

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2018

PRESENT:	ROBERT J. CANNON	SUPERVISOR
	KIM MELTZER	CLERK
	PAUL GIELEGHEM	TREASURER
	JOE A. ARAGONA	TRUSTEE
	MIKE KEYS	TRUSTEE
	KENNETH PEARL	TRUSTEE
	JENIFER WEST	TRUSTEE

ABSENT: NONE

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Township Board Chambers, Clinton Township Civic Center. Also in attendance was Mr. Jack Dolan, Township Attorney. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Meltzer stated there are four additions to tonight's agenda:

19. 2018 Seasonal Position Pay Rates
20. Request Township Human Resources Attorney to Begin the Dismissal Process of the Director of Planning
21. Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Forensic Audit of Activities Related to the Planning Director
22. Request Clerk for Update of the 2018 Absentee Ballot Application Process

Mr. Cannon inquired as to whether Mr. Keys, Mr. Gieleghem and Ms. West still want to add on Item #20 since the Planning Director has retired.

Mr. Keys replied he would appreciate keeping it on the agenda. He explained it is not to talk about dismissal but rather how the process unfolded, and an explanation can be given to the public as to exactly what occurred. He felt that information should be shared.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to approve tonight's agenda with the addition of Items #19, #20, #21 and #22. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West,

Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Cannon stated the Board was going to discuss the proposed Marihuana Ordinances at the two Board meetings in July; however, that has been postponed indefinitely, noting that Mr. Santia had been heavily involved in the drafting of those ordinances.

Ms. Meltzer announced that this affects those voters on the permanent absentee voters list only for those registered to vote in the upcoming August 7th and November 6th elections. She informed that on June 11th, 2018, absentee applications with a misprinted date were mailed directly from the printer to registered permanent absentee voters. After realizing the misprint, she confirmed with the State of Michigan's Bureau of Elections that voters that checked the "both" box on the application would still receive both ballots for the upcoming elections, to which they confirmed that is not a problem and they will still receive both ballots. She expressed disappointment and sorrow for the oversight that resulted in the misprint; however, her office has been working constantly since that date to contact the voters who did not check the "both" box. She assured they will continue to do that as they come in, and as of now, they have received approximately 6,000 of the 14,500 registered absentee voter applications back. She explained that, of the 6,000 they have received, less than 200 of the absentee voters did not check the "both" box, so she assured this is a manageable issue. She assured she will continue to put information on the Township's website, reassuring the public they will get the ballots they wish for both elections. She explained this is a mid-term primary election and is where most spoiled ballots occur because they are not allowed to cross over parties on the ballot. She noted the primary ballot will have the Democratic, Republican and Libertarian parties designated on the application. For voters who wish to vote on the partisan portion of the ballot, they will only be able to stay within one of those party designations. If they cross over, all the partisan choices they have made will spoil their ballot. She added there are also four proposals, with three of those being renewals. She explained the Police and Fire are two proposed renewals, as well as the SMART bus millage, and that means the taxes that residents are paying today are the same as what they will pay if those millages pass. The fourth proposal is the road funding proposal and that is a new tax, to be paid in addition to the taxes they already pay. She emphasized that voting in a primary does matter, and if they choose not to vote in the partisan section, they can still vote on the proposals.

1. REQUEST APPROVAL TO HOST ANNUAL CLINTONDALE HIGH SCHOOL PARADE ON SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2018

Mr. Cannon stated they have not had problems with this event in the past.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated June 13th, 2018 from Alexander Taylor, Clintondale High School Student Congress Adviser, and approve their request to hold their annual parade on Friday, September 28th, 2018 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., as outlined in the correspondence. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

2. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR TEMPORARY TENT FOR OUTDOOR EVENT ON JULY 1, 2018 AT RUSTY NAIL – 35703 GROESBECK

Ms. Meltzer stated that all their paperwork is in order.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated June 4th, 2018 from Ms. Patricia Wagoner, and approve the request for a temporary 20-foot by 20-foot tent for an outdoor fundraiser to be held at the Rusty Nail, 35703 Groesbeck, on Sunday, July 1st, 2018, as outlined in the correspondence. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Keys inquired as to whether this is a private event, or whether they are looking for the community to come out and support the cause.

Ms. Patricia Wagoner replied it is open to anyone who would like to attend. She replied it will be held on Sunday, July 1st.

Mr. Barry Miller, Superintendent of the Building Department, indicated he spoke with Ms. Wagoner about a week ago about this event and informed her of the need for the permit for the tent. He requested that the tent be installed on Friday, so their department can verify the location and that it is secured prior to the event. He added that she agreed with that request.

Ms. Wagoner confirmed that the tent will be installed on Thursday morning.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

3. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR TEMPORARY TENT FOR PRODUCE SALES FROM JULY 1ST THROUGH OCTOBER 31ST, 2018 AT STAHL'S PRIME MEATS & DELI – 39050 HARPER

Mr. Cannon stated this was done before and there were no problems.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Ms. West, to receive and file the letter from Mr. Gary K. Stahl, of Stahl's Prime Meats & Deli, and approve his request for a temporary tent for the sale of fresh locally grown produce from July 1st through October 31st, 2018 at 39050 Harper, as outlined in the correspondence. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

4. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR TEMPORARY TENT FOR FUNDRAISING EVENT FROM AUGUST 16TH THROUGH AUGUST 20TH, 2018 AT CHURCH OF CHRIST CARE CENTER – 23621 15 MILE ROAD

Mr. Cannon stated this has been done successfully in the past.

Mr. Keys felt people appreciate that they will not be having fireworks at this event because there have been so many fireworks being shot off in that area already.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated June 4th, 2018 from Ms. Patti Jenema, Public Relations Director, Church of Christ Care Center, and approve the request for a 60-foot by 140-foot temporary tent for a fundraising dinner event to be held on Saturday, August 18th, 2018 at 23621 15 Mile Road, as outlined in the correspondence. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC HEARING ON REQUEST FOR A NEW INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT – KENDALL ELECTRIC, INC., D/B/A GALLOUP

Ms. Meltzer explained that this is a 22-acre parcel that was a farm at one time, and the proposed district is the boundary of the parcel, so this is to approve the district for the establishment of the IFT.

Mr. Cannon opened the floor for public comments, but there was no participation from the audience.

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Mr. Pearl, to close the public hearing and approve a new Industrial Development District for Kendall Electric, Inc., d/b/a Galloup, as requested. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, Pearl, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

6. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FIX THE DAMN ROADS COALITION

Mr. Cannon explained this is a group of public administrators from Macomb County that decided to do something about the condition of the roads. They went to Lansing to seek more relief, and on July 18th they are meeting with the Michigan Municipal Executives at their Summer Institute, with the goal to get communities and counties from around the State on board with this, and they will make a presentation. He reiterated this is a group of public administrators from around the State that have a lot of influence.

Ms. Meltzer explained the Township Clerk has been authorized to submit a true copy of this Resolution to the representatives of the Michigan legislature and the Office of the Governor of the State of Michigan.

Mr. Gielegem stated there was a recent townhall meeting at Coney Island in Warren, conducted by Channel 7. This has been a topic everyone has been talking about, and they are trying to come up with solutions locally, but the problem is one that requires a solution from Lansing, so he is glad this Resolution recognizes that fact. He explained a little history of the road funding, noting that Public Act 51 was created in 1951, and is the funding formula for road dollars generated from gas tax and car registrations. That money is sent to Lansing, where it is distributed. He explained the first problem is that cities get their own road dollars, but townships do not get any of that recovered by the counties. He pointed out that puts Clinton Township in competition with all the northern townships that have a lot of growth. Clinton Township has neighborhoods close to 65 years old and they are not trying to use road dollars to create new growth and tax base, but rather to upgrade older and existing neighborhoods. He stated the other problem with Public Act 51 is that the length of the road is weighed heavier than the width of the road. In 1951, nearly every road was two-lane, so it made sense, but in southeast Michigan, five-lane roads are common, so the funding is inequitable. Mr. Gielegem noted when road repairs are done at the local level, they must try to put together as much money as they can and hope they can receive a match from the County, and the County must make sure they have enough money to do so. It has become a problem, and he was pleased to see so many local communities engaged in this.

Mr. Bob Hogan, 36755 Barr Street, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, noted that, with the primary election coming up, there are people running for the State Senate. He felt local government officials should be making recommendations as to who to vote for or against based on whether those individuals will be pushing to get the roads fixed.

Mr. Cannon stated that would be difficult because of party affiliations. He agreed roads transcend party politics, but they have not been able to do that.

Mr. Gieleghem felt there is a leadership structure in the State legislature that is entrenched, mostly comprised of outstate residents who like the current formula because they receive a disproportionate share than those from southeast Michigan. He felt there needs to be a consortium of both Democrats and Republicans from southeast Michigan. The seven-county region from southeast Michigan most likely represents more than half of the State's population, and as a result, needs to be a southeast Michigan movement. He noted car registrations bring in the second highest amount of dollars for roads, and gas tax brings in the highest amount. He felt they need a new funding structure regarding the gas tax because they have more fuel-efficient cars, including electric vehicles, people are driving less and each year that gas tax produces less money. He added that, even though people are paying as much, it is producing less revenue.

