

**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 21ST 2017 7:00PM**

A meeting of the Columbia Township Board was called to order by D. Beckwith. Present were: D. Beckwith, S. Corke, K. Gruss, and J. Huizenga. Absent: K. Curtis. Roll call was taken. 21 Citizens were present.

TREASURERS REPORT:

General	\$205,303.44	Road Fund	\$482,190.43
Fire Fund	\$342,122.87	Ambulance Fund	\$12,214.84
Trust and Agency	\$2,831.85	Tax Fund	\$50,420.06
North Lake	\$14,493.76	House Fund	\$47,794.33
Police Fund	\$227,895.16	Saddle Lake Fund	\$25,350.98

CONSENT AGENDA: Regular meeting minutes: 1-17-17; Special meeting minutes: 10-18-16; 2-15-17; 1-23-17. Invoices thru 2-21-17 and treasurer's report. Motion by Huizenga and seconded by Corke to the approve consent agenda. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Awaiting the results from the audit; Attended MTA training; Ambulance refunds will resume soon. Restoration of the hall is complete.

CLERKS REPORT: Completed payroll, paid invoices, synopsis, filing, agendas and other miscellaneous responsibilities. Retrieved ballot container from Mattawan. Worked on budget. There will be an election in May for the jail proposal.

GUEST SPEAKER: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: Add resolution 2017-06 fire department sop/sog documents as #5 on new business.

SUPERVISOR: Discussed matters with individuals who are in disagreement with the township. I am exploring the possibility of using a consultation mediation services provided by MSU. Working with board on budget. Large problem with blight in the township most are unable to take on the task of clean up I will accept any ideas as to how to help clean up some properties.

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 January there was 11 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.

POLICE: 283 property checks. 6 criminal complaints and 15 non-criminal. Assisted 3 other departments. 2 Breaking and entering; 8 abandoned vehicles; 2 general assist; 1 alarm and 1 medical. Worked 16 in the township.

COUNTY COMM: No report.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The planning commission meetings will move to 2nd Wednesday of the month. Had a small attendance for the Master Plan public hearing. We welcomed 2 new members to

the planning commission. Family Dollar seems to be moving forward they may have to file for a special use permit for the outdoor store sign. Medical Marijuana is a subject that is coming to townships for discussion so this may be a future subject at meetings.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: March will start the meetings again for the year. Please attend so that you may be informed.

SENIOR SERVICES: Senior City in South Haven also offers a **FREE** meal once a month. Free lunch monthly at Church in Grand Junction contact the church for more information. 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.

ZONING: 1 permit for new home and 1 permit for accessory building. Attended monthly planning commission meeting.

LAWSUIT: Nothing to report.

FOIA REPORT: 2 Gruss, 1 Speicher, 1 Stokes .

TRUSTEE2: Worked on my trip to convention. Went to the transfer station. Worked on corrections on the ordinance for the cemetery.

CORRESPONDENSE: None.

DISCUSSION: I2k contract, noise ordinance is being reviewed by attorney along with the cemetery ordinance. Still working on repair to fire department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines. Finished this business under new business #5.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Corke seconded by Huizenga to approve policy 2017-01 agenda packets. Motion carried. Curtis absent
2. Motion by Gruss seconded by Corke to approve policy 2017-02 tax payments. Motion carried. Curtis absent.
3. Motion by Gruss seconded by Corke to approve policy 2017-03 at will employment. Motion carried. Curtis absent.
4. Motion by Corke seconded by Huizenga to table salary resolutions. Motion carried. Curtis absent.
5. Motion by Corke seconded by Huizenga to approve Resolution 2017-06 Fire Department SOP/SOG. Motion carried. Curtis absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Boys scouts or schools could help with blight cleanup possibly. Have a community clean up day and volunteers from the community help with an organized clean up.

BOARD COMMENTS: Next meeting is the 28th of March due to budget. Happy St. Patrick's Day

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Huizenga seconded by Corke. Time 8:04pm

Dean Beckwith, Supervisor

Stacey Corke, Clerk