

RAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.  
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Location: Ray Township Hall  
64255 Wolcott, Ray, MI 48096

Present: Joe Jarzyna, Supervisor  
Lori Lascoe, Clerk  
Betsy Bart, Treasurer  
Betty Grader, Trustee  
Doug Stier, Trustee

Absent: None

Also Present: 14 residents

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES & ROLL CALL.  
Supervisor Jarzyna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Lascoe called roll; Jarzyna, Lascoe, Bart, Grader and Stier.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Lascoe added to the agenda, correspondence from the Ray Township Public Library dated 1-18-2022. Further stated the Board received a copy and each Trustee was emailed the correspondence.

**MOTION by Grader supported by Stier to approve the agenda as amended.**

**MOTION carried.**

3. CORRESPONDENCES: 1-18-22 Ray Township Public Library

**MOTION by Grader supported by Lascoe to receive and file the correspondence.**

**MOTION carried.**

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS: - For Agenda Items

Supervisor Jarzyna asked if anyone would like to speak regarding the agenda items to come to the podium.

Terry Goike spoke regarding the correspondence submitted to the Board regarding the lease agreement and the fiscal agency agreement. She stated the residents may not be aware that the building is leased by the library. She explained the library secures funding from grants and the millages. She stated the additional millage was for upgrades to the library materials and services, such as technology, as retaining and hiring qualified staff with competitive wages. She explained the Library Board had their Attorney draft the Fiscal Agency Agreement and a new lease. Further recommended changes to the lease agreement which was approved at the special meeting on December 20, 2021.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 20, 2021 and December 21, 2021

**MOTION by Grader supported by Bart to approve the special minutes from December 20, 2021 at 11:01 a.m. and the minutes from December 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. as submitted.**

**MOTION carried.**

6. PUBLIC HEARING: Community Development Block Grant Service Funds \$2,500.00

Lascoe stated she did receive two emails from non-profit groups that were not able to attend the public hearing.

**MOTION by Lascoe supported by Jarzyna to open the public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant Funds at 7:13 p.m.**

**MOTION carried.**

Lascoe stated Dick Rosenberg, Chairman of the Samaritan House Board of Directors sent an email that he was not able to attend the public hearing. Lascoe read the following: The Samaritan House is requesting \$500 of CDBG funds. The Samaritan House Food Pantry has been operating in the area for 26 years, providing

assistance for low income families. In addition to providing nutritional food they also assist families in need of help for emergency shelter, utilities and appliance repairs. During the last two years the community has been very generous in supporting their mission and they have been able to expand the coverage to include southern Shelby Township including the City of Utica.

Lascoe stated she received an email from Stacey Conte, the Outreach Coordinator for Interfaith Volunteer Caregiver. Lascoe stated copies were provided for each Board member along with the brochures. Lascoe reviewed the email from Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers offers basic assistance to older and disabled residents of Macomb County by offering essential support services, at no cost, to low-income neighbors in need. Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers mission is to help forgotten neighbors to live safely and independently for as long as possible. CDBG funding is essential to the growth of the chore, repair and home maintenance services that meet a growing need among senior and disabled residents. Further request \$148.00 funds to increase the number of low income citizens than

Ashlynn Mueller, Care House, explained they are the only agency in Macomb County for children of sexual abuse and child abuse. She explained the Care House has changed the child abuse system with the child, she explained they work with law enforcement and other agencies providing crisis counseling, child therapy, forensics, a family pantry, and other services. She explained families are not charged for any in house services, or for helping obtain services from other agencies. Further requested \$1,200.00 of CDBG service funds.

**MOTION by Stier supported by Grader to close the public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant Funds at 7: 20 p.m.**  
**MOTION carried.**

7. APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST

Treasurer Bart stated the bill list is through January 11, 2022 the amount for approval is \$101,064.25.

**MOTION by Stier supported by Lascoe to approve the bills list through January 11, 2022 totaling \$101,064.25 as presented.**  
**MOTION carried.**

8. OFFICER'S REPORTS

- a. Supervisor Jarzyna stated for the 2022 limestone application for the Township, will cost \$25,005.00. He is checking with the Department of Roads if the Chubb subdivision if it could be done since it would require the County trucks to assist with the application of the limestone since the semitrucks could not maneuver the subdivision roads. Further recommended limestone for 31 Mile Road from Hartway to North Avenue and also 30 Mile Road west from North Avenue until they run out of limestone.
- b. Clerk Lascoe reported all newly appointed and reappointments for the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Recreation Committee have taken the Oath of Office and have been sworn in.

Lascoe reported the Planning Commission did not have a meeting in January 2022.

Lascoe reported she received a copy of the Workmen's Compensation Insurance from the Library. Further stated the Township is no longer processing the library payroll.

Lascoe reported the Michigan Independent Citizen Redistricting Commission approved the new maps. The changes for Ray Township are Congress is district 10 and will be district 9, Senate is district 8 and will be district 24, State Rep/State House is district 33 and will be district 65, Macomb County Commission is district 7 and will be district 1. All registered voters will receive a new Voter ID card as required by law due to the changes in the district numbers.

Lascoe stated the Township received payment from SMART for the senior trips.

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- c. Treasurer Bart reported the Winter 2021 tax season is halfway through. The last day to pay your taxes is February 28<sup>th</sup> without penalty. The Treasurer's office will be open on Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for tax collection.
- d. Trustee Grader had nothing to report.