Mr. Hogan inquired as to whether it is more important to vote party line as opposed to "getting the job done".

Mr. Gieleghem noted he did not say that. He felt most people are not "single-issue voters", and he felt people vote on a set of ideas based on their own priorities.

Ms. Meltzer stated she and Mr. Gieleghem were fortunate to serve in the State legislature and acknowledged that there is a caucus of Democrats and Republicans but emphasized there are other caucuses that can unite. Southeast Michigan has done that in the past, but she pointed out that is not enough when there is northern representation that have great two-lane roads because they do not get the heavy traffic. She stressed that everyone from southeast Michigan who will be voting in the legislature will support more road funding, regardless of party affiliation. She felt they will need to look at other solutions, and possibly look to more than the gas tax for which to create a formula, so that southeast Michigan can get a part of what is rightfully theirs. She indicated that they need to ask those voted in to form a road funding caucus, which may be a way to encourage more support. This Resolution is one way for the Board to show their support.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Aragona, to adopt the Resolution to Support the Fix the Damn Roads Coalition, as presented. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Sam Bushell, 18546 Whalen Drive, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, felt the formula should be based more on population rather than whether a community is a "city" versus a "township". He pointed out the cities get their own money, and the counties get money, but they are also spending a lot of their money in the cities that already get their own funding. He cited Mound Road, and although he admitted it needs to be

redone, the County is putting in a huge amount of money, so they do not have the money left for Township roads, such as Kelly Road.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Aragona, West, Keys, Cannon, Gielegem, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

7. RESOLUTION URGING ACTION BY THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AND MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE TO CREATE STRICTER REGULATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT FOR THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TRUCK WEIGHT LIMITS

Mr. Pearl stated he has agreed with his for many years. He has witnessed these large trucks and the amount of weight they carry, noting he has witnessed trucks jackknife right in front of him from the excessive weight that shifts. He felt they have too much weight, and he does not know why the State allows it, because it is destroying all the major freeways, along with the local roads.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Ms. West, to adopt the Resolution Urging Action by the Office of the Governor and Michigan Legislature to Create Stricter Regulations and Enforcement for the Maximum Allowable Truck Weight Limits, as presented. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Aragona stated it is mentioned in the Resolution that 4,877 overweight citations were issued in 2017. He compared that to incidences where he may have exceeded the speed limit occasionally when driving, pointing out most of those times he was not caught. He indicated the vast majority of time, traffic violations are not caught, so he felt the 4,877 citations represent just a small portion of those who are actually in violation. He stated he would like to see more enforcement and more checks on this as well.

Mr. Sam Bushell, 18546 Whalen Drive, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, commented that he drives a lot, and has noticed that the weigh stations in Michigan are always closed. He commented the roads are in much better shape in Ohio, and he observed that every weigh station he passed in Ohio was open. He felt if the weigh stations in Michigan were open, they would get more citations, and he expressed surprise that they got as many as 4,877 citations with the few weigh stations open.

Ms. Meltzer recently contacted the Macomb County Department of Roads because she had a concern about a semitruck that stopped traffic on Heydenreich Road, between Cass and Dunham. She questioned why there would need to be a semitruck on Heydenreich. She was told there are signs that limit trucks from going down that road, but they are only designated on the small area, so they said they would move the one going northbound and one going southbound further, so trucks taking that route would not go that way. He had

questioned her as to why trucks would go that way, and she replied to him that she did not know the reason, but she has observed many semitrucks going down Heydenreich.

Ms. West confirmed she has observed them on that road as well.

Ms. Meltzer expressed concern to the County Department of Roads that the small bridge on Dunham is going to bear a lot of wear-and-tear unnecessarily when the trucks are traveling that route. She indicated there is a weight limit during the freeze/thaw period, but she noted that the weights of the trucks are not monitored, so there is no limitation. She felt this Resolution is necessary.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

8. REQUEST APPROVAL TO PURCHASE FOUR (4) VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motion by Ms. West, supported by Ms. Meltzer, to receive and file the letter dated June 25th, 2018 from the Police Chief, and approve the purchase of four (4) vehicles for the Police Department to be used by the Special Investigations Unit, with the vehicles budgeted in the 2018-2019 police budget and taken out of the drug forfeiture fund. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Keith Olson, who indicated he does not provide his address, claimed the Police Department is overfunded and “doesn’t need more money”.

Mr. Cannon clarified that this is to discuss the purchase of vehicles from the drug forfeiture fund, and this is not talking about the Police budget. He advised that Mr. Olson can speak during the public comment period for other concerns, and that he can only comment at this point about the vehicles.

Mr. Olson was opposed to the Police Department purchasing four vehicles. He continued with derogatory accusations about the police.

Roll Call: Ayes – West, Meltzer, Keys, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

9. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL – HOMELAND SECURITY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Mr. Keys expressed appreciation for Chief Posavetz returning his telephone call this morning to explain how this came about and the fact that Lt. Riencke, through his social network of officers he has met in other training sessions, was

able to find this training at no cost to the Township. He commended the Department, and specifically Lt. Riencke, for finding this training.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Aragona, to receive and file the letter dated June 25th, 2018 from the Police Chief, and approve the request for Lt. Eric Reincke to attend the Homeland Security Leadership Academy at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia, from December 3rd through 13th, 2018 at no cost to the Police Department. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Aragona, West, Keys, Cannon, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

10. TOWNSHIP PURCHASE OF TAX REVERTED PROPERTIES

Mr. Gielegem provided a brief history of the process created in 2000, whereby, if property taxes are not paid on a local level, they go to the County. The County is responsible for running them through a 2-1/2-year cycle, and in that time, anyone with an interest in that property is provided a notice. If they do not redeem the property by paying the taxes, the County Treasurer can foreclose on properties after notifying everyone, proving to a judge that they provided proper notification, the judge signs the order, there is a foreclosure in place and they are able to clear a title. He explained that this year, Clinton Township was offered, by statute, nineteen properties. Each year the Township Board must decide whether they want to buy these properties from the County. Clinton Township has always been very proactive on this because it makes sense to help the Building Department with violations, and it gets properties back on the tax rolls. The Township takes the properties that have value and auctions them through a closed bid process, with the Township retaining some of the vacant land and landlocked properties so they can put enough together to make it advantageous for someone to buy it. He advised there are 19 properties at a total cost of just over \$50,000, with a combined State Equalized Value (SEV) of \$265,000. He advised that, out of the 19 properties, 6 are homes, with two of those homes that will have to be demolished because they are uninhabitable. Out of the 13 parcels of vacant land, 2 of them are adjacent to one of the houses scheduled for demolition. There are 6 properties that are landlocked because a road that was supposed to go in never happened. He added if they can accumulate enough of the landlocked parcels, they can sell them and get them back into use. He noted that the Board members have the maps as to where these foreclosures are located. He apologized for these getting to the Board members late, noting the list got to them late, and he and Mr. Miller, Superintendent of the Building Department, went out and looked at these properties.

Mr. Cannon stated this has worked well for the Township every year, and they have not turned down any properties.

Motion by Mr. Cannon, supported by Mr. Pearl, to approve the Township's purchase of tax-reverted properties from the County in the amount of \$50,459.86, as outlined in the correspondence. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Aragona questioned what the Township does with landlocked properties. He noticed there are a few landlocked properties on this list and questioned what can be done with them.

Mr. Cannon replied that a lot of creative work goes into assembling properties, but there is no one answer to that question.

Mr. Gieleghem stated they need to look at the water bills for these properties. He requested that the motion be amended to waive the water bills on these properties, indicating the Board generally includes that for the tax-reverted parcels.

Mr. Cannon **amended** his motion, and Mr. Pearl **amended** his support, to include the following to the motion on the floor:
Further, that any existing water bills be waived.

Mr. Gieleghem noted that, regarding the landlocked parcels, they work with surrounding owners who may be interested in purchasing those lots. If there are not surrounding owners, it is a matter of the Township holding on to them and possibly combining them in the future with other lots.

Mr. Bob Hogan, 36755 Barr Street, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, questioned the last time taxes were paid on these properties.

Mr. Gieleghem replied these are properties that have taxes due from 2015, although some may go back further because they may have more years resulting from a bankruptcy. He confirmed that these all have taxes due back to 2015.

