



# **OVID TOWNSHIP**

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

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# **APPROVED**

**SUPERVISOR:** Gregory C. Palen  
**CLERK:** Claudia Barrett Pluger  
**TREASURER:** Nancy J. Hughson

**TRUSTEES:** Arlene Pesik  
Jennings West

### **APPROVED MINUTES OF OVID TOWNSHIP MEETING - APRIL 6, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Ovid Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Greg Palen with Pledge to the Flag.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Supervisor Greg Palen, Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, Trustees Arlene Pesik and Jennings West.

**ABSENT:** Treasurer Nancy Hughson

#### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Mike & Diane Dowler, Kam Washburn, Gail Watkins, Deputy Stacey Speck, Sue Palen, Doug & Char Angell, Chris & Kim Hickman

#### **AGENDA:**

Agenda reviewed by Board. Moved by Arlene to approve the agenda as printed, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

#### **PROPOSED MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2017:**

Proposed minutes reviewed by Board. Moved by Arlene to approve the minutes as printed, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

#### **PROPOSED MINUTES OF SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF MARCH 20, 2017:**

Proposed minutes discussed and reviewed by Board. Moved by Arlene to approve the minutes as printed, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Gail Watkins from Clinton County Road Commission gave an update on the increase in fees to all drivers, i.e., gas tax, licenses and registrations. The Road Commission raised the cost share for all units of government. Several contractors have extended their prices from last year, which will be a big help. A couple new grader trucks have been bought. Ovid Township spent around \$127,000 on roads last year. In addition to that, the Road Commission spent another \$312,000 on upkeep of the roads in Ovid Township.

Supervisor Palen presented a letter from Doug and Char Angell that was also signed by several neighbors regarding the horses that belong to Chris and Kim Hickman at 700 W. Front Street in Ovid Township.

Mrs. Hickman explained they have formally requested a variance through Clinton County to keep their horses there. They moved here last year from Montana. Before they moved they checked with Clinton County for the requirements to bring their horses here, as did their Real Estate Agent. They received a letter stating they are in violation of proper fence lines. They are asking to be allowed to keep their two horses there.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Nancy's statements and bank statements from Huntington Bank reviewed by Board. Moved by Claudia to accept the Treasurer's report as printed, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

#### **CLERK/BILLS - FOR APPROVAL:**

Check Numbers 9869-9872; 9874; 9876-9879; 9891-9907; Totaling \$13,704.63. Moved by Arlene to accept the Clerk's report as presented, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

#### **REPORTS:**

##### **DEPUTY STACCY SPECK -**

Deputy Speck introduced himself. He is new for Ovid Township, and wanted to stop in. He presented us with a document - COMMUNICATIONS, Number of Events by Nature, for Ovid Township showing the different activities for the month of March, 2017. The investigation of the armed robbery at the Dollar General store is ongoing.

**ASSESSOR** Diane Dowler thanked all the Board of Review members. The month of March went very well. There were 11 petitions, 7 of them were disabled Veterans. All of those were acted upon. The final numbers of 2016 for Ovid Township for the SEV was \$104,541,785. This does not include Sleepy Hollow State Park. After Board of Review, the final number was \$108,135,310 as the assessed value. The taxable value for 2016 is \$68,935,418. The new taxable value is \$70,564,350. Sleepy Hollow's taxable value is \$610,000, which is taxed differently by the State. The values are coming up. The sales are showing the ratios were justified in what is happening.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER** Kam Washburn reported it was voted to renew the health care contract for all County employees with only a 2.8 percent increase. That was the presentation they made right off the get-go. Clinton County has a unique system that a lot of municipalities across the State have copied over the years. We have a health care alliance for all County employees. Every Union has a seat at the table on the health care alliance, along with the nonunion people, along with the HR Chair now – the name of the committee has been changed – and all of the unions are there, nonunion and the Commissioners, and it is voted on accepting whatever health care they are going to have for the next year; therefore, health care is not in any union contract. All the unions agree

that they will abide by whatever that is. What a difference it makes when you start to do contracts. Then there are not different health care for different unions within the County. Everyone has the same health care. It works wonderfully.

Another contract was signed for Veterans. Every Friday there is a person at the Courthouse all day in the Commissioner's Room. If anyone needs help, direction, or whatever, they can meet with a person from the Veteran's Administration. That is done in conjunction with Ingham and Eaton Counties. If anyone knows of a Veteran that needs help or looking for direction, every Friday someone is available.

The Clinton County Economic Alliance contract was again approved. The County puts \$35,000 into that. The Clinton County Economic Alliance is made up of governmental, county and some other local – some townships, cities and also private industry is involved in that. It's a pretty small budget. There is an office in DeWitt. Drew Mitchell is the person that heads that up. She works on economic development for the County, in conjunction with LEAP. She works with LEAP also, which the County is a part of. LEAP is the Lansing Economic Area Partnership.

