

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 14, 2016, 7:30 P.M.

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The following minutes were taken at the December 14, 2016 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, Rick Schoenborn and Gary Karr. No parking in the reserved fire spots was announced.
2. The re-adoption of Ordinance 128-Consumers Energy Franchise was added to the agenda as new item number six, with subsequent agenda items moved down.
3. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Schoenborn to approve the minutes of the November 09, 2016 Regular Board meeting as written, and to approve the bills for November, 2016 in the amount of \$25,613.45. Motion Carried. It was brought to Carmody's attention that employee Mike Keefe's name was incorrectly entered into payroll by the previous clerk as Mike Keefe Jr., and that it should be corrected. A motion was made by Worrell and supported by Westgate to approve the minutes of the December 13 Special Meeting to approve new Board of Review members Rita Carmody and John Carmody. Motion carried.
4. There were no public comments.
5. Resolution 16-12-01 Brownfield Project-Gull Lake Marine. Kirk Perschbacher from Lakeshore Environmental, Inc. presented information to the Board regarding the proposed inclusion in Ottawa County's Brownfield Plan of the Gull Lake Marine Property, 15757 & 15704 48th Ave. Wright Township. This would make the property eligible for tax incentives such as tax increment financing (TIF). The Ottawa County Redevelopment Brownfield Authority would capture local taxes for the purpose of reimbursing the developer for eligible activity costs connected with the cleanup and containment of previous contamination of the property noted in the Plan presented to the Township Board. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Carmody to adopt Resolution 16-12-01. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Schoenborn, Worrell, Karr, Carmody, Westgate. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The Supervisor declared the Resolution adopted.
6. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Schoenborn to re-adopt Ordinance 128-Consumers Energy Franchise. The ordinance had been adopted at the November 09, 2016 Regular Board meeting, but the publication deadline was missed. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Carmody, Karr, Westgate, Schoenborn, Worrell. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The Supervisor declared Ordinance 128 adopted.
7. Westgate presented a letter from Consumers Energy with information about the 2017 scheduled conversion of the cobra head mercury vapor street lights in Wright Township to high pressure sodium lights. This conversion would be at no charge to the Township. Also in this letter was an estimate for converting all of the street lights in Wright Township to LED lights at an estimated cost of \$26,257.46 to the Township. Karr stated that the price was very reasonable, but it was decided that the estimated savings in electrical costs were not significant enough to justify the upgrade to LED lights at this time.
8. Karr presented for the Board's approval drafts of letters to the six pastors of church congregations in Wright Township. The letters are an invitation to each pastor to open a Regular Township Board meeting with a Prayer. The Board members agreed that it would be a nice way to bring the community together.
9. Discussion was held regarding appointments to the Wright/Tallmadge Fire Board. The current Fire Board members wished to continue serving on the Fire Board, and Karr expressed a strong desire also to serve on the Fire Board. Each person was asked to present a rationale either for continued service on the Fire Board, or for

replacing a member of the Fire Board. There was discussion about the valuable opportunity of having Karr serve on the Board as he has a unique perspective due to his longtime service as a member of the fire department from which he has recently retired. As Karr did not wish to create conflict within the Township Board, and as neither Schoenborn nor Karr was willing to be responsible for the Fire Board minutes, a motion was made by Karr and supported by Schoenborn to appoint Worrell and Schoenborn to a one year term on the Wright/Tallmadge Fire Board, a term which will expire in November 2017. Motion carried. Karr stated that he would attend the Fire Board meetings as a member of the public, and that he could still give input on the Township's behalf, just without voting privileges.

10. Reports were given. There was no Fire Report. Karr gave the Planning Report. The Commission welcomed new Commission member Steve Van Timmeren, and there was continued discussion of the Township Master Plan. Carmody Reported that Mike Keefe has finished repairing historical headstones in Wells and Marne cemeteries.
11. In the Supervisor's report, Westgate stated that the Marne Tree Lighting and Christmas Party at the Fire barn were a huge success. Toys were donated to distribute to the children in attendance. Westgate also informed the Board that the Comcast franchise internet agreement does not include cable television. The township must pay for or cancel this service. It was decided that as only the fire department utilized this service for weather updates, it would be more cost effective to purchase a smart television that could access the internet. Westgate informed the Board that sewer rates would be increasing six percent this year. Finally, Westgate brought to the Board's attention that the owner of a parcel on the north side of Cranberry Lake would like to build a house on a parcel of land that was prohibited from development as part of a consent judgement with Wright Township. The Township Board was not supportive of allowing a house on this parcel and wished to review the information that led to the establishment of the consent judgement.
12. Under Board Concerns, Schoenborn expressed concern about accidents near the intersection of Arthur St. and 8th Avenue. Westgate has communicated concerns about accidents to the Road Commission, but the Road Commission has stated that the accidents are not intersection related.
13. The meeting was adjourned by Westgate at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Maureen Carmody
Wright Township Clerk

