

Lawrence Township Regular Board Meeting & Truth in Taxation Public Hearing August 11, 2016

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present - Spenner, Thompson, Tinker, Reynnells and Stroud

Also Present: Mark DuBay, Rick Boze, Don Hanson, Jeff Moses, Dan Faulkner, Chief Anchor, Sal Campagna, Brien Heckman, John O'Connell and Shannon Truelove.

Discussion regarding an increase in the operating tax millage rate by .3485. This will still result in a net reduction for property taxes to residents due to the fire district millage reduction approved last year.

There were no objections from citizens present.

The Lawrence Township Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motion made by Stroud, 2nd by Tinker, to approve the July 14, 2016 Regular Board Minutes and the Special Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2016 as presented.

Roll call vote for Regular Meeting Minutes: Stroud, Tinker, Thompson and Spenner - ayes. Reynnells – abstained. Motion carried

Roll call vote for Special Meeting Minutes: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Reynnells, 2nd by Stroud, to approve the August 11, 2016 expenditures as amended.

Roll call vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

A separate line item on future expense reports was requested for the 1726 Refurb project.

General Fund Totaling: \$13,594.84

| Date | Expenditure | Amount | Description |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------|--|
| 08/11/2016 | AGS | \$50.00 | Outside Services |
| 08/11/2016 | AT&T | \$74.82 | Cemetery Communications |
| 08/11/2016 | Attorney Mark DuBay | \$1,342.59 | Misc/Meetings/Variance/Prop Tax |
| 08/11/2016 | Comcast | \$52.96 | Internet Service Provider |
| 08/11/2016 | Consumer's Energy | \$115.11 | Utilities-GF Fire Hall |
| 08/11/2016 | Consumer's Energy | \$188.39 | Utilities-Bank Bldg |
| 08/11/2016 | Consumer's Energy | \$33.08 | Utilities-Cemetery Memorial |
| 08/11/2016 | Denise Campagna | \$180.00 | Election Pay |
| 08/11/2016 | Donna Taylor | \$180.00 | Election Pay |
| 08/11/2016 | Election Source | \$490.00 | Tabulator Maint Agreement |
| 08/11/2016 | Field Plumbing & Heating | \$920.00 | Library Air Conditioner Repair |
| 08/11/2016 | First National Bank - Omaha | \$389.95 | Treasurer Computer Services/Postage |
| 08/11/2016 | First National Bank - Omaha | \$501.77 | Postage/Cem Equip&Supplies/Repairs/Super |

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| | | | Trn/Software |
| 08/11/2016 | Frontier | \$94.26 | Treasurer/Board Communications |
| 08/11/2016 | Frontier | \$46.75 | Cemetery Communications |
| 08/11/2016 | Judy Janssen | \$180.00 | Election Pay |
| 08/11/2016 | Richardson Oil | \$133.41 | Cemetery Fuel |
| 08/11/2016 | Ricoh | \$99.07 | Copier Contract |
| 08/11/2016 | Ruth Griffin | \$180.00 | Election Pay |
| 08/11/2016 | Sal Campagna | \$180.00 | Election Pay |
| 08/11/2016 | State of Michigan | \$237.64 | Payroll Taxes |
| 08/11/2016 | Village of Lawrence | \$63.58 | Water Utility - Bank Building |
| 08/11/2016 | Village of Lawrence | \$15.01 | Garbage Service |
| 08/11/2016 | Vineyard Press | \$247.45 | Print/Publishing (Board/PC/BOR/Elections) |
| | Subtotal | \$5,995.84 | |
| | Payroll | | |
| 08/11/2016 | Donna Ghastin-Neyome | \$1,984.82 | Assessor Salary |
| 08/11/2016 | Donna Spenner | \$976.60 | Supervisor Salary |
| 08/11/2016 | Kim Thompson | \$929.52 | Clerk Salary |
| 08/11/2016 | Mary Tinker | \$870.04 | Treasurer Salary |
| | Subtotal | \$4,760.98 | |
| | Consent Items Already Paid | | |
| | Barry S. Earls | \$2,107.66 | Sexton Wages (7/22/16; 8/5/16) |
| | Charles Moses | \$263.42 | PT Sexton Wages (7/22/16; 8/5/16) |
| | Karen Hardin | \$125.98 | Election Chair Pay |
| | State of Michigan | \$137.79 | State Payroll Tax |
| | Theresa Stroud | \$203.17 | Deputy Treasurer Wages (7/22/16) |
| | Subtotal | \$2,838.02 | |
| | Grand Total | \$13,594.84 | |