Clinton Transit – each year the County Commissioners are responsible for approving the Authority's budget. That was done. They are moving forward and have just moved into their new building on North Scott Road. If anyone is looking for a job, get whatever license you need to drive a bus. They are looking for drivers constantly. The school is looking for drivers. Dean Transportation is looking for drivers. There are never enough bus drivers.

**OMESA** - Trustee Jennings reported that the agreement was signed to buy the tanker. The tanker will be refit and refurbished. The cost is approximately \$162,000, and it will take about 90 days to get it done. It will help with the insurance, reduce it some. Supervisor Palen commented it would also help our ISO ratings. Supervisor Palen asked Kam if he had ever seen one of these or if they talked about them at Duplain. He went on to state the company that builds these is in Applecreek, Ohio, and he knows the guy that builds these. When he was in Ohio, he was able to see firsthand how it works. He explained to Kam the whole process. Supervisor Palen stated we bought CAFR's pump so we can recharge our own trucks. He stated we ended up with a lot of the CAFR equipment.

**Library** - Nancy was not at our meeting. However, we received a copy of the Board Meeting Minutes from her of February 8, 2017, and handwritten Librarian's Report of March 15, 2017.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Lawn Mowing - Board reviewed letter from Marshall Baker, owner of Maximum Pride Lawn Care. Claudia suggested we continue to contract with Maximum Pride Lawn Care. Owner Marshall Baker has stopped into the office several times expressing his interest. He wants to continue and has done a great job in the past.

Moved by Jennings that we renew the lawn mowing contract with Maximum Pride Lawn Care at the price of \$90 per mow, Seconded by Claudia. All in favor, Motion carried.

Fire Extinguisher - Tim Moyer from Clark Fire and Safety took all our fire extinguishers, inspected and certified them, left us loaners for one day. He did suggest we have another fire extinguisher in the meeting room since there isn't one in there.

Moved by Claudia that we get a fire extinguisher and cabinet installed in the storage closet of the meeting room under a bid from Clark Fire and Safety, Seconded by Arlene. All in favor, Motion carried.

BS&A Training Class for Clerk & Treasurer - The two gentlemen from BS&A that trained Claudia and Nancy on the software suggested taking Fund Accounting I and II. They felt it would be very beneficial. Trustee Jennings inquired whether the Deputy Treasurer should go to the class. Deputy Treasurer Sue Palen commented she can no longer get into our new software program in her computer downtown through Team Viewer. She needs instructions with that; however, is not interested in taking the class. Clerk Claudia commented with the BS&A Software and I.T. Right that there may not be a way for her to have access now from her computer.

Moved by Arlene that we approve funding for the Clerk and Treasurer to attend BS&A training class, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

Road Improvement Contracts - In the Board members packet was a map showing the road work needed. Supervisor Palen rode around with the Road Commission men looking at the roads. The ones they are in the biggest hurry doing are the gravel projects. There is one on Faragher Road, \$15,816. There is a spot gravel one for \$5,000. They would like us to help fund this. Taft Road west of Watson Road, which includes replacing a culvert that is rusting away is \$10,393. There's a chip seal on Watson Road, \$73,080.28. There were four new houses built there last year. Regraveling Taft Road between Chandler Road and Watson Road for about a mile is \$21,400. Regraveling Taft Road from St. Clair Road to Shepardsville Road is \$15,896.40. Those projects add up to \$105,160.61. We have a cost sharing amount that will get applied to these projects. From our Treasurer's Reports, it appears we have enough funds to cover that. Discussion regarding how much was allowed in the Budget. Supervisor Palen commented we had enough budgeted under road repairs and maintenance to cover these contracts.

Moved by Claudia that we approve the Contracts from Clinton County Road Commission as presented in the amount of \$105,160.61, Seconded by Jennings. All in favor, Motion carried.

2017-2018 Budget (Readoption/Amend) -

Supervisor Palen stated it's Tax Allocation Board year so we have to submit our Budget to the County Clerk. He stated he will submit what we have entered in the new BS&A Program Budget. Supervisor Palen said the Board has a month to study the new Budget, and we will discuss it at next month's meeting and bring it up-to-date.

Kitchen garage window - Discussion regarding missing long handle to lower the garage window in the kitchen. It needs to be repaired.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

Trustee Pesik commented this had been talked about before, but there should be a raise for the Clerk and Treasurer for all the extra time they are putting in to repair the last few years. They have to put all the last year's information into the computer just so an audit can be done.

Supervisor Palen said he could help key things in. He also commented there's a couple ways to do this. There could be a raise or you could also do a one-time bonus payment for all this extra work. Supervisor Palen commented, "We know. We see what's been going on."

Clerk Plugger commented they have to go through each month's file and enter all the checks, deposits, and hopefully reconcile everything.

Trustee Jennings wanted on record that he knows the Clerk and Treasurer are out here every day. He comes out here.

Trustee Pesik commented how happy people are now. "Ovid Township is back on the map. The lights are on. The people are here. Phone calls are being returned. That's why the vote went the way it did. That was the biggest complaint, no one was ever here."

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Barrett Plugger, Clerk

Gregory C. Palen, Supervisor