Roll Call: Ayes – Cannon, Pearl, West, Keys, Aragona, Gieleghem, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO OFFICE CLERK II POSITION – SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated June 12th, 2018 from the Human Resources Director, and appoint Ms. Amy Gogo to the budgeted position of Office Clerk II in the Supervisor's Office, with an annual starting salary of \$35,112 as specified in the UAW Unit 52 collective bargaining agreement, effective June 26th, 2018, subject to successful completion of a background investigation and a pre-employment medical

examination, including drug test. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

12. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO PART-TIME RECREATION ASSISTANT POSITION – PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Ms. West, to receive and file the letter dated June 12th, 2018 from the Human Resources Director, and appoint Mr. Zachary Tinker to the budgeted position of part-time Recreation Assistant, at a set hourly wage of \$12.75, with first day of employment being June 26th, 2018, subject to successful completion of a background investigation and a pre-employment medical examination, including drug screen. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

13. APPROVAL FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE LUCAS CPR DEVICE

Mr. Pearl thanked the Budget/Ways & Means Committee for recommending this. He spoke to the Fire Chief about this problem and was delighted that the Kiwanis had donated one of these devices. He indicated they are expensive and did not know when they would be able to get another one. He commented that it would be ideal to have one at every station but is not financially possible at this time to do that. He felt if there was one of these devices at each end of the Township, the entire Township would be able to benefit from it, and he added that the Chief agreed with him. He emphasized that this device saves manpower and saves lives, so he suggested, with the agreement of the Chief and Budget/Ways & Means, to purchase one more. He suggested that in the future, if some groups would like to sponsor another one, they may eventually be able to have one at each of the five fire stations.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive, file and concur with the letter dated June 19th, 2018 from the Chairperson of the Budget/Ways & Means committee, and approve the purchase of one (1) LUCAS CPR device at a total cost of \$15,383.10; further, to approve a budget amendment of the same. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Aragona stated he believed the Kiwanis are trying to work on getting the money for the purchase of another device.

Mr. Keys stated he was able to see this equipment in use, and felt it is amazing. He noted it provides the firefighters with a comfort because they do not have to worry about manually providing CPR. He stated the Fire Department has started a fund for this equipment, so if a business or resident wants to donate to help support the purchase of one of these devices but cannot write a check for the full

cost, they can donate a small amount toward it. He urged anyone interested to get in touch with the Fire Department.

Ms. Meltzer stated the Township's former Treasurer, Mr. Bob Steiner, has been working on fundraising on behalf of this, and he has already secured \$1,000 from C.J. Barrymore's. She commended him, noting he does not slow down, and if he has another fundraising opportunity, she was confident he will be successful in getting funds for this project.

Mr. Keith Olson [no address], commented that the community is entirely behind the Fire Department. He felt they need a lot more equipment, manpower hours, and commended them on saving lives.

Ms. Meltzer commented the Township loves both their firefighters and their police officers and are grateful for the men and women who serve the residents.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

14. APPROVAL OF HOME INVESTMENT PARTNER ACT FUNDS FOR SCHOOL BUILD – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Mr. Pearl explained this is a worthwhile program, noting this is federal money that is being allocated for this purpose, and it is teaching kids in the Chippewa Valley School District how to build homes. He added to see the homeowners get these homes is very rewarding. He explained they must pay for these homes with a no-interest or low-interest loan, and they just went to a home moved on site near Joy Boulevard, and it was great to see the family finally get a home. He added they had to help build it, putting in 250 hours of work putting it together. It is a beautiful home and gives them a new start in life, and it would not have been possible without this school build. He estimated that 98% of these homeowners have paid their loans on time.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Ms. Meltzer, to receive, file and concur with the letter dated June 13th, 2018 from the Chairperson of the Budget/Ways & Means Committee, and approve the allocation of \$121,300 in HOME funds from the Clinton Township 2017 allocation, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity and the Building Trades Program at Chippewa Valley Schools, with these funds to be used to construct a single-family home for a low-income family, as outlined in the correspondence. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Meltzer, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

15. REQUEST TO PURCHASE KOMATSU LOADER

Mr. Cannon stated that this is a budgeted item.

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Ms. West, to receive and file the letter dated June 12th, 2018 from the Director of Public Services, and approve the purchase of one (1) Komatsu WA200-8 Wheel Loader with Attachments from Continental Equipment through the State of Michigan bid process, contract #071B1300081, in the amount of \$175,570, which is a budgeted item. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

16. SALE OF FIVE (5) TAX-FORECLOSED LOTS TO ST. LOUIS PARISH

Mr. Dolan explained there are two items before the Board tonight regarding this proposed sale. The title company, in conjunction with this proposed transaction, has requested the Board to adopt a Resolution authorizing the Supervisor to execute the necessary closing documents in this matter.

Motion by Ms. Meltzer, supported by Ms. West, to adopt Resolution Authorizing the Supervisor to Execute Agreement for Purchase and Sale, Amendment to Purchase, Agreement to Purchase Agreement and Any Required Documents to Complete and Close Sale of Property, as presented. Roll Call: Ayes – Meltzer, West, Keys, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegem. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Mr. Dolan provided a copy of the Quit Claim Deed to the Board. He stated he needs to confirm the description and number of lots coincide with the Purchase Agreement before the sale takes place. He stated he will do that, and if there are no issues, he will proceed further and close the transaction. He assured if there is a concern, he will come back and talk to administration.

Mr. Pearl stated this has been ongoing for a long time, noting it is the church/school property sold to a private developer who let it sit and never developed it. He noted there was a hole in the roof and a lot of complaints about the building on the property. It went into tax foreclosure, and upon acquisition, the Township demolished the building due to health concerns. It is now vacant property, and the church would like the property back.

Mr. Dolan stated he had a brief conversation today with Mr. Santia on this item, and the concern he had as to whether the original meetings in Budget/Ways & Means and approvals involved five lots or eight lots. He believed the school is hoping they will receive eight lots rather than five lots. Mr. Dolan felt some of the earlier discussion involved five lots, with the Township holding on to three of the lots. He indicated he wants to clarify that before the close of the transaction.

Mr. Cannon inquired as to whether there are restrictions in the covenant.

Mr. Dolan replied they are selling the property to the church for \$5,000 with the understanding they will use it as open space, and they can place paving and/or playground-type equipment on it, but no dwelling units or habitable structures would be allowed.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Gieleghem, to approve the sale of Lots 72 to 75, Lot 76 (except the west 25 feet of the south 27 feet) and Lots 88 to 90 (subject to a 30-foot easement over the south 30.00 feet of Lot 88 for ingress and egress of future school), Charbeneau Gardens Subdivision, to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit, as presented. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gieleghem questioned, in consideration of the covenants placed upon this sale, whether the church can combine these lots with their existing property. He understood that when the Township sells property to an abutting property owner, they generally like to require the lots to be combined.

Mr. Dolan replied that, in this case, the Township is restricting a portion of the property, so it is better if it remains a separate parcel from the current church property, which is not so encumbered.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Gieleghem, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Meltzer.
Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

17. BUDGET AMENDMENT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT & HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Ms. West, to receive and file the letter dated June 18th, 2018 from the Human Resources Director, and approve the reclassification of two positions, Communication Support Specialist and Human Resources Technician, to a higher grade within the classification system, reclassified to Telecommunications Specialist and Benefits Specialist, respectively, with a salary range of \$50,763 - \$56,278; further to amend the FY2019 budget by \$9,232 for the Information Technology department and \$5,083 for the Human Resources department to reflect the higher classification assignments. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gieleghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

18. REQUEST TO SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING TO RENEW POLICE AND FIRE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT MILLAGE FOR 2018

Ms. Meltzer stated this is to schedule a public hearing to renew the Police and Fire Special Assessment Millage for 2018.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Ms. West, to receive and file the letter dated June 4th, 2018 from the Assessor and schedule a public hearing for the renewal of the Special Assessment Police and Fire Millage for 2018, to be held on Monday, July 9th, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Township Board Chambers, Clinton Township Civic Center. Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, West, Keys, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

19. 2018 SEASONAL POSITION PAY RATES

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated June 22nd, 2018 from the Recreation Director, and approve the 2018 seasonal position pay rates as presented. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Meltzer stated today's market is much more competitive and to retain good employees, they must compete and be able to offer the wages to do so.

Roll Call: Ayes – Pearl, Keys, West, Cannon, Aragona, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

20. REQUEST TOWNSHIP HUMAN RESOURCES ATTORNEY TO BEGIN THE DISMISSAL PROCESS OF THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Mr. Gielegghem stated that the retirement of the Director of Planning was announced this morning, but he felt it is important have this on the agenda and to disclose what happened. He provided some details of what transpired, noting that former Trustee Dean Reynolds was on trial for his activities related to his efforts on Township Board in a pay-to-play scheme involving items going out for bid and using that to profit from on a personal basis. He noted it came to light last week that a member of the Township was testifying in court as to his involvement in this. He stated the Planning Director for Clinton Township was placed on administrative leave, and according to the newspapers, he testified he was involved with the Township's engineering firm and Mr. Reynolds relating to kickbacks from Giffels Webster back to an employee at Giffels Webster. He explained they have been told that there have been no Clinton Township dollars involved, but he felt the Board has a duty to answer these questions. He cautioned that these reports are according to the newspaper, and they should not be only reading this in the newspapers but should have the actual documents. There was discussion that the Planning Director would be using vacation days last week and deciding if he would like to retire, but they ultimately placed him on administrative leave. When he announced his retirement, it makes this motion a moot point, but he felt they should not have to read this in the newspaper, which is why he felt it needed to remain on the agenda.

Mr. Cannon questioned why they do not receive and file this if it is a moot point.

Mr. Sam Bushell, 18546 Whalen, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, felt it is extremely important for the Board to investigate this. He questioned whether the Planning Director retired with a full pension.

Mr. Cannon replied that he earned his full pension.

Mr. Bushell felt if money went back and forth, Clinton Township ended up paying for this service. He felt the Township needs to investigate this, and any contracts should be voided.

