

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

1565 Jackson St., Marne MI 49435

www.wrighttownship.com

1. The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Westgate with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Prayer. Board members present: Josh Westgate, Maureen Carmody, Nancy Hopper, Rick Schoenborn and Gary Karr.
2. There were no additions to the agenda.
3. A motion was made by Schoenborn and supported by Karr to approve the bills for August 2017 in the amount of \$45,067.79 and to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Hopper to approve the minutes of the August 09, 2017 Regular Board meeting as written. Motion carried.
4. There were no public comments.
5. A motion was made by Schoenborn and supported by Carmody to approve the PA-116 Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program Application by River Ridge Farms. Motion carried.
6. A motion was made by Karr and supported by Schoenborn to renew the Wright Township annual contribution of \$1,155.00 to Lakeshore Advantage. Motion carried.
7. A motion was made by Carmody and supported by Hopper to appoint Gary Karr to fill the Wright/Tallmadge Fire Board vacancy left by Tracy Worrell for the remainder of the term to expire in December 2017. Motion carried.
8. Karr gave the fire report. There was discussion at the September Fire Board meeting regarding the need for more daytime staffing, but the current millage is not sufficient to support the added expense. There was no Planning Commission meeting in August. The next Planning Commission meeting will be on September 18, 2017 for the purpose of discussing comments from surrounding jurisdictions regarding the Master Plan and to schedule a Public Hearing for the Master Plan. Carmody reported that the Township has received the new election equipment, and there will be many upcoming training opportunities for election workers. Also, overgrowth and non-complying items have been removed from the Marne cemetery. Many items that have been removed are being stored at the Wright Township office for pick-up. All flowers must be removed for the season by October 15.
9. Westgate informed the board that the Council on Aging contract expires at the end of the month. Local townships are planning to establish a contract with just the local townships and the Council on Aging, now known as Four Points. Westgate gave an update on the lawsuit regarding the Cranberry Lake Ct. driveway dispute. Westgate will also be attending MTA classes beginning this fall to fulfill the

requirements of the scholarship awarded him this year. Also brought to the board for discussion was a last minute request by the Berlin Raceway to schedule an open practice on Thursday, September 21 or Friday, September 22. As Thursday is a school night, a motion was made by Karr and supported by Schoenborn to approve an open practice for Friday, September 22. Motion carried. Schoenborn also informed the Board that he had received many positive comments regarding how the most recent Fireworks event was handled. Westgate said he was able to request extra county sheriffs to be present at the event.

10. Under Board Concerns, Schoenborn expressed concern about the lack of notice to fire board members regarding the invitation to attend the awards ceremony for local firefighters who had saved a life during a water rescue this summer. Karr informed him that they did receive an invitation at the Fire Board meeting the night before the event. Schoenborn also informed the Board that he had received a complaint regarding the construction of a driveway on a property on the north side of Cleveland St. near the bike trail. Westgate informed him that no split was done on the property, and that nothing prohibits a driveway being constructed, but he would have the building inspector check into the issue. Finally, Schoenborn inquired as to whether progress has been made on updating township policies. Carmody informed him that she is working on updates, but it will be long-term project. Karr asked for clarification on who would be responsible for inviting local pastors to give the invocation at the monthly board meeting. As he initiated the project, he stated he would be willing to contact the pastors himself to invite them on a monthly basis.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Maureen Carmody
Wright Township Clerk