LTES Fund Totaling: \$51,137.30

| Date | Expenditure | Amount | Description |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------|--|
| 08/11/2016 | Aflac | \$136.37 | Disability Insurance |
| 08/11/2016 | Bio Care | \$1,644.00 | Annual Physicals |
| 08/11/2016 | Comcast | \$26.49 | Internet Service |
| 08/11/2016 | Consumers Energy | \$460.45 | Utilities |
| 08/11/2016 | David Chapman Agency | \$1,229.00 | AD&D Insurance Annual Renewal |
| 08/11/2016 | Doubleday Office Products | \$135.00 | Office Chair |
| 08/11/2016 | First National Bank - Omaha | \$303.93 | Supplies/FH Maint/FD Training/Comm Promo |
| 08/11/2016 | Flametamer Fire Protection | \$90.00 | Equipment |
| 08/11/2016 | Frontier | \$140.25 | Communications |

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|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 08/11/2016 | Galls, LLC | \$141.94 | FD - Personal Protection Equipment - Boots |
| 08/11/2016 | Interstate Sign Products | \$183.50 | Sign Supplies |
| 08/11/2016 | Look Sharp Marketing | \$439.63 | FD - Personal Protection Equipment |
| 08/11/2016 | Midway Electric | \$353.00 | 125V 20 Amp plus Labor |
| 08/11/2016 | Mike Anchor | \$50.00 | Communications Reimbursement |
| 08/11/2016 | Moses Fire Equipment | \$3,218.01 | Compressor Repair/Hose |
| 08/11/2016 | Moses Fire Equipment | \$33,321.30 | 1726 Refurb |
| 08/11/2016 | Nye Uniform | \$391.70 | FD - Personal Protection Equipment - Boots |
| 08/11/2016 | Nye Uniform | \$73.10 | QR - Personal Protection Equipment |
| 08/11/2016 | Richardson Oil Co. | \$182.44 | Fuel Expense |
| 08/11/2016 | Ricoh | \$99.06 | Copier Contract |
| 08/11/2016 | State of Michigan | \$83.13 | Payroll Taxes |
| 08/11/2016 | Touchtone Communications | \$19.40 | Communications |
| 08/11/2016 | Village of Lawrence | \$101.06 | Water Utility |
| 08/11/2016 | Village of Lawrence | \$15.01 | Garbage Service |
| 08/11/2016 | Walmart | \$23.24 | FH Supplies |
| | Sub Total | \$42,861.01 | |
| | LTES Payroll | | |
| 08/11/2016 | Michael Beach | \$91.73 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Barry S. Earls | \$277.02 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Charles Carpp | \$51.94 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Charles Moses | \$40.47 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | David Leach | \$25.11 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Eric Mills | \$131.32 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | James Fein | \$79.19 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | John Gritter | \$101.81 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Kyle Mead | \$166.69 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Michael Carpp | \$301.95 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Michelle Curtis | \$163.92 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Rolla Hemingway | \$306.63 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Shawn Mead | \$227.65 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Steven Leach | \$12.55 | Wages |
| 08/11/2016 | Steven Lowe | \$264.48 | Wages |
| | Sub Total | \$2,242.46 | |
| | Consent Items Already Paid | | |
| | Michael Anchor | \$3,331.09 | Chief Salary (7/22/16; 8/5/16) |
| | Karen Hardin | \$2,379.68 | Secretary Wages (7/22/06; 8/5/16) |
| | State of Michigan | \$323.06 | State Payroll Tax |

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| | SubTotal | \$6,033.83 | |
| | Grand Total | \$51,137.30 | |

Building Fund Totaling: \$2,053.00

| Date | Expenditure | Amount | Description |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 08/11/2016 | AGS | \$2,053.00 | 5 Blgd/5 Elect/1 Mech/2 Plumbing |
| | Total Proposed Expenditures | \$2,053.00 | |

The following reports were presented to the Board:

- ✓ Sheriff's Department
- ✓ Road Commission
- ✓ Village of Lawrence
- ✓ Lawrence Township Emergency Services
- ✓ Treasurer
- ✓ Clerk
- ✓ Planning Commission
- ✓ County Commissioner

Rick Boze from the Van Buren County Sheriff's Department informed the Board that there were 116 total calls in July 2016. Updates to the Smart 911 System were discussed.

Rick Boze representing the VB Co. Road Commission updated the Board on the status of CR 681 and 54th Street. Political signage in the right of way will be removed. The annual Snow Plow Rodeo will be held on Thursday, August 25, 2016. Resident concerns over the number of accidents occurring at Red Arrow Highway and CR 681 should be directed to Larry at the Road Commission.

Dan Faulkner with the Village of Lawrence told the Board that Ox Roast preparations are underway and volunteers are needed. The issues of un- mowed lots in the Village are being addressed. The liquor license for Jaco's is in process. Due to insurance liability issues, organizations will no longer be allowed to take up donations in the roadway at the main four as has previously been allowed.

Chief Anchor informed the Board that all but one member has completed fit testing and that testing is scheduled for September. Shawn Mead will be taking medical classes this fall for EMT Certification. Active Shooter classes are being offered this fall and MABAS training will be held in October. The refirb project for 1726 is underway.

The Chief gave a reminder of the LTES Family Picnic to be held on August 13th.

