

Special Meeting of the Burt Township Board

July 14, 2006 – 7:00 p.m.

Woodland Park Pavilion ~ Taking the Open Meetings Act one step further!

Attendance: Kay Wampler, James Seibert, Gordon Kniss, Lois Leavenworth – **Citizens:** approx 8

Approval of the Agenda: **Motion** by Gordon Kniss, second by James Seibert to approve the agenda. 4 ayes

Agenda and Actions Taken: **A) Appoint Member of Board as Acting Supervisor**– Wampler requested that the board appoint one of its members to serve as Acting Supervisor in light of the upcoming Board of Review on the 18th. Wampler checked the “Authorities and Responsibilities” (little red book) and the law and found no direct reference of succession in the event the Supervisor resigned ~ **Motion** by James Seibert, second by Gordon Kniss to appoint Kay Wampler as the Acting Supervisor – 3 ayes, 1 abstain ~ **Motion** by James Seibert, second by Gordon Kniss to give Kay Wampler full Supervisor pay (in addition to the Clerks salary) until a Supervisor is seated – 3 ayes, 1 abstain. **B) Hiring an Assessor and Update on Status with the State Tax Commission (STC):** Wampler has spoken with the STC (Kelli Sobel, Executive Secretary and Mike Gillett), the prior/current Assessor, and 2 candidates for the position. Of note, Mike Gillett will be here on Monday, July 17th to review the items being presented to the BOR and has informed Mark Maki to also be in attendance. Mike Gillett will stay to approve any changes as a result of the BOR meeting. STC, Kelli Sobel indicated that she could give us an extra month on the 90 day deadline in light of the recent changes on the board. Mike Foust (candidate for Assessor) has spoken with the STC requesting an extra year in meeting the total reassessment, his proposal is \$15.00 per parcel, \$23,640 for the total reappraisal (over 2 years) includes most expenses for postage, paper, etc... Ongoing assessing is \$18,912 (\$12.00 per parcel), payable monthly at \$1576 beginning in August 2006 including “all mileage, telephone calls and most office supply costs”. Jeff Pecotte (candidate for Assessor) was to fax a revised proposal @ \$30.00 per parcel for our review – never received. Board Members questioned the cost of Mike Foust for travel ~ **Motion** by Lois Leavenworth, second by James Seibert to hire Mike Foust as assessor in accordance with his proposal – 4 ayes. **C) Update on Insurance Claims filed:** Wampler reported her findings in regards to the claims filed by former supervisor Durrwachter ~ two (2) bond claims have been filed ~ one for “Failure to File Taxes” in the amounts of \$15,325.88, \$4,103.45, \$1,676.94 and \$5,517.29 for the years 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005 respectively ~ one against the Assessor for failing on the 14-Point review by the STC ~ this claim was incomplete. Jim Youngblood of Midwest Claims advised that surety bonds work like a loan, collateral would be secured until any claims against the bonds are repaid. The claim against the assessor also included reference to the auditor to be filed at a later date. At this time, there is no action on the claims, Mr Youngblood is overseeing them and has placed them on hold until further notice. **D) Update on Bank Loans/documents from the Bank:** Wampler has secured copies of the loans from the bank, Lee Durrwachter and James Seibert are shown as signers on the loans at a rate of 4.950%, and currently owing \$70,787.17 including interest to date ~ collateral is listed as “Taxing Authority of Burt Township”. As these loans were obtained without proper authorization of the Board or the Voters, Wampler asked Seibert to check the CD’s the Township holds (not acquired through special milage) with the option of cashing them in to repay the loans as soon as possible in the hope of recovering the money through insurance, claims against the auditor, or other options that are being undertaken by John Underhill. **E) Approve change of August 8th Regular Meeting to the 15th due to the Primary Election:** Although discussed on the 11th, the Board never entertained a motion to approve the change ~ **Motion** by Lois Leavenworth, second by Gordon Kniss to approve – 4 ayes. **E) Other:** Seibert reported that Sandee Sibbald and the All-Nighters collected over \$700 in donations to the fireworks, split between the Township and the Chamber, for a total of \$344 each – Seibert asked that a letter of thanks be written to the group. Wampler offered to write the letter.

Public Comment: Discussions over the loans, insurance claims, receipt of the Supervisors records, seating a replacement to the Supervisors position, John Underhill’s references, and use of the RLF were fielded. Seibert indicated that the RLF gave the Township a “Grant” to purchase the “Hoffman Property” next to the Marina for \$50,000 with no provision for repayment ~ further he stated that most communities who obtained funds for an RLF from the State no longer have any of it left. Seibert also indicated that the board could sell that parcel and return the funds to the RLF. The board has 45 days from the effective date of the resignation(s) to seat replacements ~ Wampler has a call into the County Clerk to provide more guidelines and ensure we handle everything properly.

Adjournment: Motion by Lois Leavenworth and seconded by James Seibert to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. – 4 ayes

Respectfully submitted: July 15, 2006,

Kay L. Wampler, Township Clerk

Approved: _____, 2006 on Motion by _____, seconded by _____ ~ _____ ayes, ___ nay’s