Mr. Cannon stated that he does not disagree with Mr. Bushell but emphasized this is a different topic. He explained this is a request to fire someone who has already retired.

Mr. Bushell did not feel this is a “well-deserved” retirement.

Mr. Cannon clarified that he earned his pension.

Mr. Keith Olson questioned why Mr. Cannon is defending the Planning Director.

Mr. Cannon stated he is retired.

Mr. Olson suspected he “stepped aside” to avoid an embarrassment. Mr. Olson went on to talk about a particular police officer, and Mr. Cannon reminded that is not the subject of this discussion. He accused the Board of corruption.

Mr. Cannon stated a man has retired and he does not deserve this.

Mr. Olson expressed concern about possible corruption in the Township and accused the Board of “covering it up”. He submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Ms. Meltzer requesting all personnel files, disciplinary files and complaints on specific employees.

Mr. Bob Hogan, 36755 Barr Street, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, felt that the Planning Director needs to be fired.

Mr. Dolan cautioned that this is getting off topic from the agenda item. He informed Mr. Hogan that, at the present time, some information is undeniably factual. There was a trial heard in federal court, and in that trial, Mr. Santia was called as a witness. The information the Township has for the trial at this time involves information that has been furnished to them through newspaper reports, along with some information from Mr. Santia. He emphasized that the Township is not in possession of a transcript of those trial proceedings or other information

that occurred in the trial. He informed that Mr. Santia is already retired, and he is entitled to retire under his collective bargaining agreement, just as any other eligible employee for retirement can do. He reminded they do not have anything at this time other than media reports of what occurred at the trial, and for the Township to act now without having the actual information would be premature if they were to move to take disciplinary action. They must have competent material and admissible evidence available, and the Township is not going to proceed against Mr. Santia or any other employee simply based upon what is in the newspaper. Employees are protected by collective bargaining and employment agreements. Mr. Dolan explained that in this case, the reports indicate this involved a matter between Giffels Webster, Mr. Santia and Mr. Modi, so to jump to the conclusion that there was money taken from the Township and funneled to Mr. Santia and/or Mr. Modi is not a conclusion that is supported by the limited information they have. He stressed they are getting way off the matter at this time and reiterated he does not want to have to correct everyone coming up to claim that Mr. Santia stole money with Dean Reynolds from Clinton Township, because now, they do not have any evidence to support that.

Mr. Cannon stated he has had the Finance Department check to see if there was any payment made to TEC, Traffic Engineering Consultants or SAI, and he assured there were no payments to those entities.

Mr. Dolan clarified those are the companies in which Mr. Santia had an ownership interest.

Mr. Barr thanked Mr. Dolan for that information and added he can appreciate that explanation. He questioned whether the Township is trying to obtain the transcripts.

Mr. Cannon replied affirmative, noting he has requested one set that they will all share, noting the transcript copies are rather expensive.

Mr. Barr inquired as to whether retirees of the Township receive medical and dental benefits for life.

Mr. Dolan replied he cannot speak directly to Mr. Santia's pension, but he indicated he has already earned other pension benefits through his previous employment with the Macomb County Road Commission. He does not know how he has coordinated between the two pensions.

Mr. Hogan inquired as to whether Mr. Santia will receive a lump sum severance pay.

Mr. Cannon replied no, and Mr. Dolan confirmed that response.

Mr. Barr claimed that Mr. Santia is on the Township's cable channel as the face of Clinton Township, and he inquired as to whether that will continue.

Mr. Cannon replied no.

Mr. Keys thanked Mr. Gieleghem for his thoughtful response. He felt this is what the public and Board members are looking for as far as exactly what happened and how the process unfolds. He stated he was not happy about Mr. Santia having the opportunity to use vacation but was relieved when he found out the Township placed Mr. Santia on administrative leave.

Mr. Cannon clarified that Mr. Santia was never going to use vacation, and he had always told him, with and through his union president, that he was on administrative leave.

Mr. Keys appreciated the clarification.

Mr. Aragona asked Mr. Gieleghem as to whether he had said a lot of what has been learned to this point has been information obtained from the newspaper.

Mr. Gieleghem confirmed that is correct.

Mr. Aragona inquired as to whether a dismissal process of an employee would be premature based on what is in a newspaper.

Mr. Gieleghem did not believe so, noting a dismissal process begins with an investigation. When they have to decide whether an investigation is warranted, they must consider the facts as heard, and this was a situation where someone went to court, signed an immunity deal and then testified in court to wrongdoing of a private nature, but also not having disclosed any other private company that did consulting work while serving as Planning Director of Clinton Township. He felt it is a matter of beginning an investigation to see how this may have impacted the Township. After an investigation, the process for someone who is part of a bargaining unit is a hearing. He claimed at the June 21st staff meeting, they heard that Mr. Santia was going to be taking vacation for a couple of days and would decide on Monday whether to retire. He further claimed it was suggested at the meeting that Mr. Santia was still working in the building and would be available if any staff members needed to consult with him. Mr. Gieleghem acknowledged that Mr. Santia was involved in a vast number of things at the Township, and was a very well-respected administrator, having served as the County Road Administrator prior to his employment with the Township. Mr. Gieleghem felt everyone was shocked, but he maintained that they had to take administrative action, which is why he requested that Mr. Santia be placed on administrative leave, and it is what precipitated this agenda item to begin the process. He reminded it is a process that must be followed. He noted there was

discussion that if Mr. Santia did not retire by Monday, he would be fired. He questioned that and found out it is a Board decision as to whether dismissal takes place. Mr. Gielegem stated that is why he placed this item on the agenda, and whether Mr. Santia receives his benefits and pension is up to state law.

Mr. Cannon clarified the action he took with Mr. Santia was to meet with the union president, and after discussing this with department heads, represented by Mr. Paul Brouwer Sr., who encouraged him to do what he did, which was to have him clear out his personal belongings and advise Mr. Cannon by today if he was going to retire. He felt Mr. Santia did the right thing. He indicated he was placed on administrative leave last Friday.

Mr. Aragona inquired as to whether they can have an investigative case without a dismissal hearing. He explained he has never been put in this situation, and the issue with Dean Reynolds occurred before he was on the Board. He questioned if they read about an employee in the paper who has done something wrong, whether they start the dismissal process, which starts the investigation process to determine if what they read is true.

Mr. Dolan replied that question would be directed to the Human Resource Director, he would consult with Mr. Towner, the Township attorney who handles those matters. If there is information that may warrant a disciplinary action, the appropriate process is to initiate an investigation, and the appointing authority would direct the disciplinary action. There are a number of different contracts and there is an appointing authority specified in each of those contracts. He believed the Board is the appointing authority in this case.

Mr. Cannon replied that is correct.

Mr. Aragona stated that over his career, he has managed people and would not want to fire someone based on a rumor. He wanted to make sure they are not making an emotional reaction based on what they have seen over the last few days. He stated he was unaware of Mr. Santia's private companies. He questioned if disclosure of any other jobs or companies an employee may be involved with is required by the Township. He recalled a time when he worked for the House Representatives, and if he had any type of other job, regardless of the type of job or where, it had to be disclosed. He noted when he started as a Trustee, he had to disclose that information.

Mr. Dolan stated there are numerous collective bargaining agreements that cover different layers of employees, and the extent to which a disclosure of outside employment is required in those agreements, he has no personal knowledge because that is not an area he practices in with the Township. He indicated that question would have to be answered by Mr. Smith or Mr. Towner.

Mr. Barry Miller, Superintendent of the Building Department, stated there is no need to disclose that information. He stated he is a licensed builder / licensed building official in the State of Michigan, and he could go out and open a building company, doing business outside of Clinton Township if he would so choose. He added he does not do that, but it is governed by state law. He added the same holds true for an engineer. Mr. Santia and Ms. Bednar are professional engineers, so if they have their own consulting firms, there is nothing in their collective bargaining agreements that would discourage that.

Mr. Aragona had no problem if someone wants to open their own firm or work for a firm outside of the Township, but his question was whether that information must be disclosed to the Township.

Mr. Miller replied there is nothing in their collective bargaining agreement that requires employees to disclose that information. Mr. Miller clarified that he can have a business, but he would not be allowed to do any of that business-related work in Clinton Township. It is within the statutory requirements that a building official cannot work in his/her own community.

Motion by Mr. Cannon, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the letter dated June 22nd, 2018 from Trustees Keys, Gielegghem and West, regarding the request of the Township Board to begin the dismissal process of the Director of Planning. Roll Call: Ayes – Cannon, Keys, West, Pearl, Aragona, Gielegghem, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

21. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR A FORENSIC AUDIT OF ACTIVITIES AS RELATES TO THE PLANNING DIRECTOR

Mr. Gielegghem felt they have tried to do this in a way that is respectful to the individual, the process and the people of this community who elected the Board members. He noted that Dean Reynolds did not get convicted of 14 counts because he asked people for money, but he was convicted because he asked people for money and suggested in some way that he would influence outcomes here in Clinton Township by getting a contract, smooth the waters when there was scrutiny on them from the Board, or help them get a renewal on a contract without going out to bid. He does not dispute the right for anyone to go out and earn extra dollars through a side job, but he felt disclosure is extremely important. He felt when it is disclosed that someone has maintained a company while being in a position of authority and used that company in a way to help another company recoup their losses for buying influence in the Township with one of the Trustees, it is necessary that the Township investigate it. He explained what was placed on the agenda was their first draft. He stated he is a former lawmaker, having served in state legislature, and added that laws get changed “on the fly”. He and two other trustees have consulted with people they

feel are “in the know” and offer an amendment, a copy of which was provided to all Board members at the start of the meeting. He proceeded with the following motion.