Treasurer Tinker submitted the financial report for July. The LTES checking account will be transferred back to Mercantile Bank prior to the next billing cycle.

Clerk Thompson reported that there were 597 votes tallied for the August primary election, with 66 absentee ballots. The Clerk has sent several absentee ballot request letters to voters in our jurisdiction who have reached the age of 65. The response has been good and she will resume sending them in anticipation of the upcoming general election.

Karen Hardin is the new election chairperson. She chaired the Primary and will chair for the second time for the general election in November.

The ZBA met and approved a variance to construct a retaining wall and foundation with restrictions.

The Planning Commission Chair, Sal Campagna reported that the public hearing for the Master Plan is scheduled for August 23, 2016.

Commissioner Hanson reported on the Sheriff's Department budget and alternatives to jail such as:

- Weekend alternative program for non-violent offenders.
- Alternative work program in exchange for sentence reduction.
- Drain work crew.

There was no report from Senior Services.

There was no Old Business on the Agenda.

A motion was made by Reynnells and second by Stroud at 7:56 p.m. to close the Truth In Taxation Hearing. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tinker and second by Reynnells to accept the Resolution approving an increase in the operating tax millage rate by .3485 mills. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.
(See Attachment 1)

Under new business, Attorney Brien Heckman was introduced as the new township attorney who will replace Attorney Mark DuBay who is retiring after many years of service. Attorney Heckman introduced himself and gave a synopsis of his experience.

Attorney Mark DuBay was presented with a Resolution of Appreciation for his years of service to the leaders and citizens of Lawrence Township with a motion offered by Thompson and supported by Reynnells. Roll call vote. All ayes. Resolution declared adopted. (See Attachment 2)

With no further business to attend to, a motion to adjourn was made by Reynnells and second by Stroud. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest,

Kim Thompson, Clerk

Donna Spenner, Supervisor

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**RESOLUTION APPROVING INCREASE IN
OPERATING TAX MILLAGE RATE**

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held at 6:30 p.m. on ~~September~~ ^{August} 11, 2016, at the Lawrence Township Community Services Building, 205 N. Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, Michigan to hear any objections to an increase to the Lawrence Township operating tax millage rate of ~~0.3454~~ mills in 2016; and ⁻³⁴⁸⁵

WHEREAS, all persons appearing and wishing to be heard on the matter were afforded an opportunity to do so at the public hearing; and,

WHEREAS, Lawrence Township desires to increase its operating tax millage rate by ~~0.3454~~ mills in 2016; ⁻³⁴⁸⁵

NOW, THEREFORE, THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD HEREBY RESOLVES to increase its operating tax millage rate levied on property in 2016 by ~~0.3454~~ mills. ⁻³⁴⁸⁵

Resolution offered by Tinker and supported by Reynnells

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Spanner, Thompson, Tinker, Reynnells, Strand

No: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED:

I hereby certify the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Lawrence Township Board of Trustees, County of Van Buren, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on August 11, 2016.

Date: 8/11/16

Kim Thompson
Kim Thompson, Lawrence Township Clerk

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

***IN RECOGNITION AND PROFOUND APPRECIATION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
BY MARK DuBAY AS TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY***

WHEREAS, Governmental leaders rely on expert legal guidance in the course of their public service; and,

WHEREAS, for over twenty years, Mark DuBay has always been mindful of the interests of Lawrence Township and has provided outstanding guidance to Lawrence Township leaders; and,

WHEREAS, Mark DuBay faithfully and with honor, integrity and great distinction served as Township Attorney of Lawrence Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lawrence Township Board of Trustees hereby formally acknowledges and extends its profound appreciation to **Mark DuBay** for his many years of service to the leaders and citizens of Lawrence Township. During his tenure as Township Attorney, he helped the Township in the following accomplishments:

1. PA425 Agreement with the Village of Lawrence leading to the construction of the Lawrence Crandall Business Centre, which resulted in the first ever Graham-Woodhouse Award for intergovernmental cooperation, awarded by the State of Michigan,
2. Codification of Township Ordinances allowing for simplified understanding of our various ordinances and their amendments,
3. The conversion of the Rose's Landing Assessors plot to a platted subdivision, allowing for deeded rights to the homeowners of Rose's Landing,
4. Developed the ordinance establishing the Lawrence Township Emergency Services, providing for the basic organizational structure of the Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lawrence Township Board, on behalf of the residents of Lawrence Township, extends its appreciation to **Attorney Mark DuBay** for his conscientious performance and dedicated years of service.

Resolution offered by Thompson and supported by Reynells

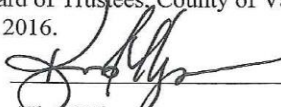
Roll Call Vote: Yes: Stroud, Tinker, Thompson, Spenner, Reynells

No: _____

ATTESTATION – RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED:

I hereby attest that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Lawrence Township Board of Trustees, County of Van Buren, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on August 11, 2016.

Date: 8/11/16


Kim J Thompson
Lawrence Township Clerk