

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 20, 2018      7:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order/Pledge/Roll Call:**

Craig Bradfield called the regular meeting of the Howard Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Howard Township Business Office, 1345 Barron Lake Road, Niles, Michigan. Pledge of allegiance was recited. Board members Craig Bradfield, Sheri Wozniak, Linda Rudlaff, Mike Daly, Mike Gordon, Hank Johnson and Bill Kasprzak answered roll call. Mr. Andrew Wozniak from Boy Scouts, Commissioner Bob Ziliak, Undersheriff Roach, Commissioner Grice and Resident Ken Martin were also present.

**Approval of Agenda:**

The floor was open to the residents concerning the Agenda. No comments were made. A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Rudlaff to approve the Agenda, carried.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Daly, supported by Rudlaff to approve the January 16, 2018 regular meeting minutes and the February 6, 2018 special meeting minutes as written, carried.

**Financial Report:**

Treasurer Rudlaff read the January 2018 Financial Report. A motion was made by Kasprzak, supported by Gordon to accept the January 2018 monthly financial report as presented with a beginning balance of \$414,529.12 and an ending balance of \$569,329.94, carried.

**Approval of Bills**

A motion was made by Kasprzak, supported by Johnson to approve the monthly bills for payment, carried.

**Departmental Reports**

Fire Chief Leneway reported 4 fire calls and 17 medical calls for January 2018. Leneway also announced Dunning and Allen Roads are closed due to flooding. Also, the road commission is out of cones and closed signs. Drivers need to be alert. Supervisor Bradfield received a recommendation to appoint Jason Cloud as a firefighter. A motion was made by Kasprzak, supported by Rudlaff to appoint Jason Cloud as a firefighter, carried. Undersheriff Roach reported a school bus getting stuck on a flooded road with children on the bus. Flooding is a major issue and should peak Friday. On Saturday, February 24, Animal Control is having a Rabies Clinic. You can get your pets rabies shot at a discount rate. The Undersheriff also investigated a concern regarding an accident at Carberry and Lake Streets regarding the need road salt and/or dirt. He apologized for miscommunications between dispatch and the road commission as to the urgency of salt/dirt needed at that intersection. The road commission does have policies in place for emergencies. Roach also report burglaries down in the area. Trustee Kasprzak reported SMCAS is extremely busy. The SMCAS Board is currently working on getting 1-2 day cars up and running for transfers, a decontamination unit for cleaning the ambulances, the Gray embezzlement litigation, the purchase of a new ambulance and updating office equipment. Trustee Gordon reported the parks are preparing for spring; planning on replacing wooden signs at Pepper Martin, Sholtey and Kiddie Corral Parks. Also, they will be repairing bleachers at Pepper Martin. The Park Board is also collecting bids for surveillance equipment. A motion was made by Rudlaff, supported by Gordon to approve the monthly reports, carried.

**Information**

A special meeting has been scheduled to discuss the 2018-2019 proposed budget for March 6, 2018 at 6pm at the Township Business Office. The Township received a thank you letter from Principal Asmus for the donations collected from our residents to support the students at James Ellis School.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

A motion was made by Kasprzak, supported by Gordon, to set a special meeting for a Public Hearing on March 20, 2018 at 6:45 pm regarding the Proposed 2018-2019 Budgets, carried.

**Correspondence**

None

**Other Business from the Board**

None

**Concerns of the Citizens**

Commissioner Grice informed the Board that the new dog licensing program has been implemented at the County and they hope to be able to allow Townships to sell licenses next year. Commissioner Ziliak announced the Hazardous Waste Collection Day at the County will be May 19, 2018, 9 am to noon. Also, the County has applied for the Tire Collection Grant and if they receive a grant, it will be schedule for August 2018. Mr. Scott Lundberg of 1069 Carberry Road asked if the Board had addressed the removal of “No Thru Truck” signs on Carberry Road and when they would be replaced. Mr. Bradfield informed the residents that Steve Lucas of the Road Commission stated they would not replace the signs. Several residents from Carberry road were present and joined the conversation in expressing their anger over the situation. Residents also stated their belief in that the road commission wanting to widen and strengthen the road for semi trucks traveling to Niles Industrial Park; which they believe would only increase truck traffic on a road that is not designated a truck route. The Niles Industrial park Truck Route is designated down 17<sup>th</sup> Street in Niles. Mr. Ken Martin of Center Avenue thanked the Fire Department for their quick response and their diligence at an electrical fire at his residence.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Johnson, supported by Rudlaff to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Bradfield adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Sheri Wozniak  
Howard Township Clerk