

**Lawrence Township Regular Board Meeting and Truth in Taxation Hearing  
 August 10, 2017**

The 2017 Truth-in-Taxation Hearing was opened at 6:30 p.m. Clerk Thompson reviewed the L-4029 and tax forms. No questions or comments.

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

Present - Donna Spenner, Supervisor; Kim Thompson, Clerk; Mary Tinker, Treasurer; Russ Reynnells, Trustee and Theresa Stroud, Trustee.

Also Present: Brien Heckman, Rick Boze, Jeff Moses, Bob Thomas, Steve Lowe, Michelle Curtis and Morgane Curtis.

Motion made by Reynnells, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stroud to approve the July 13, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Stroud, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Reynnells, to approve the August 2017 expenditures as presented. Roll call vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

**General Fund Totaling: \$27,922.36**

Date	Expenditure	Amount	Description
08/10/2017	Associated Government Services	\$425.00	PC Meeting/ZBA Meeting/Ordinance Enforcement
08/10/2017	AT&T	\$61.19	Cemetery Communications
08/10/2017	Attorney Brien Heckman	\$2,900.50	Misc/Meetings/Zoning
08/10/2017	Comcast	\$52.96	Internet Service Provider
08/10/2017	Consumer's Energy	\$38.00	Utilities - Bank Bldg Settlement
08/10/2017	Consumer's Energy	\$136.46	Utilities-Bank Bldg
08/10/2017	Consumer's Energy	\$35.07	Utilities-Cemetery Memorial
08/10/2017	Consumer's Energy	\$95.84	Utilities-GF Fire Hall
08/10/2017	Doubleday Office Supplies	\$55.74	Office Supplies
08/10/2017	First National Bank - Omaha	\$860.31	Postage/Supplies/Training/Website/Software
08/10/2017	First National Bank - Omaha	\$13.95	Treasurer Computer Services
08/10/2017	First National Bank - Omaha	\$211.32	Veteran Grave Markers/Equip Maint/Library Maint
08/10/2017	Frontier	\$48.90	Cemetery Communications
08/10/2017	Frontier	\$98.81	Treasurer/Board Communications
08/10/2017	IRS	\$1,408.90	EFTPS Monthly Tax Payment
08/10/2017	New England Mfg. Company	\$376.53	Veteran Grave Markers
08/10/2017	Preferred Printing	\$596.60	Treasurer Receipt Books
08/10/2017	Richardson Oil	\$158.31	Cemetery Fuel
08/10/2017	Ricoh	\$104.02	Copier Contract

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08/10/2017	Siegfried Crandall, PC	\$6,100.00	Audit Fees
08/10/2017	State of Michigan	\$237.64	Payroll Taxes
08/10/2017	Van Buren Co. Treasurer	\$4,998.99	Treasurer & Assessor Data Services for 2016-2017
08/10/2017	Village of Lawrence	\$50.76	Garbage Service (June/July/August)
08/10/2017	Village of Lawrence	\$65.46	Utilities-Bank Bldg
08/10/2017	Vineyard Press	\$128.75	Publish Notice of Ordinance
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$19,260.01</b>	
	<b>Payroll</b>		
08/10/2017	Anita Ghastin	\$1,986.47	Assessor Salary
08/10/2017	Donna Spenner	\$979.10	Supervisor Salary
08/10/2017	Theresa Stroud	\$221.64	Deputy Treasurer Wage
08/10/2017	Kim Thompson	\$931.18	Clerk Salary
08/10/2017	Mary Tinker	\$871.70	Treasurer Salary
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$4,990.09</b>	
	<b>Consent Items Already Paid</b>		
	Barry S. Earls	\$2,171.19	Sexton Wages (7/21/17; 8/4/17)
	Charlie Moses	\$463.86	PT Sexton Wages (7/21/17; 8/4/17)
	IRS	\$892.24	EFTPS Tax Payment
	State of Michigan	\$144.97	State Payroll Tax
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$3,672.26</b>	
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$27,922.36</b>	

**LTES Fund Totaling: \$22,604.31**

Date	Expenditure	Amount	Description
08/10/2017	Aflac	\$70.46	Supplemental Insurance
08/10/2017	Bronson Lakeview Hospital	\$566.46	Epipen Jr.
08/10/2017	Comcast	\$26.49	Internet Service
08/10/2017	Consumers Energy	\$383.35	Utilities
08/10/2017	David Chapman Agency	\$1,176.00	AD&D Insurance Renewal
08/10/2017	David Chapman Agency	\$3,909.00	Accident Policy Renewal
08/10/2017	Doubleday Office Products	\$42.88	Office Supplies
08/10/2017	First National Bank - Omaha	\$346.80	Supplies/FD Training/Equip Maint/FH Maint/Antivirus
08/10/2017	Flametamer Fire Protection	\$514.50	Vehicle Brackets/Annual Air Equip Maint
08/10/2017	Frontier	\$146.70	Communications
08/10/2017	IRS	\$531.43	EFTPS Payroll Taxes
08/10/2017	Look Sharp Marketing	\$235.08	FD Uniforms
08/10/2017	Mike Anchor	\$50.00	Communications Reimbursement
08/10/2017	Moses Fire Equipment	\$98.30	Hazmat Adapters
08/10/2017	Moses Fire Equipment	\$874.78	Equip Maint/Operating Supplies

