

<p style="text-align: center;"> YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES <u>Special Meeting</u> <u>Introduction of New Trustee: Michael Boysen</u> <u>Tuesday, December 12, 2017</u> 7:00 p.m. Yankee Springs Fire Station 1425 S. Payne Lake Rd., Wayland, Michigan 49348 MINUTES </p>	<p> MINUTES Spec. Mtg/Intro. M. Boysen, New Trustee Page 1 of 4 Approved Jan. 11, 2018 </p>
<p> <u>Meeting called to order at approximately 7:05 p.m.</u> <u>Pledge of Allegiance led by Donald Boysen.</u> <u>Oath of Office</u> administered to Michael Boysen with his father, Donald Boysen, former Supervisor of Thornapple Township present and signing as a witness. Oath administered by Clerk Jan Lippert. <u>Roll Call Present:</u> M. Englerth (Supervisor), S. VandenBerg (Trustee), A. Jansma (Treasurer), and M. Boysen (Trustee). (All Present). Staff Present: Frank Fiala, Greg Purcell, Rich Beukema. Visitors: Vivian Conner; Mike Boysen; Rachel Carter; Cole Boysen; Christian Yonkers; (not including staff present) </p>	<p> CALL TO ORDER <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> ROLL CALL </p>
<p> PURPOSE OF MEETING: Supervisor Englerth has called this Special Meeting to introduce newly appointed Trustee – Michael Boysen. Supervisor Englerth welcomed those present and introduced the new Trustee, Michael Boysen. Michael Boysen introduced his wife, Rachel Carter, an occupational therapist, and son, Cole Boysen, a middle schooler at TK Schools. Boysen commented that he works at New Holland Brewery in Holland, MI every day. Boysen’s father, Donald, and his mother, Joanne, whom reside in Carveth Village in Middleville, were introduced as well. Alice Jansma, Treasurer, introduced herself. She is serving on the Board in her second year, for the second time, having served in prior years. Jan Lippert, commented that she has been here since 1994. She has continued to run and serve the community as best she can as Clerk. </p>	<p> PURPOSE OF MEETING </p>

Board Introductions - continued

Shane VandenBerg, Trustee, commented that he is in his first year on the board. He is in the building trade and thinking of about taking the winter off as it is a little chilly outside.

Mark Englerth, Supervisor, commented that he spent his summers on the lake (Gun), and was raised in Hastings. Englerth made Gun Lake his home approximately 30 years ago.

Those in attendance: (Introducing themselves)

Dan Parker, Barry County Commissioner

Vivian Conner, Barry County Commissioner

Richard Beukema, involved in Planning & Zoning of Yankee Springs Twp. currently serves on Planning Commission and has served on ZBA.

Frank Fiala, YS Planning Commission, formerly on ZBA, Current Chairman of Barry County Road Commission

Greg Purcell, Planning Commission Chair, former Administrator of Calhoun County

Christian Yonkers, J-Ad Reporter

Audience Introductions

Discussions – Questions – Information:

Michael Boysen commented that prior to his five years at New Holland Brewery, he was self-employed as a contractor, mostly working for the furniture industry. At New Holland Brewery, he started out in operations and then went into Campus Management, building everything from dragons to travel trailers rebuilt into traveling bars.

J. Lippert commented that she appreciated that M. Boysen said in his interview that he read the local paper and was aware of the difficult stage and problems of the township. Jan asked Don Boysen why Michael didn't pursue a newspaper career. With a smile, D. Boysen commented that Michael decided to pursue other things.

Alice Jansma commented that she is happy that the township has someone in the age group that is a little bit more lively and that will bring some new ideas to township, which is really important.

Shane VandenBerg commented that he is excited and looking forward to a smooth ride. VandenBerg commented that he thinks things will smooth out and be helpful.

Discussions – Questions – Information

M. Englerth commented on the Wish List on the Board at the township hall. M. Englerth commented on Walkable Communities as a priority on a recent survey. Englerth mentioned other projects such as: improving fire service, cemeteries, Veterans Memorial. Englerth commented on successful projects that he worked on at a county level.

