie Vos, and children, Maureen Carmody, Mike and Judy Keefe, and Mike Keefe.
  
2. No additions to the items on the Agenda.
  
3. Schoenborn moved, and Karr supported the approval of the bills for August, 2016, in the amount of \$54,679.91, and the Tax and Trust & Agency Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
  - b. Budget was reviewed.
  - c. Worrell moved, and Westgate supported the approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from August 10, and Special Board Meeting from August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, as written. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
  
4. During public comments Suzanne Clum gave the board a letter from her neighbor Terri Spicuzza, who could not be at the meeting. The Supervisor was asked to read it aloud. The letter referenced her disapproval of the fireworks that had been going on most of the second week of September, 2016, at the Berlin Raceway. The letter reported her disapproval of the dates and times of the fireworks. She felt the raceway did not have the neighbor's best interest at heart.  
Ted Clum spoke at this time. He felt the letter that was sent out to the neighbors of the raceway, explaining what was going to happen with the fireworks, was sent out to late. He also felt the raceways letter did not have the stipulations that the board had given them to put in the letter, dates and times, so the permit given to the raceway should have been revoked. He wants all events at the raceway to stop except for races. He thinks the Township Board permits them to do anything they want. He said the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department did not do their job with keeping cars out of the no parking zones.  
Suzanne Clum commented that the raceway did not follow the permit because she heard fireworks at 1:30am on Thursday night the 8<sup>th</sup> of September.
  
5. Mike Keefe was at the meeting to address some of the references made, and questions asked about his work in the cemeteries. These were brought up at last month's Township Board

Meeting. Mr. Keefe passed out a brochure with gravestone resetting information, and pricing in it. There was also a hand written chart showing what a professional setter would charge, and what Mr. Keefe was being paid. This information was provided because at the last meeting the trustees asked for some kind of estimate for timing, and for pricing to finish his work. Trustee Schoenborn felt there was a miscommunication between himself and Mr. Keefe. He assured Mr. Keefe that he was happy with his work, and thought he was doing a good job, but that a resident had asked him why and how much the township was paying for this cemetery work. He explained at the meeting that the board needed this information for budgeting. Schoenborn asked how much was in the Perpetual Care Fund. Westgate told him \$20,000.00. Mr. Keefe estimated it would take half of that amount, possibly more. Regarding the timing he estimated Wells Cemetery should be done by mid-summer in 2017, and that Maple Hills would probably take another three years to finish.

At this time Mary Alt had handed the board two letters with signatures supporting the work that Mr. Keefe is doing. Trustee Karr asked again if he felt it would be under \$10,000.00. Mr. Keefe replied \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00. Karr complimented Mr. Keefe on the work he was doing. The public applauded. Schoenborn wanted Mr. Keefe to understand that he was happy with his work, but that residents had questions regarding the pricing. And the pricing was needed for budgeting. Schoenborn wished the information from the last board meeting had been conveyed to Mr. Keefe in a more positive way.

6. Regarding Ordinance 127: Karr explained that to make a change to an amendment to Section 2300 of the Wright Township Zoning Ordinance, first the amendment has to go to the Ottawa County Planning Commission for their input before it could be amended by Wright Township. Karr said that per our Township Planner, Greg Ransford, we are not legally obligated to do this. Also at this time the Ottawa County Planning Commission is denying any input, so it becomes a waste of 30 days when trying to make an amendment to the ordinance. The Planning Commission recommend a language change to the Zoning Ordinance. Karr motioned to adopt Ordinance 127, to amend Section 2300 of the Wright Township Zoning Ordinance. Schoenborn Supported. Roll Call was taken; Five (5) Ayes, Zero (0) Nays, Zero (0) Absent. Supervisor Westgate declared Ordinance 127 adopted.
7. Karr motioned to support Lakeshore Advantage's annual contribution for \$1,150.00, and Frank Supported. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
8. Karr motioned to renew Steve Gray's term with the Planning Commission, and Frank supported. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
9. Frank motioned to approve the renewal of Don Engle's term as Zoning Board of Appeals alternate, and Karr supported. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
10. Worrell gave the fire report, and Karr gave the Planning Commission report.
11. Supervisor reports; Westgate shared that the Sand Creek Grant was denied by the State.

Contract between North Ottawa Counsel on Ageing and the city of Coopersville is still being worked on.

It's looking like there is nothing the Township can do about the No Parking signs in front of the old Magic Steel building. Westgate double checked with the State Police and they do not want to modify a traffic safety area for a parking area. Property owners will have to pursue it on their own with their legal counsel.

Consumer Energy's Ordinance with the Wright Township is still pending.

Supervisor Westgate is hosting the quarterly MTA meeting on 09/26/2016, at 7:00pm, at Tallmadge Township Hall.

- 12.** In Board Concerns Supervisor Westgate offered a Certificate of Recognition for Denise Ruwersma, asking Frank, or Karr to bring to next Planning Commission Meeting. Frank offered to get a frame, and purchase flowers, and some goodies to bring to the meeting. Board members donated money to do this. This was done because after fifteen years of service Denise is retiring from the Planning Commission, and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Schoenborn found that we could pay the township's website bill with Homestead with a Township check, and asked that the township to do so. Frank will take care of this.

- 13.** Westgate adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Theresa Frank, Wright Township