Trustee Stier stated the residents supported the library millage proposal to include the operating of the library. He read the Ray Township Library Millage Proposal, as follows: "Shall the tax limitation on all taxable property within Ray Township, Macomb County, Michigan, be increased and the Township be authorized to levy annually a new additional millage in an amount not to exceed .20 mill (\$.20 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) in perpetuity beginning in 2020, to provide funds for operating, maintaining, constructing, equipping and funding the Ray Township Public Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect in the first year of levy (2020) if the millage is approved and levied by the Township is approximately \$46,000. By law, revenue from this millage will be disbursed to Ray Township Public Library." Further stated the millage is for operating the library.

**MOTION by Lascoe supported by Grader to receive and file the Officers Reports.  
MOTION carried.**

9. DEPARTMENT REQUEST/REPORTS

- a. Assessing Report
- b. Budget Report
- c. Building Department
- d. Fire Department Reports
- e. Library Report
- f. Senior Report
- g. SMART/Richmond Lenox EMS Report

**MOTION by Stier supported by Bart to receive and file the December 2021 Department Reports.  
MOTION carried.**

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Fiscal Agency Agreement

Jarzyna stated Bob Seibert, Township Attorney reviewed the fiscal agency agreement and stated it is similar to Chesterfield Townships and had no objection.

**MOTION by Grader supported by Bart to approve the Fiscal Agency Agreement with the Ray Township Public Library with the date change.**

**FOR THIS MOTION:     Yes: Grader, Bart, Stier, Lascoe, Jarzyna  
                                  No: None**

**MOTION carried.**

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Allocate Community Development Block Grant Service Funds \$2,500.00

Trustee Stier stated the non-profit agency that are requesting CDBG funds are the Samaritan House, Care House and MCREST.

Trustee Grader stated Ray Township offers senior activities including senior exercise. She encouraged resident to attend the activities. Further stated she would like the CDBG funds to be allocated for the senior director and fitness instructor wages.

**MOTION by Grader supported by Jarzyna to allocate the Community Development Block Grant Service funds of \$2,500.00 for the wages of the Ray Township senior director and fitness instructor wages.**

**NAY: Stier**

**MOTION carried.**

b. Township owned property status for 2022

Jarzyna stated the Assessor has provided a report of the property owned by the Township.

Grader questioned the location of the North Avenue parcel.

Jarzyna stated property is located approximately 26½ Mile Road on the east side of North Avenue.

**MOTION by Lascoe supported by Grader to accept Assessor report for the Township owned parcels and for the parcels to remain off the tax rolls for 2022.**

**MOTION carried.**

c. Non-Sufficient Fund Policy for returned checks

Treasurer Bart explained the need to update the NSF policy. She stated currently the charge is \$5.00 for checks that are returned which does not cover the cost of the follow up with the check writer, the employee time to issue another invoice and the time involved for the accountant and her time. She recommended the Township fee should be a minimum of \$15.00 along with Huntington Bank current charge of \$35.00 for NSF.

**MOTION by Stier supported by Lascoe to approve the Non-Sufficient Fund Policy for returned check of \$15.00 along with the cost from Huntington Bank.**

**MOTION carried.**

d. Request to attend MI Municipal Treasurers Association 2022 Conference

Treasurer Bart requested to attend the 2022 Basis Institute with Michigan Municipal Treasurer Association in Mt Pleasant from April 24-29 for \$550.00 which covers materials and most meals. She explained the program is a three year program and last year she attended by Zoom. Further the discounted rate as a member is \$85.00 night.

**MOTION by Stier supported by Lascoe to approve the request to attend the Michigan Municipal Treasurer Association in Mt Pleasant with the cost not to exceed \$975.00 plus mileage.**

**MOTION carried.**

e. Employee request to carry over one week of vacation time

Jarzyna stated the employee is requesting to carry over one week of vacation time to the 2022-23 year since he banks his compensation time from snowplowing before using his earned vacation time.

**MOTION by Lascoe supported by Bart to allow employee to carry over one week of vacation time from the present year to 2022-23 as requested.**

**MOTION carried.**

f. Schedule Public Hearing for proposed Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget to February 15, 2022

**MOTION by Lascoe supported by Jarzyna to schedule the Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget Hearing to February 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

**MOTION carried.**

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chief DiMaria apologized to the Board for not providing a monthly report last month. He explained with technology the documents were not sent electronically. He thanked State Representative, Jeff Yaroch for expanding HB 4172 for the State's First Responders Presumed Coverage Fund to include coverage for volunteers, part-time and paid on-call firefighters' coverage.

Jaime Greene, City of Richmond, introduced herself and stated she is running for State Representative seat for District 65 for the vacated seat of Jeff Yaroch. She stated she has sat on the City Council for Richmond since 2011 and served in the U.S. Navy for four years.

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Jeff Yaroch, State Representative stated it has been an honor to serve the residents and he has met his term limits. He thanked Chief DiMaria for mentioning the State's First Responders Presumed Coverage Fund which was signed into law on 1-1-22. He stated he knows Jaime Greene from sitting on the city council with her and feels she is a great candidate. Further explained funding has been approved for broadband and the state will have a two month supply of PPE in case of pandemic.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION by Stier supported by Grader to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.**

**MOTION carried.**

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Joe Jarzyna, Supervisor

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Lori R. Lascoe, MiPMC  
Clerk  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date