

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 20th 2016 7:00PM**

A meeting of the Columbia Township Board was called to order by D. Beckwith. Present were: D. Beckwith, K. Curtis, K. Gruss, and J. Huizenga. Absent: S. Corke. Roll call was taken. 32 Citizens were present.

TREASURERS REPORT:

General	\$196,801.96	Road Fund	\$358,925.19
Fire Fund	\$291,746.49	Ambulance Fund	\$12,223.57
Trust and Agency	\$2,860.18	Tax Fund	\$920.71
Liquor	\$3,922.64	House Fund	\$48,975.71
Police Fund	\$178,520.32	Saddle Lake Fund	\$24,826.20
North Lake Fund	\$-16.01		

CONSENT AGENDA: Regular meeting minutes: 11-15-16; Special meeting minutes: 12-6-16. Invoices thru 12-20-16 and treasurer’s report. Motion by Curtis and seconded by Huizenga to the approve consent agenda. Motion carried. Still need to correct minutes from October 18th, 2016.

CLERKS REPORT: No report.

GUEST SPEAKER: Chip Ray from road commission. State is raising fees for gas and registrations. Work will be done on CR 380 & 40th st.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor has selected a Deputy Supervisor Ken Speicher. Supervisor has appointed Ken Speicher as manager for the fire department. Kathy Curtis will determine when to close the township hall due to weather conditions.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: Policies; Committee Creation; Resolutions; MTA workshop; audit; snow plow increase for transfer station.

SUPERVISOR: See attachment.

ASSESSOR: NO report.

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 November there was 9 calls. It is time to check the batteries on smoke detectors. Please have your address for your home in a clear and visible location in case the ambulance/fire department needs to find your home. Make sure that your heating systems are in proper working order there has already been many fires due to heating systems.

POLICE: 193 property checks. 2 criminal complaints and 11 non-criminal. Assisted 3 other departments. 1 traffic crash; 4 general assist; 2 alarms; 1 illegal burn; 1 civil dispute; 1 health and safety.

COUNTY COMM: Commissioners approved annexation of 3 parcels to the village of Paw Paw. Owen Ames Kimball received bid for the renovation of the Human Service Building. Approved purchase of new patrol car replacing one involved in crash. Approved 2 collective bargaining agreements. Approved

\$275,000.00 for county health department; \$233,000.00 for jail health care and \$20,000.00 to medical examiner.

PLANNING COMMISSION: May need resolution to add more members; the planning commission meetings will move to 2nd Wednesday of the month. Public hearing January 16, 2017 at Township Hall.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: Done for the season.

HOSPITAL: Volunteers are still needed call 269-637-5271. Please remember to donate blood if you can; there is always a shortage. The voters passed the affiliation with Bronson. New dr's have been hired. Cholesterol screenings will be February 2nd and 3rd, 2017. If SHPS has a snow day you can bring your child to the wellness center for a "snow day". 639-2949 for information.

SENIOR SERVICES: 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. Please spread the word about the help the Senior Services offers. Help a senior today for many are in need.

CEMETERY: No report.

BALL FIELD: No report until spring.

ZONING: 3 permits issued. Responded to 12 calls/e-mails.

LAWSUIT: No report.

FOIA REPORT: No report.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

DISCUSSION: the supervisor's policies and ideas.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Beckwith seconded by Curtis to approve purchase of replacement copier for the township hall. Motion carried.
2. Motion by Huizenga seconded by Curtis to approve purchase of new pagers for the fire department; NTE \$2300.00. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Beckwith seconded Gruss to approve Resolution 2016-14 poverty exemption. Motion carried.
4. Motion by Beckwith seconded by Huizenga to approve North Lake Aeration District #2. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Curtis seconded by Gruss to approve MTA workshop attendance \$527.00; books and workshop. Motion carried.
6. Motion by Curtis seconded by Huizenga to approve memorial plate for flag pole at Township Hall. Motion carried.
7. Motion by Huizenga seconded by Gruss to appoint K. Curtis to planning commission board representative position. Motion carried.
8. Motion by Curtis seconded by Huizenga to approve the following persons on the Menards Account: S. Corke, K. Gruss, K. Curtis, A. Lepore, K. Gasper and remove R. Hurley and L. Burgett. Motion Carried.
9. Motion by Beckwith seconded by Curtis to conduct another audit \$2500.00 by Siegfried/Crandall. Motion carried.
10. Motion by Curtis seconded by Huizenga to increase pay amount for plowing transfer station to \$50.00 each plow. Motion Carried.
11. Motion by Curtis seconded by Gruss to approve Resolution 2016-15 R. Hurley acknowledgement. Motion carried.
12. Motion by Curtis seconded by Huizenga to approve Resolution 2016-15 L. Burgett acknowledgement. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Robertson stated that he questions the decisions about the appointment of Speicher to the fire department as a manager. Not pleased! Norton stated that meetings with contractors are underway for bridge. Breedsville will receive 6 trees for the park. McLauklin stated and question the amount for North Lake. Stokes K. talked about Marcelletti letter and was unhappy about the K. Speicher appointment. Gruibich stated tired of all the need for alcohol.

BOARD COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Huizenga seconded by Gruss. Time 9:30pm

Dean Beckwith, Supervisor
Stacey Corke, Clerk

COMMITTEES

1. Grant Writing Committee: Linda Norton
Gail McLanklin
2. Parks and Recreation: Kathy Curtis
John Huizenga
Pam Bradbury
3. Cemetery: Kathy Curtis
John Huizenga
4. Lakes & Streams: John Huizenga
5. Internet/Cell Phone: Linda Norton
Lee Abernathy
6. Blight & Noise: Dixie Kovach
Gary Gruss
7. Land Sales: Dick Curtis
8. Public Relations & Proof Reader: Karen Gruss
9. Recycling :