

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17th 2017 7:00PM**

A meeting of the Columbia Township Board was called to order by D. Beckwith. Present were: D. Beckwith, S. Corke, K. Curtis, K. Gruss, and J. Huizenga. Absent: none. Roll call was taken. 27 Citizens were present.

TREASURERS REPORT:

General	\$210,516.99	Road Fund	\$372,768.47
Fire Fund	\$298,421.27	Ambulance Fund	\$12,210.69
Trust and Agency	\$2,831.61	Tax Fund	\$714,075.85
Liquor	0	House Fund	\$47,778.10
Police Fund	\$197,448.02	Saddle Lake Fund	\$24,830.47
North Lake Fund	\$14,242.54		

CONSENT AGENDA: Regular meeting minutes: 12-20-16; Special meeting minutes: still have a correction to be made to October 2016 mins. Invoices thru 1-17-17 and treasurer's report. Motion by Curtis and seconded by Huizenga to the approve consent agenda. Motion carried.

CLERKS REPORT: Completed payroll, paid invoices, synopsis, closed payroll year, completed online class requirement by election bureau.

GUEST SPEAKER: JC Robertson invites all to come to Townline Church in Bloomingdale which is now incorporated with Breedsville church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: Add trustee report to agenda.

SUPERVISOR:

ASSESSOR: Studies show the increase in value 17.18% residential (differ per neighborhood) and 54.80% in agricultural. STC calculated the CPI for 2017 to be .009%. Poverty exemption applications are available at the township.

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 December there was 13 calls. 2016 had 103 total 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: 164 property checks. 7 criminal complaints and 21 non-criminal. Assisted 1 other departments. 6 traffic crash; 9 general assist; 3 assaults; 1 health & safety; 1 fraud.

COUNTY COMM: 911 has been updated to a super user friendly system.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The planning commission meetings will move to 2nd Wednesday of the month. Had a public hearing for the proposed zoning text amendment. Will have public hearing for the Master Plan in February.

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. Call the Wellness center if the kids have a snow day at school.

SENIOR SERVICES: Senior City in South Haven also offers a **FREE** meal once a month. Free chili February 7th 4-5:30 at Church in Grand Junction. 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: Working on an ordinance.

BALL FIELD: Will need moon dust this year.

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

LAWSUIT: No report.

FOIA REPORT: 1 Speicher, 1 Stokes and 1 Bloom.

TRUSTEE2: Jail crew will do the floors at the hall in February. Transfer station will need 22a gravel and trees and stumps removed; and working to find out what repairs can be done to compactor. Gruss has report on tire changer. Will be meeting with Keith Gasper to work on ordinance for cemeteries.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

DISCUSSION: Noise /Vibration Ordinance; tire changer transfer station; MTT lawsuit involving SLSA district and defer funds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Corke seconded by Huizenga to approve purchase of 4 AED for the township and fire department; NTE \$4580.00. Motion carried.
2. Motion by Curtis seconded by Beckwith to approve funds for MTA conference 2017; NTE \$1250.00. Motion carried.
3. Tabled SOP/SOG approval.
4. Motion by Curtis seconded by Corke to appoint Dale Bessler to the Board of Review. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Beckwith seconded by Huizenga to approve Resolution 2017-01 Planning Commission Member increase to 7. 4 yes; 1 no. Motion carried.
6. Motion by Curtis seconded by Huizenga to approve ZBA members to attend class NTE \$250.00. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: R. Stokes questioned the appointment of Speicher position in the township; is it not a conflict of interest; how can you do this to the township after this person has taken so much money from the taxes payers here. Appalled by the decision. He is just trying to get in the door of the township. K. Stokes questioned the need for more planning commission members and what rate of pay will be for members. What pay will be for deputy supervisor. D. Johnson stated that the township can purchase a sawsall to cut tires off the rims at transfer station. B. Bray stated Speicher would be a good thing for the township.

BOARD COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Huizenga seconded by Corke. Time 8:30pm

Dean Beckwith, Supervisor
Stacey Corke, Clerk