

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 15TH 2015 7:00PM**

A meeting of the Columbia Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Larry Burgett. Present were: L. Burgett, K. Curtis, R. Hurley and J. Huizenga. Roll call was taken. 15 Citizens were present.

TREASURERS REPORT:

General	\$162,288.69	Road Fund	\$356,754.37
Fire Fund	\$279,524.43	Ambulance Fund	\$89,734.41
Trust and Agency	\$2,828.72	Tax Fund	\$91,594.72
Liquor	\$3,922.64	House Fund	\$49,119.60
Police Fund	\$180,664.04	Saddle Lake Fund	\$27,930.77
North Lake Fund	\$12,343.57		

CONSENT AGENDA: Regular meeting minutes: 8-18-15; Special meeting minutes: None. Invoices thru 9-15-15 and treasurers report. Motion by Curtis and seconded by Huizenga to the approve consent agenda. Motion carried.

CLERKS REPORT: Completed audit; completed on-line clerk class mandatory; Payroll; invoices; minutes; synopsis. There is an election in November, I have prepared 245 AV applications.

GUEST SPEAKER: Chip Ray from road commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: Add as #5 on agenda new business tree removal bids for Thompson Cemetery. Motion by Curtis seconded by Huizenga.

SUPERVISOR: Most of the projects completed. Complained about roads to the road commission.

ASSESSOR: None

FIRE CHIEF: Call fire department if you will be burning large debris piles leave message of address of burn 269-434-6266. Clear area around where you are going to burn. Month of August; 3 down power lines; 1 structure fire; 1 Transformer fire; 1 grass fire; 1 vehicle accident with injuries.

POLICE: County is updating and installing a new report system and it is not complete yet, so deputy has no report this month. Working on some blight cases.

COUNTY COMM: The new Covert Michigan Generating tax reduction issue is being appealed to the Supreme Court. Chief Judge Brickley has undertaken a complete restructuring of our court system. A new mental health specialty court is being added as well. Racketeering charges against judge Hamre, prosecutor Bedford, the county board and attorneys Page and Stewart has been dismissed. College students studying the County Poor House discovered that persons are buried on the County Fair Grounds as it used to be the site of the County Poor House. Now have a court house dog to help children remain calm.

PLANNING COMMISSION: No report.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: Please come to the monthly meetings so that we can inform YOU. Forms are available now if you are leaving town and would like a house check done by Deputy. Next meeting is September 3rd.

HOSPITAL: Volunteers are still needed call 269-637-5271. The SHHS has 8 new providers. Internal medicine welcomes Dr. Orandi. Cardiologist Dr Akrami has now joined the SHHS team. Dr. Nikkel has also joined SHHS he is and Orthopedic surgeon. Two new employees to the urgent care are Katrina Allen FNP-C, and Kevin Ferrell a PA. Please remember to donate blood if you can; there is always a shortage. Chris Wendling athletic trainer will be at some of the high school events providing sideline coverage for SH Rams.

SENIOR SERVICES: Year in review report. Senior services has touched the lives of 7200 seniors residing in Van Buren County. Senior night at Columbia Township; receive a **FREE** meal by Senior Services once a month. Senior City in South Haven also offers a **FREE** meal once a month. Activities available at Senior City are: Tai Chi, Hand Chimes, Computer lessons, Pickle ball, Card games, Line Dancing, call 269-637-3607 for more information.

CEMETERY: Discussing tonite tree removal in Thompson Cemetery.

BALL FIELD: Ball playing is done for the season.

ZONING:

LAWSUIT: No report.

FOIA REPORT: No report.

CORRESPONDENSE: None.

DISCUSSION: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Motion by Hurley seconded by Curtis to approve 4 persons to attend fire school. NTE \$2500.00. Motion carried.
- 2.) Motion by Curtis seconded by Hurley to approve landscaping for hall. NTE \$4200. Motion carried.
- 3.) Motion by Hurley seconded by Huizenga to accept bid for tree removal in Thompson Cemetery. NTE \$ 2400.00. Contingent on liability insurance. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: We need Christmas lights or decorations put up in this town for Christmas.

BOARD COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Huizenga seconded by Curtis. Time 8:05 pm

Larry Burgett, Supervisor

Stacey Corke, Clerk