Motion by Mr. Gielegem, supported by Mr. Keys, that the Township Attorney, Mr. Dolan, prepare a report and transmit it to all Board members, based upon the testimony transcripts and any public documents of any potential violation of Township policies, ordinances or state law; further, that the Township Attorney recommend at least three outside firms to conduct an investigation into inappropriate or unethical influences by the Planning Director, Township employees, contractors or private entities run by the Planning Director, specifically in regards to applicants for action before the Planning Commission or ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals), along with bills submitted by Giffels Webster, with the period of review being the previous five years. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Meltzer questioned the part that indicated “based upon the testimony transcripts and any public documents of any potential violation of Township policies” and inquired as to whether it is referring to just this case.

Mr. Gielegem replied it is how this case impacts any violations of Township policies or state law. He felt they must leave it up to the attorney to identify the potential problems he sees, and then the Board can hire a company, with the attorney’s referral of at least three firms who do this type of work. That company can then dive into those potential conflicts of interest or violations.

Ms. Meltzer saw the clarity in the second paragraph but wanted clarification on the first paragraph.

Mr. Gielegem felt this is about influence and the fact they do not have a disclosure rule, which he felt should be required. He noted there was reference in the article that “money was stolen”, and although it was clarified that it was not stolen from the Township, he felt he has a duty to see what influences took place.

Mr. Pearl did not disagree with where Mr. Gielegem is going on this, and he added he is upset this happened. He recalled three years ago, he asked the Sewer Committee that three members sit on to ask Mr. Paul Modi to remove himself from the committee, or they were about to ask Giffels Webster to be removed. He indicated they did it immediately, based on what seemed like a lack of attention that he was paying to Clinton Township, and there were errors made on a contract bid out, with a totally inaccurate estimate after it was bid out. Mr. Pearl commented that Mr. Modi was not paying attention as the lead person for Giffels Webster. He felt it is very disheartening to hear what happened, but he agreed they need to get the report and to obtain a copy of the testimony, but he would like to offer an amendment to the motion, based on his experience with

forensic audits and attorney firms. He indicated when he was president of the Chippewa Valley School Board, they had a problem that came to light, and funds were stolen from the school. They hired a forensic auditor and spent \$250,000, and the report came up the same as if they had used their attorney. He clarified that he is not saying that he will not agree to a forensic auditor, but he would like to see the words “recommend at least three outside firms” removed from the motion. He suggested the Township attorney would do everything requested, which he agreed needs to be done, but he felt that should be the first step. He assured he is not ruling out the next step, but he felt it is important to first get a report from the Township attorney as to the testimony, what the FBI knows if they are willing to talk, since they have had three to four years of investigative work into this at taxpayer expense. He suggested after the Board reviews the report that Mr. Dolan will prepare, they can consider this again to determine whether there is additional need to hire a forensic auditing firm.

Discussion took place regarding wording for a possible amendment to the motion on the floor, and what type of time frame should be placed on this.

Mr. Cannon was not sure the Township attorney will be able to get a report back from the trial within thirty days.

Motion by Mr. Pearl, supported by Mr. Cannon, to **amend** the motion on the floor as follows:

That the Township Attorney, Mr. Dolan, prepare a report and transmit it to all Board members, based upon the testimony transcripts and any public documents of any potential violation of Township policies, ordinances or state law; further, that the Township Attorney conduct an investigation into inappropriate or unethical influences by the Planning Director, Township employees, contractors or private entities run by the Planning Director, specifically in regards to applicants for action before the Planning Commission or ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals), along with bills submitted by Giffels Webster, with the period of review being the previous five years. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gieleghem stated he would be opposed to that action because he is not sure that amendment would “muddy the waters” or to “water it down”. He acknowledged there was discussion about an “audit”, but he pointed out that word is not used in the amended motion he offered, nor is it in the motion as proposed for amendment by Mr. Pearl. Mr. Gieleghem felt a thirty-day time frame is good. He pointed out the next section of his motion, which indicates “the Township attorney recommend at least three firms” is written in such a way that this would have to come back to the Board for a vote because it is an expense for which they did not budget. He could therefore see no purpose for removing it now unless they are trying to “muddy the waters” or unless they are “watering it down”.

Mr. Pearl drew on his experience of hiring these types of firms and having them spend a year preparing reports. He stated it was very expensive, and in the situation with the school district, the gentleman did steal money from the schools, he was put in jail and it was much more extreme than this situation. He felt the information requested is not something they will have an easy time putting together.

Mr. Gielegem clarified they are asking Mr. Dolan to prepare a report of all the potential violations of Township policies and then specifically look at these departments that are relevant to this situation that were actively involved in what was labeled a “fraud conspiracy”, of which immunity was granted as a result.

Mr. Pearl maintained that Mr. Dolan could prepare the report within thirty to sixty days, assuming the testimony is available.

Mr. Gielegem felt the public wants this as an outside entity because it is important to have some independent body and voice looking at this and providing those types of recommendations.

Mr. Keys supported the original motion because he believes the public deserves an independent look at what has been going on. He felt that “business as usual”, giving this responsibility to the Township attorney to do the investigation, is not enough. He felt they need to look at what has been going on and hire the proper people to make those recommendations to the Board. He stated he does not understand Mr. Pearl’s amendment to the motion, noting he has the opportunity to vote “no” on going to outside firms. The original motion gives the Township attorney the authority to recommend three firms. He will compile the testimony transcripts and public documents that provide the Board with the information, so the Board can make the determination as to whether they want to go outside. He stated he will not be voting in favor of the amendment on the floor but will be voting for the original motion.

Ms. Meltzer is worded that “the Township attorney recommend at least three outside firms”, and she felt that sounds like more of a directive. She did not feel this is “muddying the waters” but trying to take a common-sense step and not having to backtrack. She stated she would like Mr. Dolan to prepare the report, transmit it to the Board members, and then maybe at that point, recommend three outside firms.

Mr. Keys emphasized that Mr. Dolan cannot hire a firm without the Board’s authorization. He clarified that the original motion does not direct him to “hire” a firm, but rather to “recommend”.

Mr. Cannon felt the entire Board is interested in an investigation.

Ms. West felt the original motion is clear, directing Mr. Dolan to prepare the report and transmit everything to the Board members. The second part states that the Township attorney “recommends”, but she reminded the Board members are the decision-makers. Once he recommends those firms, the Board members can look at it and decide whether to go further with an investigation. She felt they are moving it forward, and although she appreciated Mr. Pearl’s recommendation, she felt it is not necessary. She indicated she would like to talk with Mr. Pearl about the Sewer Committee, because this is the first time she heard of why Mr. Modi was removed and felt possibly he should have been removed a long time ago.

Mr. Pearl assured his proposal is not “watering it down” but pointed out the information must be in the hands of the attorney, so he can hand it to another firm. He suggested they get the information and let Mr. Dolan start the investigation, then they can consider whether to hire an outside firm. He felt the original motion will slow down the process. He is suggesting they start the investigation, bring it back in thirty days, and then if they must hire an outside firm, they should have no problem if it is warranted, adding he will then go along with it.

Ms. West felt the first line of the motion indicates that Mr. Dolan is going to be the “researcher”, and they are not handing everything to the outside.

Mr. Sam Bushell, 18546 Whalen, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, noted the Board has been very clear about saying how influential Mr. Santia was in the Township, and he owned two outside consulting firms. In granting Township contracts, did any Township money go directly to these firms. He noted that for any other contract, a conflict of interest would have had to have been disclosed. If any contractors used his company, then the Township’s money was involved because the taxpayers pay the company who paid him. He noted, according to the media, the federal investigation is not over in Macomb County because they claim it is “deep”. He assumed that the FBI is still pumping Mr. Santia for information on other items. Mr. Bushell felt it is intriguing that the Township awarded a ten-year no bid contract and the taxpayers are paying monthly, especially when one of the people who voted “yes” as a Board member had actually voted “no” in the Committee that was setting this up. That committee unanimously voted “no”.

Mr. Cannon commented that Mr. Bushell’s facts are not correct.

Mr. Dolan clarified that the Refuse Contract allows the Township to rebid the contract at their discretion. He noted it is not a firm ten-year contract, and if anything, it gives the Township the choice to rebid or to keep it in place for ten years. The benefit is to the citizens.

Mr. Cannon stated it was originally a 7-0 vote on the extension. It was a 4-3 vote on whether to go out for bid prior to that, but they had the lowest price going, which is why most of the Board members did not want to go out for bid.

Mr. Keith Olson suggested the Board start an independent audit immediately, adding it is a small price to pay after the incident with Dean Reynolds. He thanked the three Trustees who brought this item forward and felt they need to stand up for the community on this matter. He urged the Board to “get the ball rolling” and rebuild the trust of the community. He felt it should be a “city-wide audit” at this point.