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08/10/2017	Moses Fire Equipment	\$1,039.80	Equip Repair/Maint to # 1721
08/10/2017	MTA	\$32.50	Training Materials
08/10/2017	North Breathing Air, LLC	\$100.00	Annual Air Equip Maint
08/10/2017	Nye Uniform	\$1,018.19	FD Uniforms
08/10/2017	Richardson Oil Co.	\$358.95	Fuel Expense
08/10/2017	Ricoh	\$104.02	Copier Contract
08/10/2017	State of Michigan	\$102.76	Payroll Taxes
08/10/2017	Village of Lawrence	\$50.76	Garbage Service (June/July/August)
08/10/2017	Village of Lawrence	\$65.46	Utilities
08/10/2017	Walmart	\$115.66	Supplies/Equip
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$11,960.33</b>	
	<b>LTES Payroll</b>		
08/10/2017	Michael Beach	\$254.20	Wages
08/10/2017	Charles Carpp	\$58.87	Wages
08/10/2017	Michael Carpp	\$304.11	Wages
08/10/2017	Michelle Curtis	\$291.08	Wages
08/10/2017	Morgane Curtis	\$195.67	Wages
08/10/2017	Barry S. Earls	\$258.43	Wages
08/10/2017	James Fein	\$11.65	Wages
08/10/2017	William Gaborik	\$32.91	Wages
08/10/2017	Rolla Hemingway	\$201.70	Wages
08/10/2017	David Leach	\$25.87	Wages
08/10/2017	Steven Lowe	\$476.40	Wages
08/10/2017	Kyle Mead	\$215.54	Wages
08/10/2017	Shawn Mead	\$57.08	Wages
08/10/2017	Eric Mills	\$61.26	Wages
08/10/2017	Linnea Rader	\$9.31	Wages
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$2,454.08</b>	
	<b>Consent Items Already Paid</b>		
	Michael Anchor	\$3,411.21	Chief Salary (7/21/17; 8/4/17)
	IRS	\$2,015.39	EFTPS Payroll Tax
	Karen Hardin	\$2,433.04	Secretary Wages (7/21/17; 8/4/17)
	State of Michigan	\$330.26	State Payroll Tax
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$8,189.90</b>	
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$22,604.31</b>	

**Building Fund Totaling: \$2,880.00**

Date	Expenditure	Amount	Description
08/10/2017	AGS (7/18/17 Invoice)	\$654.00	1 Bldg/1 Elect/2 Plumbing
08/10/2017	AGS (8/2/17 Invoice)	\$2,226.00	6 Bldg/8 Elect/5 Mech/2 Plumbing
	<b>Total Proposed Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,880.00</b>	

**Road Fund Totaling: \$21,837.60**

Date	Expenditure	Amount	Description
08/10/2017	VB Co Road Commission	21,837.60	Liquid Dust Control
	<b>Total Proposed Expenditures</b>	<b>\$21,837.60</b>	

Reports:

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

Mr. Bob Thomas inquired about a Special Assessment for weed control of invasive species on Reynolds Lake. Attorney Heckman provided him with a packet of information and recommended that he contact an attorney to guide them in their efforts.

Rick Boze, reporting for the Van Buren County Sheriff's Department, stated that there were a total of 52 incidents for the month of June 2017.

Rick Boze, representing the VB Co. Road Commission, reported that Red Arrow Highway in Watervliet is open again. CR687 from Keeler is postponed due to a delay in federal funding. Notification of the Road Commission for road issues was discussed. Road Commissioner Boze instructed citizens to call the Road Commission with issues and give the "exact location" of the incident.

There was no report from the Village of Lawrence.

There was no report from Commissioner Hanson.

Chief Anchor informed the Board that the Electric Project will begin on Monday.

Mr. Steve Fry has contacted the Chief about serving on the LTES as a Fire Fighter during daytime hours as he currently works days in the Lawrence area. He is a current member of the Hartford FD. The Chief will work out the details for an agreement policy regarding training, uniforms, pay for mutual aid calls, etc. with the Hartford Chief.

Morgane Curtis was recommended by the Chief for full time status. She is now certified FF1. In a motion by Reynnells, seconded by Tinker, Morgan Curtis was accepted as a regular full time member of the LTES. All ayes. Motion carried. Ms. Curtis was presented with her badge and congratulated by all present.

The Chief reviewed the schedule of events for the LTES during the Ox Roast celebration.

There was a discussion of the software re-programming issue with #1721. The Chief will follow up with Freightliner on this issue.

