

# **BALTIMORE TOWNSHIP MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**

**April 11, 2017**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Supervisor Chad VanSyckle, Treasurer Melissa VanSyckle, Clerk Penelope Ypma, Trustee Mike Altoft, Trustee Jake Ypma.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor VanSyckle.

**Pledge of Allegiance** to the flag was recited.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Several audience members were present. Gene Willison asked about the Cardmember bill.

**GUESTS:** Steven Storrs, Attorney representing Scott Adams.  
Julie Nakfoor-Pratt, Barry County Prosecuting Attorney  
Michael Callton

The above guests spoke to the public and board regarding the new marijuana legislation and the request before the board to approve Scott Adams as a marijuana grower in our township. The new legislation provides for five different licensing options: a grower, processor, provisioning center, secure transporters, and safety compliance facilities (Distilleries). The State is expected to start accepting applications for licenses in December and begin issuing licenses early in 2018. The State has placed the decision-making onto the townships as to whether they “opt in” or “opt out.” A question and answer session took place with the audience.

**MINUTES:** Without objection or correction, the March 14, 2017 minutes were approved. Moved by P. Ypma, supported by C. VanSyckle. All ayes. Motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Report provided. No discussion. Approved as read.

**APPROVE WARRANTS:** Moved by J. Ypma, supported by M. Altoft, to approve payment for checks # 11212-11237 in the amount of \$11,454.92. All ayes. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

\*Non-Sufficient Funds Policy – Clerk Ypma presented the board with a copy of a sample policy provided by MTA. The board decided to table approval until the May 2017 meeting giving the board time to read the sample policy.

\*Sexton Contract – Moved by J. Ypma, supported by M. Altoft to approve Gordon Roush as our cemetery sexton. ROLL CALL VOTE: All ayes. Motion carried.

\*Marijuana Grower Request – Discussion took place. Moved by J. Ypma, supported by P. Ypma, to table until May 2017 meeting so that the board can continue to educate themselves and follow the latest updates from the State and MTA.

**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT** – Supervisor VanSyckle reported that he met with Michelle Skedgell from Pierce Cedar Creek Institute regarding a recycling center.

**COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:** Commissioner Heather Wing presented a report.

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT:** Linda Mellen spoke regarding the recent school tax increase. Jack Ward introduced himself as the new Barry County Zoning Ordinance Enforcement Officer. George Cullers complimented the board in regard to the discussion regarding the marijuana request. Chuck Jordon asked about the roads being graded. Jim Dull reported that he appreciates that the board took public comments on the marijuana request. Gene Willison asked if the township had an ordinance regarding mud runs.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

ATTESTED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chad VanSyckle, Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Penelope J. Ypma, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date