Ms. Meltzer did not feel it is accurate to say any of the Board members are trying to slow this down or prevent this from going forward. She pointed out they are all in favor of moving forward but are just determining how at this point. She did note that this focuses on Mr. Santia, but she would like to see this language encompass Dean Reynolds, especially taking into consideration the banks where he tried to secure funding for Festival of the Senses and what he did with Clintondale High School.

Mr. Cannon stated he has no problem including Dean Reynolds in the investigation, but he did not know how much more they can punish him.

Ms. Meltzer clarified she is not trying to punish him, but felt he was a predator and if there are other entities where he tried to do this, they may need to be recognized and possibly there is money that should go back to those sources if it was stolen.

Mr. Aragona stated he was elected after Dean Reynolds was indicted. He inquired as to whether there was a direct investigation on Dean Reynolds at that time, and did they call for a forensic audit.

Mr. Keys clarified that, as far as he knew, there was an investigation into the fireworks.

Mr. Gielegem recalled there was a motion from the Board to remove him from all committees because he was an elected official; however, the Township Board lacks that authority, and only the governor has the power to remove him, or the citizens can do it through a recall petition.

Mr. Pearl stated there was an audit and investigation by Chippewa Valley Schools at one of the elementary schools in their district, although he is not aware of the outcome.

Mr. Gieleghem pointed out Mr. Reynolds was facing 14 counts of indictment for which he was convicted. He added there is an immunity deal in this case, and he is not sure how much more they are or are not going to learn. He pointed out Mr. Santia was an employee under the Board's jurisdiction.

Mr. Aragona understood that the FBI was going after Dean Reynolds for bribery charges. His interest is whether there was any other type of funds that were misappropriated, or he pocketed in any way, shape or form while he was serving on the Board. Bribery is one thing, but he cautioned they need to look at dollars and cents at the Township. He questioned whether that was thoroughly looked at. The FBI has the responsibility to go after him for federal crimes, but the Township has the responsibility of being entrusted with taxpayer dollars, and that money needs to be spent wisely. He questioned whether they have looked at anything that Dean Reynolds was involved with at the Township to make sure there were no wrongdoings.

Mr. Gieleghem felt they could investigate that as well.

Mr. Aragona inquired as to whether Mr. Gieleghem's motion that he forwarded to the Board members immediately before tonight's meeting completely replaces what he previously forwarded.

Mr. Gieleghem replied affirmatively.

Mr. Aragona interpreted this to mean they are sending it to the Township attorney and he is recommending the three firms at the same time.

Mr. Gieleghem felt they can do a couple of things at the same time.

Ms. Meltzer stated that is not what the motion says.

Mr. Aragona inquired as to whether Mr. Dolan is to do the investigation in addition to the outside firm, or whether Mr. Dolan completes his investigation and then the outside firm conducts their investigation if the Board so chooses. Mr. Aragona felt Mr. Dolan can do his part relatively quickly, within 30 to 60 days, and it will cost much less than an outside investigation. He suggested Mr. Dolan go through his investigation, and once the Board looks at it, they can opt to go forward with further investigation or a forensic audit from an outside source,

Discussion took place on the fact that the Township is already paying legal fees to Mr. Dolan monthly, so they are paying for this investigation. She felt Mr. Dolan is the best person to do the initial investigation.

Ms. West assured Dean Reynolds had nothing to do with the Festival of the Senses funds. She stated it was the Chairperson of the Festival of the Senses Committee who raised the money, and she indicated he was not the chair.

Ms. Meltzer felt he still could have pulled someone aside.

Mr. Cannon claimed that they found “things weren’t kosher” with what occurred with Dean Reynolds on the Festival of the Senses Committee.

Mr. Frank Pizzo, Recreation Director, stated he dealt with the vendors when he took over this festival, and some vendors paid, while others did not pay. He had to present vendor fees, and some had indicated to him that the fees were waived, while others said they were not waived.

Mr. Cannon questioned why some of the fees were waived.

Mr. Pizzo replied he had no idea, but it was hearsay. He assured he collected the fees and replied the vendors he was referring to were the food vendors and some of the providers for platforms. He does not know why but announced the fireworks this year will be held on July 11th. He was told by some of the vendors that their fees had been waived in the past; however, he did not ask why because he moved forward rather than dwelling with the past.

Ms. West inquired as to whether that is what the vendors said.

Mr. Pizzo replied affirmatively, stating that he was told some of the fees were waived because they provided activities for certain birthday parties. He replied to further inquiry that he was not told whose birthday party.

Mr. Keys explained that some of these discussions have taken place internally, but he felt the Township should be done with that, and they need an outside investigation.

Mr. Pearl estimated that it will take between six months and a year to get a report back from an investigative firm. He requested they get some information while it is fresh and see what the FBI can tell the Township, if anything, after their three-year investigation.

Mr. Roger Holtlander, 23140 Wellington Crescent, Clinton Township, Michigan 48036, noted there are two amendments, and he assumed the amended version will pass because it will get the four votes; however, he felt it is wrong because the Township residents will not trust an internal investigation by this Board and/or the employees of the Township. He explained they came to realize that Dean Reynolds was doing things illegally, but now they are discovering that an employee was taking

advantage of something. He stressed there should be an ethics policy in the Township to avoid conflicts of interest such as this for people who run a department and have a business on the side. He stated the people no longer trust anything that is done in this Township, and Macomb County alone has had twenty people arrested for unlawful activity. He felt the FBI is not done yet with their investigations, and suspected there are other people in the Township, elected and otherwise, who might be found guilty. He emphasized that he has known Mr. Santia for twenty years and would have never guessed that he would have had a part in this. He felt Mr. Pearl's amendment is an attempt to not have an outside investigation, but that is exactly what is needed, reiterating that no one will believe an internal investigation.

Mr. Bob Hogan felt a vendor paying a bribe is ultimately paid by the Township taxpayers because the vendor will not lose any money. He inquired as to what Mr. Towner does regarding legal services for the Township.

Mr. Cannon replied that Mr. Towner handles the court cases and Human Resources issues.

Mr. Hogan felt the Township needs a disclosure policy, a conflict of interest policy and a code of ethics. He felt the Dean Reynolds trial and conviction has been a wakeup call that this policy is needed. He questioned whether this item is related to the Planning Director.

Mr. Cannon replied affirmatively.

Ms. Kathy Voss, 20215 Webster, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, stated she has more of an emotional type of response. She worked with Dean Reynolds on various committees and always thought he was a great guy. She wound up being highly disappointed. She also thought Mr. Santia was a wonderful person, and she was floored to hear this news. She stressed the public deserves to hear everything, and the Township needs to be as transparent as possible because there are so many entities involved in this entire Dean Reynolds issue. She felt anyone else involved in the Dean Reynolds issue should be spoken of in the same manner. She felt there is a division of the Board, acknowledging it is an emotional issue because they have all worked with Mr. Santia for years. It is difficult to come down hard on a nice person, but they need to do it. They need to look at resolutions being brought up, and it is sad they must talk about it.

Ms. Nancy Goodchild, 20584 Glen Allen, Clinton Township, Michigan 48036, questioned how many years Mr. Santia was employed by the Township.

Mr. Cannon replied Mr. Santia was with the Township for 16 years.

Ms. Goodchild questioned how many years Mr. Dolan has been employed by the Township.

Mr. Dolan replied this is his 41st year.

Ms. Goodchild felt that shows there is a conflict of interest with friendships and comradery, so there should be an outside investigation. She stated she works at the County, and their employees are required to sign a disclosure form upon being employed with the County. She indicated they must list anyone family members who work for the County or for businesses that do business with the County. She felt that should also be required of anyone who works for the Township. As a Clinton Township resident, she stressed that she wants transparency, and felt disclosure forms should be required. She thanked the Trustees for bringing this up and proposing to retain outside counsel.

Mr. Bob Mouton, 20432 Tullio, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, pointed out that the entire Board is ready to do an investigation, but the stopping point is whether it is an independent firm or the Township attorney. He understands it that Mr. Dolan will do his part of the investigation and when he comes back with his report, he comes back with his recommendation if the Board so wishes to have an independent firm do an investigation based on his findings. He felt they are all seeking the same thing, but the question is when the independent investigation comes in. He understood it that the Township attorney will look at it first to determine what they have, which he felt will be doubtful for him to have much in the thirty to sixty-day parameters placed upon him. He suggested the Board question Mr. Dolan as to what he feels he can get done in that period.

Ms. Meltzer commended Mr. Mouton for summarizing it well. She did not feel there is a division because they are all on the same page for an investigation. She pointed out they just received this information this evening and are trying to make sure they are doing the right thing.

Mr. Gielegem stated he has had numerous responsibilities in different levels of government, including serving as an advocate and change agent in his positions, restructured County government during the economic crisis, but he has been told repeatedly since he was elected to the Board, first as a Trustee and more recently as Treasurer, “that is the way we do things here”. He indicated they are

requesting something distinctly different, but if this amendment passes, he felt it will have one impact and that is to assure that no outside investigation ever takes place. He read the motion he put forward. He admitted this is a complicated process but having Mr. Dolan prepare a report and submit it to the Board, which would contain the testimony transcripts, any public documents, and making a recommendation to the Board if there are any potential violations of the Township's policies, ordinances or state law, is not that complicated. He does not want a big delay in the issuance of this report, so he felt the two parts of this need to be done simultaneously. He believed they read what is a confession by Mr. Santia, so it is not unfounded. He also questioned the amount of \$250,000 that has been discussed tonight for an audit. He talked with auditing firms today and was told an audit can run between \$30,000 to \$50,000. He could not understand how the amendment speeds up the process.