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Treasurer Tinker offered the Treasurer report for July 2017. Mary will issue outstanding Arbor checks as per a letter received from Arbor. Mary will transfer funds from general fund to the road fund per budget as bills come in for Territorial/Christie Lake project.

Clerk Thompson presented the July financial statements.

Consumers Energy has requested an easement thru Hill Cemetery for new power lines. The Board decided to deny the request due to the proximity to existing graves and aesthetic impact to the cemetery and the Veterans' Memorial.

The Employee Handbook discussion was tabled until next month.

New voting equipment has arrived. Training will be next Friday at the ISD.

There was a motion by Reynnells and seconded by Stroud to close the Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing. All aye. Motion carried. Public Hearing closed at 8:20 p.m.

There was a motion by Thompson and supported by Stroud to approve the Resolution approving the levy after the Truth in Taxation Hearing as stated on the L-4029. Roll call vote. All aye. Motion carried. (See Attachment 1)

The ZBA had no report.

The Planning Commission had no report.

Under Old Business, Mr. Lance Goodrode is still interested in the bank building but has not signed a purchase agreement. There is another interested party that may extend an offer.

Under New Business, there was a motion by Reynnells and supported by Spenner to hire Mr. Ben Brousseau as the new Lawrence Township Assessor at \$30,000 annually and \$42 per reviewed parcel (contingent on satisfactory references), based on the Resolution regarding the employment of an assessor. Roll call vote. All aye. Motion carried.

Also, under New Business, the Public Works Mutual Aide Agreement was tabled to allow the Chief time to review the agreement.

In reference to the fire withholding issue, Bert will contact the homeowner and hire a licensed contractor to have the electrical repairs completed. The township will pay the contractor with the insurance monies being held. Any monies remaining will go back to the insured.

There is an August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at 7:00 p.m. for the Parks and Recreation Committee at the Lawrence Community Center.

Used office equipment which is outdated should have the hard drive removed and then be taken to the electronic recycling center.

Lawrence Township is not interested in a membership for the Hartford Chamber at this time.

A discussion of the ordinance modifications has been tabled until next month.

There was no public comment.

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

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Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest,

Kim Thompson, Clerk

Donna Spenner, Supervisor

DRAFT

**RESOLUTION OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**APPROVING LEVIES AFTER TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING**

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on 08/10/2017 at 6:30 p.m., at 205 N. Paw Paw St., Lawrence, MI 49064, to hear any objections to an increase to the operating tax millage rate of .0198 mills to be levied on property in 2017;

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

WHEREAS, the Fire District special assessment of 3.0500 mills to be levied in 2017 has been discussed at a public hearing, as well as fire departments estimated costs, expenses, the distribution of the levy, and any objections;

WHEREAS, the Township Board desires to increase its operating tax millage rate to be levied in 2017 by .0198 mills, thereby avoiding the base tax rate reduction; and further, the Township Board approves the setting of the Fire District special assessment at 3.0500 mills to be levied in 2017;

WHEREAS, the Township Board approves the submitting of this resolution to the County and/or other authorities to have said amounts placed on tax roll;

NOW THEREFORE, THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES HEREBY RESOLVES to set its operating tax millage rate levied on property in 2017 at 2.2380 mills, thereby avoiding the base tax reduction by increasing the operating millage by .0198 mills, and set its Fire District special assessment at 3.0500 mills to be levied in 2017.

Motioning Board Member: Thompson  
Seconded by: Stroud

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Tinker, Reynnells, Thompson, Stroud, Spenner  
No: \_\_\_\_\_

**The resolution is adopted.**

I hereby certify the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution by the Lawrence Township, County of Van Buren, Michigan, Board of Trustees as indicated above, at a regular or special meeting as indicated above, held on 08/10/2017.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Thompson  
Kim Thompson, Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT OF AN ASSESSOR**

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCL 41.61, the township board may appoint properly certified assessors to work as subordinate assessors to the supervisor;

WHEREAS, the Township Board has reviewed the qualifications of the below individual;

WHEREAS, the below individual has represented that they are qualified at the proper level to perform the assessing functions of the township;

WHEREAS, the Township Board must set the assessor's fee;

NOW THEREFORE, THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HEREBY RESOLVES to appoint Ben Brousseau as the  
Township's subordinate assessor to perform assessing functions at the following rate of  
pay \$30,000 Annual plus \$42 per reviewed parcel

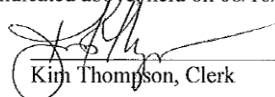
Motioning Board Member: Reynells  
Seconded by: Spenner

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Stroud, Tinker, Thompson, Spenner, Reynells  
No: \_\_\_\_\_

**The resolution is adopted.**

I hereby certify the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution by the Lawrence Township, County of Van Buren, Michigan, Board of Trustees as indicated above, at a regular or special meeting as indicated above, held on 08/10/2017.

Date:

  
Kirh Thompson, Clerk