

**OVID TOWNSHIP
Regular Board Meeting
May 5, 2016**

Administrative Offices (a.k.a. Ovid Township Hall)
1015 Baese Ct.
Ovid, MI 48866

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Greg Palen with Pledge to the Flag. Roll call found the following members present: Supervisor Greg Palen, Clerk Michelle Robinson, Treasurer Casie Chunko, Trustee Nancy Hughson, and Trustee Randy Montague. Absent: None. Also present: approximately 10 visitors.

AGENDA: Moved by Hughson, **seconded** by Montague to approve agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

MINUTES: Moved by Montague, **seconded** by Chunko to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2016 regular meeting as presented. **Motion carried.**

ASSESSOR – DIANE DOWLER: The database has been rolled over to the county and PREs and Deeds are being processed and new construction is being organized. The July Board of Review is scheduled for July 19, 2016 and is for clerical errors and corrections only.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – KAM WASHBURN: The healthcare plan for all county employees has been approved with an increase of slightly under 3% (negotiations started at 18%). Drain Commission employee, Brian Lawless, is retiring after 30 years on the job. The Drain Commission has been running short on an engineering tech spot for many years – voted to fill this position to help the Drain Commissioner out. Pete Preston is also no long the Community Development Officer over planning and zoning as he has become too busy with assessing. The CDO position has been posted as a full-time position with the county. With all the new builds and subdivisions this position needs full-time attention. The Counties 911 surcharge will be expiring and the commission voted to place it on the August ballot. Currently it is \$2.25 per line and they will be asking for a slight increase to \$2.75 per line. This will help build a small tech bank which could help with the tower project at the north end of the county (adding one or two towers) it may also allow us to explore the option of piggybacking on a State tower or another communication tower – both options are still very expensive. The increase will allow for tech upgrade costs as well. Clinton Area Transit has a .2 mill renewal up for the November ballot. Three people were appointed to the Planning Commission – two asked to be reappointed and were – the third seat was filled by Kevin Kirk out of Greenbush Township. Chip sealing is complete on two of our projects scheduled for this year. Attending residents discussed the on-going concern regarding a traffic light at the corner of Hollister and M-21 with Mr. Washburn. Rumors are that the State will be doing a traffic study again after school is let out for the year. This will disallow for the counting of all the before and after school traffic that utilizes that intersection. It has become quite dangerous as people are cutting through the mobile home park or Hanson’s Quik Stop to avoid the intersection and the wait.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET: Moved by Chunko, **seconded** by Montague to table any budget amendments needed until last fiscal year’s expenses are booked back (per accountant). **Motion carried**

FINANCIAL REPORT: Early June will be the treasurers meeting to prepare for summer taxes. The county just sent the pre-pays for the delinquent taxes, dispersements will be made from this. **Moved** by Robinson, **seconded** by Montague to approve the Treasurer’s Report after review and approval of the bank statements, subject to audit, and place on file showing the following account balances: General Fund Checking \$486,305.83; Tax Deposit Account \$602.67; Tax Disbursement Account \$0.00; Del Personal Property Tax Account \$236.04 see attached). **Motion carried.**

BILLS: Our audit is scheduled for May 18 and 19. Michelle will be here to assist as needed and Casie will help prepare materials and be available by phone as needed. Twelve new election inspectors will be trained in July and dual absentee ballot apps will be utilized to be mailed no later than June. Cemetery flags and veteran markers were delivered to the Ovid VFW Post for placement at Maple Grove Cemetery as needed. Representatives from the Post also came and performed a flag change out ceremony for us prior to the meeting so our American Flag stands tall and proud as we begin the summer months. Thank you so much to those who came out. **Moved** by Chunko, **seconded** by Hughson to approve payment of the bills as presented (with the addition of \$11.50 to Miller Soft Water) using checks #9649 through #9663 totaling \$35,382.92 (see attached). **Motion carried.**

COMMITTEES:

CEMETERY: Nancy has turned all materials over to the board as this was her last meeting. Mr. Lasher sent a letter asking for a resolution for formal dissolution of the Authority. The Township board will be sending this to our attorneys prior to fulfilling the request as Middlebury Township was not asked to do the same when they removed themselves from the authority.

OMESA: The Fire Department had 16 runs, making 38 year to date. The ambulance had 48 calls, 16 BLS, 18 ALS, and 14 non-transport.

The rest of the discussion on OMESA revolved around the ambulance changes being discussed. If in fact we dissolve our ambulance service and become a Medical First Responder (MFR) unit, Ovid Township as well as the City of Ovid are looking at contracting with Clinton Area Ambulance at the cost of \$3 per capita. Middlebury Township is looking at either MMR (\$30 per household) or City of Owosso (\$3 per capita). Both Chiefs would like to have 4-5 more Fire Department personnel to make this transition work and all personnel would have additional training to respond as MFR's. As the new Articles of Incorporation for OMESA are being worked on the topic of the mileage came up – we will be looking for some clarification of legalities as it is considered a “Township Mileage” as it was originally voted. The OMESA board will also be comprised of six people – two board representatives from each entity (one is the Supervisor or Mayor). The draft Articles will be available to the entities within the next week so they may review and pass at their next meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: All public comments were tied to discussions.

BOARD COMMENTS: Lawn Mowing bids were opened with three bids being awarded. Two bids were nearly identical and a third was about half the cost – which concerned the board, not in regard to quality of work, but to that companies bottom line if they were awarded the bid. Ultimately it was **Moved** by Chunko, **seconded** by Montague to award this year's lawn mowing to Maximum Pride Lawn Care. **Motion carried**

Adjourn 9:15 p.m. **Moved** by Robinson, **Seconded** by Chunko. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle M. Robinson, Clerk: Gregory Palen, Supervisor