Considerable discussion took place regarding the motion, the proposed amendment to the motion, and the cost of an audit.

Mr. Pearl stressed he does not want to divide the Board on this and felt Mr. Gielegghem does not believe him when he said he would vote in favor of an outside audit if there is any indication of wrongdoing going on. He has no problem if, in addition to the investigation, he can recommend three firms at the same time.

Mr. Gielegghem claimed that is the way it is written.

Mr. Pearl clarified Mr. Dolan start the investigation, and he can recommend three firms.

Discussion took place regarding the wording.

Mr. Gielegghem stated he does not think the amendment to his motion is anywhere close to the same thing as his original motion.

Mr. Cannon stated Mr. Dolan will be bringing back a report, and at the same time, a recommendation of three firms that could be used should it be necessary.

Ms. Meltzer clarified the **amendment** that is to be voted on as follows:
That the Township Attorney, Mr. Dolan, prepare a report and transmit it to all Board members, based upon the testimony transcripts and any public documents of any potential violation of Township policies, ordinances or state law, and upon compilation of that information and presenting it to the Board, if the Board so desires at that time, the Township Attorney can recommend at least three outside firms that could perform an investigation into inappropriate or unethical influences by the Planning Director, Township employees, contractors or private entities run by the Planning Director, specifically in regards to applicants for action before the

Planning Commission or ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals), along with bills submitted by Giffels Webster, with the period of review being the previous five years.

Roll Call (on motion to amend the motion on the floor): Ayes – Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Meltzer. Nays – West, Keys, Gielegem. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Mr. Keys stated that was just the vote to amend the motion, and they need to now vote on the amended motion.

Motion by Mr. Gielegem, supported by Mr. Pearl, that the Township Attorney, Mr. Dolan, prepare a report and transmit it to all Board members, based upon the testimony transcripts and any public documents of any potential violation of Township policies, ordinances or state law, and upon compilation of that information and presenting it to the Board, if the Board so desires at that time, the Township Attorney can recommend at least three outside firms that could perform an investigation into inappropriate or unethical influences by the Planning Director, Township employees, contractors or private entities run by the Planning Director, specifically in regards to applicants for action before the Planning Commission or ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals), along with bills submitted by Giffels Webster, with the period of review being the previous five years. Roll Call: Ayes – Gielegem, Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

22. REQUEST CLERK FOR UPDATE OF THE 2018 ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION PROCESS

Ms. Meltzer apologized that she received the letter at 4:25 p.m. on Friday, so there was no time to respond in writing, but she assured she can speak to it tonight. For all printed absentee voter applications, they received an application that had the wrong date. There were two correct dates, but an error that said people could only pick one, which would limit any voter that didn't check the "both" box to only choosing one election, either the general or the primary. Ms. Meltzer explained the application approval process, noting they contract with PSI Inc. and have done this for some time. The process is that they send a proof, either hard copy or email. One of the concerns she had, which had been expressed to her from several senior citizens, was the way the application was mailed because it does not allow full privacy of a signed document. She pointed out that someone could bend the application and look inside to see their signature, which could compromise the signer's identity. She asked her Deputy to ask the printing company if they could reduce the size of the application, so it could fit into an envelope. There would be no increase in cost to the voter, other than they would be able to put it into a size #10 envelope. When the proof came across, she never approved the language the way it reads, but what she

authorized was a response from PSI, Inc., stating “In response to your security concerns, this application now fits into a #10 size envelope”. She did not see the proof of the misprinted application. She understands she must take responsibility for it because it comes out of her office; however, the corrective steps she will be taking is to demand she receive a hard copy through overnight processing. She pointed out with as many emails as they get, emails can occasionally be missed. She claimed there is no email that indicates she approved that language. As far as the applications being sent out, she explained that new applications will only be sent out to those who checked only one of the elections, either the primary or general. If they checked the “both” box, even though it has the wrong date, she contacted the Bureau of Elections for the State of Michigan. They sent her a letter, a copy of which she sent to the Election Commission, consisting of Mr. Keys and Mr. Aragona, stating that it is not the fault of the voter, so by checking the “both” box, they can still get both primary and general ballots. She assured most of the public has checked the ‘both” box. Most voters do not look at the date but look at “both” and that is what they checked. She explained that where she must be concerned is if there is a limit of one checked box because the error also said, “check only one box”. She contacts them by mail or phone and asks them if they only want the one ballot. She explains to them that there are four ballot initiatives on the primary ballot, and she added that everyone is very appreciative she informed them of this, even though most of them do not vote in the primary. She has not come across one person, after talking with nearly 100 people, who had any negative feedback. She claimed they all appreciated the follow-up. She assured everyone who wants both ballots for the upcoming elections will receive them, and she felt she is taking corrective action in an unfortunate situation and is successful at making the correction complete.

Mr. Keys thanked Ms. Meltzer. He was surprised how many calls he was receiving from residents, and that is when he contacted Ms. Meltzer. He felt that explanation was important to have for the public, so they can get down to the process and how it can be improved upon in the future, which is something she touched on. In terms of not seeing the proof is concerning to him, because he did not feel any company would send out ballots without getting the Clerk’s approval. He questioned whether Ms. Meltzer addressed that with the vendor.

Ms. Meltzer replied that she has tried to speak about this issue, but she is waiting for them to respond. She has also requested a full refund of these applications because she believes the company is at fault.

Mr. Keys appreciated Ms. Meltzer making the calls and fighting for the refund. He understood Ms. Meltzer say that the vendor has agreed to send out the applications at no cost to the Township. He appreciated that and felt they should get new applications, but he inquired as to those who have not returned any ballot application, and whether they will be sent out the new application with the correct dates.

Ms. Meltzer replied the only ones who get a new application are the voters who returned their original applications. She explained that people are put on the permanent absentee list but do not necessarily request a ballot every time. Once they are on a permanent list, they automatically receive the application. As a result, many do not ever send their applications back. It will be based on whether they send back their application with the “both” box checked.

Mr. Keys inquired as to the harm in sending out new ballots to those who have not communicated or returned their application to the Clerk’s office. They could indicate that for those voters who have not yet returned their applications, the Township wants to correct it.

Ms. Meltzer explained that, at this point, they do not know that those voters will not return their application.

Mr. Keys questioned the disadvantage of sending the new applications out.

Ms. Meltzer felt there will be confusion, feeling they have already filled it out.

Mr. Russell Holtslander, 23140 Wellington Crescent, Clinton Township, Michigan 48036, appreciated Ms. Meltzer trying to get a refund from the vendor. If they do not provide that refund, he felt the Township should never do business with that company again, and they should be taken off the list.

Mr. Cannon inquired as to how many companies do this type of work.

Ms. Meltzer replied there are not many companies that offer this service, but if they do not see the error of their ways, she stated the Township will not do business with them again.

Ms. Kathy Voss, 20315 Webster, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, stated she was one of the few that received one of the erroneous applications, and she appreciated that Ms. Meltzer contacted her and had her correct it. She expressed concern that she had done the wrong thing.

Ms. Meltzer assured Ms. Voss that she had done the right thing because she was following the directions. She indicated most people who checked off one box only want the general ballot; however, she has taken this opportunity to let them know that there are four referendums on the primary ballot. She indicated a lot of people do not like to be limited to a specific party on the primary ballot and that is often why they do not vote in that election.

Ms. Nancy Duemling, 20776 Moxon, Clinton Township, Michigan 48036, stated she is glad Ms. Meltzer is making these telephone calls. She checked her application and did not catch the error, but once she was made aware of it, she was concerned as to whether there is any potential for repercussion on those ballots because of the 2016 date.

Ms. Meltzer assured that, according to the State's Bureau of Elections, there are no repercussions. She read the letter into the record from the Bureau. She explained that she has proof of sending the ballot based on the language and proper request, they have the time it was sent, and that it was sent for this election. The response came in a timely manner.

Ms. Meryl Bannister, 18877 Highlite Drive S., Clinton Township, Michigan, thanked Ms. Meltzer for correcting the mistake as soon as possible. She checked the two and sent it back. She has received a new ballot application and it is correct. She expressed concern, however, that one of her friends went to the Clerk's office and one of the employees in the Clerk's Office crossed out the section that was incorrect and told her to fill out another part. She commented that she talked about it with an Election Commissioner, who said it does not sound legal to cross out part of a ballot application, which is a legal document, and she questioned whether that would invalidate her request for a ballot. She suggested Ms. Meltzer talk to her employees about that incident.

Ms. Meltzer assured they did not do anything she did not direct them to do. She indicated they did not cross out the "both" box, but they crossed out the inaccurate date. It does not make it a non-legal document because it was not accurate to begin with.

Ms. Bannister felt defacing the document would invalidate it.