Alice Jansma commented on having a need to re-evaluate the township's priorities. "The stuff on the township board (whiteboard) needs to be erased, and we need to start over," commented Jansma. "We haven't followed through on much of anything on that (white) board," added Jansma. "We do need to follow through and set our priorities from a different standpoint," commented Jansma.

M. Englerth commented that he agreed with Jansma, and the township needs to re-evaluate, "and other things pop up, too."

G. Purcell, PC Chairman commented that he had three questions for Michael Boysen. First, Purcell wanted to know why Boysen wanted to "throw in his hat." Second, what does Boysen want to focus on or accomplish in his new role as trustee? Thirdly, Purcell would like to see some continuity and this is a "temporary" trustee position. Will Boysen run in the August primary?

M. Boysen commented that the only way to do something about something you disagree with- is to get involved. According to M. Boysen, over the years, he has figured out how to get people to work together. He's learned to listen more and pay attention truly to what people are saying even if he disagrees with them. Boysen commented on the polarization of the current national political situation. He feels that it starts in the community, the "you and me's". "Even if you totally disagree with somebody's political nature, you can find common ground in anything if you work at it hard enough," commented M. Boysen. "I work with people that I vehemently disagree with their political views but I will not stop being their friend. I will not stop knowing them just because of that. You know you can get mad and you can swear a lot or you can figure ways to bring people together and it's a challenge. It's a huge challenge. So my goal for this township is purely that. It is to figure out how to cement a lot of ideas that may be at different ends of the table together somehow. And to get an outcome for the community because that is who we work for- the community. And I get that. And I'm the community. My view of government is probably different than a lot of people. A lot of people like to think of government as "them"...Government is "us". And it is up to "us" to do something about it. I had no idea this would happen this fast... You put out there your intentions and you're clear about what you want to do, and it's kind of magical how things happen. Things fall in your lap, and there you go. You're off and running," commented M. Boysen. Regarding continuity (and running in the August Primary), M. Boysen commented, "I don't know. I wish I had a crystal ball. I hope so. I hope to continue this. If I get along with people and the things that I want to accomplish or think I can do- works, then why not continue on? It would be ideal. It's a valid question because obviously continuity is important to a group of people to get things accomplished."

J. Lippert, Clerk, commented that the December township calendar was available on the

website and it changes daily. J. Lippert presented a paperwork packet for M. Boysen's monthly payment, along with other information regarding YS Township's: fiscal year, budget, Board Rules of Engagement, and Capital Improvement Plan 2017-2022. MTA information will be sent to M. Boysen as well on Trustee responsibilities. Lippert stated YS is a "general law township," not a Charter. YS Township is a 5-member board- elected. The Dec. 14 Board meeting agenda packet was given to M. Boysen. "We strive to meet the Thursday before the board meeting to put the agenda in order as listed," added J. Lippert.

A. Jansma added that minutes are added to the agenda from the Water Advisory Committee.

M. Englerth commented that one person changing (on the Board) can change the whole complexion of the whole Board. Englerth commented on the county commission having two meetings per month. The first meeting is a "Committee of the Whole" and what comes out of the "Committee as a Whole" serves as the board agenda. Englerth commented on some of the struggles of running the township meeting and working with agenda items without much notice.

Englerth also mentioned educational classes offered by MTA and stipends and mileage that are paid (to certain township board members). The MTA Conference of 2018 is scheduled for April in Traverse City.

Donald Boysen commented on the Rotary having "**The Four Way Test**" of the things they think, say or do.

The first one is: Is it the truth?

Secondly: Is it fair to all concerned?

Third: Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Fourth: Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

D. Boysen commented that Yankee Springs is big enough to go to a seven (7) member board. D. Boysen felt that a seven (7) member board was good because they could work with 3 board member committees (which aren't a majority) and not have to have the press wondering what you are doing (but you do it openly, of course). D. Boysen suggested putting a Board member on a committee which helps keep the flow going.

ADJOURNMENT:

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Motion to adjourn by A. Jansma with support from J. Lippert at 7:53 p.m. Approved by all. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted: Date: _____
Deb Mousseau (via audio)
Recording Secretary 12.12.17

Approved : January 11, 2018
Janice C. Lippert, Township Clerk