Ms. Meltzer assured it is not defacing the document. She explained that some people, when they get their application, sign the document but do not stipulate anything as far as which ballots they are requesting. In those cases, a letter is sent to them asking them to designate their request for primary, general or both ballots.

Mr. Roger Holtslander, 23140 Wellington Crescent, Clinton Township, Michigan 48036, stated his concern is not about deciding not to automatically send out a correct application because it could cause confusion. He questioned those who request an absentee ballot application but then vote in person and asked if there is any plan to let everyone know about the correct date.

Ms. Meltzer assured she will be advertising the elections dates on cable television. She anticipated that the residents will have already forwarded their application back to the Township, but if people hold onto them for a long time eventually throw them out or they request another one. She clarified that the applications mailed were sent out from a mail house by the printer. Anything the Clerk's Office sends out now has been corrected. She added that part of this is voter responsibility as well, noting there will be organizations sending out information on the referendums on the ballot, plus there will be mailers sent out from candidates.

Mr. Holtlander stated he worked in a printing shop for over a year, and he has never heard of a printer putting ink to paper without a signed proof. He felt this company should not be allowed to do business with the Township. He cannot imagine a printer being that bad at their job.

Ms. Meltzer clarified that the miscommunication came because she added the language about the size of the ballot. They may have assumed she was approving the entire ballot. She felt they are bombarded with a lot of requests, and when she added this addendum, she did not feel she was asking too much. She felt that may have been one of the reasons why this happened the way it did.

Mr. Holtlander pointed out that is their job, and he hoped the Township will get their money back.

Mr. Sam Bushell, 18546 Whalen, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, questioned when Ms. Meltzer stated the "voters have some responsibility" in this error.

Ms. Meltzer clarified she did not say they had responsibility in this error, but they have some responsibility to know when the election is taking place.

Mr. Bushell stated his main problem is that the most important responsibility for the Clerk is to ensure safe, honest elections. He felt an error like this is serious, and this could turn off a lot of people from voting.

Mr. Cannon disagreed with Mr. Bushell, pointing out that Ms. Meltzer has notified those who need to be contacted and is issuing corrected ballots.

Ms. Meltzer added that the people she has contacted have been very grateful for her efforts.

Mr. Gielegem acknowledged that everyone makes errors at one time or another. From listening, the statute is incredibly restrictive with severe penalties and restrictions as to who can distribute the application, who can bring it in for

someone, and they must have a reason to receive an absentee ballot. Ms. Meltzer is sending two ballots to everyone who checked the “both” box, and the Secretary of State decided that they understand the voters’ intent. He was concerned about what the Secretary of State is telling Ms. Meltzer to do is something that he understood they were never to do based on the Supreme Court’s interpretation of the law. He questioned the success rate on reaching these voters by telephone.

Ms. Meltzer stated it cannot be emailed, so that is not acceptable. It is good to know they are reaching out to her, and she can then contact them, but she does not rely on that language to approve the application. She indicated out of the 100+, there are about 60 that she has not heard back from yet. She added that does not mean she will not hear from them.

Mr. Gielegghem inquired as to how Ms. Meltzer is verifying that she is speaking with the voter.

Ms. Meltzer replied that she informs them she will send them a new application, and they can sign it and get it back to her. They can now check the “both” box but can also check either of the other two.

Mr. Gielegghem stated he is ok with sending out the revised applications to those who checked the “both” box, and with the telephone calls to clarify what occurred, but when she calls, it is hard to verify who she is talking to.

Ms. Meltzer assured they verify every signature that comes through. Some of them come in and correct their application. She noted if they are handicapped, she drives the applications to the individuals on the weekend.

Mr. Gielegghem felt there needs to be a date set to send out absentee ballots to those who did not return one. He felt that is the cleanest and most direct way to deal with the issue. A letter could accompany it, stating the previous ballot had an incorrect date, as well as an apology for the confusion if they have already sent it back, but if they have not, you are providing them with another opportunity to do so.

Ms. Meltzer inquired as to when Mr. Gielegghem would like her to do that.

Discussion took place regarding how long these will take to get mailed.

Ms. Meltzer stated the printer is busy because everyone is contacting them to print the actual ballots.

Ms. Kim Irvine, Deputy Clerk, replied that they cannot create a list of those who have not returned their application.

Ms. Meltzer stated she does not mind following Mr. Gieleghem's recommendation, but she does not know if she can narrow it down to every voter who has not returned the application.

Ms. Irvine replied to inquiry that the cost of mailing out to everyone would be about \$1,400. She indicated the printer said they would mail it out to everyone at no cost to the Township. She replied that she is not sure exactly when these could be mailed out again.

Motion by Mr. Gieleghem, supported by Mr. Keys, to receive and file the update from the Clerk regarding the 2018 Absentee Ballot Application Process. Roll Call: Ayes – Gieleghem, Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Meltzer. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 11TH, 2018 REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Motion by Ms. Meltzer, supported by Mr. Keys, to approve the minutes of the June 11th, 2018 Regular Township Board Meeting, as submitted. Roll Call: Ayes – Meltzer, Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gieleghem. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion by Ms. Meltzer, supported by Mr. Keys, to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call: Ayes – Meltzer, Keys, West, Pearl, Cannon, Aragona, Gieleghem. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Bob Hogan, 36755 Barr Street, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035, stated Trustee Dean Reynolds has been found guilty of 14 out of 14 counts of bribery and conspiracy. He complained that Mr. Reynolds continually voted for taxes to be included on the ballot but has not paid his real estate taxes during 2017. He complained he spent the money he received for bribes on a Disney vacation instead of paying his taxes. He recalled when Mr. Reynolds spoke to the Grosse Pointe League of Women Voters in 2016, there was a flyer at that time including Ms. West with Mr. Reynolds, indicating her support of him for the Supervisor position. He questioned if she still feels that way. Multiple contractors were implicated in the Dean Reynolds conviction. He questioned whether Clinton Township is still doing business with these vendors, and if so, he questioned how they can preach that "crime doesn't pay". He felt the Board of Trustees should remove the road proposition on the August 7,

2018 ballot because Mr. Santia was on the Road committee and he was the basis of that recommendation. He complained the public was not invited into any of the committee meetings. He questioned whether the residents would be assured that this proposal would be fair to everyone considering the recent events. He claimed this item was rushed through for a vote.

Mr. Keith Olson [no address given other than his email at keitholson@gmail.com], stated he wrote down these comments before when he assumed “the feds stepped in and shut down the marihuana ordinance”. He claimed this Board does not have the right to break federal law and “conspire to sell our children drugs”. He insinuated there were illegal dealings to “sneak these ordinances through”. He felt the Board should be put under the microscope, in addition to Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Santia. He felt the greed has reached epic proportions, and he claimed the police will “lock people up for small amounts of cannabis”. He stated he is in favor of dispensaries, but not in Clinton Township because he felt they cannot be trusted. He continued to make accusations of the Township’s Police Department.

Mr. Sam Bushell was concerned that some of the Board members are indicating that three of the Township ballot proposals are not increases in taxes, even though as the Headlee Amendment demands, it is considered interest. He pointed out people are already sending their ballots back, and he hoped they read through the information before casting their ballots, because he claimed it comes to 5.0876 mils of increase. He calculated that would be a payment of \$508 a year for a house with a value of \$100,000. Mr. Bushell stated FOIA requests can be submitted in any form to the Township, and they do not have to be on a specific form, but they still must be responded to within ten days. He claimed this did not occur when he sent emails to the Trustees requesting information and did not get anything back from them or the Township long after the ten-day deadline for responding had passed. He followed up on a comment he made at a previous meeting about contacting the Police Department for damage to his lawn because of a Wide Open West truck, and he was instructed by the Lieutenant that they could not do anything, and he would have to go to court. He complained that the police never came out to look at his property, and he felt that was wrong.

Mr. Steve Brostick, 43304 Mariner Court, Clinton Township, Michigan 48038, complained about the condition of Venice Square Shopping Center, which was partially destroyed in a fire last December. He cited a Township Ordinance, Chapter 1468.04, which requires that “repair, rehabilitation and demolition of dangerous buildings should take place forthwith”. He acknowledged that “forthwith” does not specify an exact

length of time, but he felt it should not take seven months. He recalled another fire in that shopping center years ago, and within thirty days, the area was cleaned up, the cement pad was reestablished, and the post office was back up and running. He complained that this is an eyesore. Mr. Brostick felt that the refuse contractor, Green for Life (GFL), does a great job, but he suggested that the contract they have may be “fruit of the poisonous tree” and he suggested it should be reopen for bid to ensure everything is done fairly.

Mr. Cannon briefly addressed the Venice Square situation, noting the plans are in to rebuild a larger Wise Guys. There were some insurance issues and some issues with the fire inspections to make sure it was a legitimate fire.

Mr. Barry Miller, Superintendent of the Building Department, spoke to the owner of that complex and they will be in for a demolition permit shortly. They were issued a violation to demolish it about two weeks ago, and they responded with the name of a contractor. He explained the owner of the property is in northern Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Keys, supported by Mr. Aragona, to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: Ayes – Keys, Aragona, West, Pearl, Cannon, Gielegem, Meltzer. Nays-None. Absent – None. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KIM MELTZER, CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON