

**BILLINGS TOWNSHIP  
SPECIAL TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2017**

**Call to Order:** Supervisor Larry Grell called meeting to order meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Larry Nelson, Larry Grell, Brian Johnson, Carl Malott and Lydia Goschke.

**Members Absent:** None

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Pledge Allegiance led by Larry Grell.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Larry Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda, Carl Malott 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

**Meeting Business:** Larry Grell asked Lydia Goshcke if she wanted an open or closed meeting under the Open Close Act. Lydia's response was open meeting. Larry Grell preceded with clerks issues. Larry Grell said there are a couple of issues. The main issue was some taxes taken out and paid for at one time checks were issued. The board wants to know if you want to stay or resign; before you answer this the board cannot take you out according to MTA, once you are appointed it is the same as being elected. This being said, we want to make it clear that Linda is not your secretary or whatever you call it. She will only be working on special projects such the cemetery and as the board sees fit. We are going to hold the office to higher standards. Anyone that walks into the office and ask for something you should know where it is and the minute's book up to date. As Carl mentioned the reconciliation need to be current. Clerk is expected to take classes because you cannot learn by osmosis. This office has to change and be held up to a higher standard. Larry asked Carl for his input. Carl stated the following:

- Clerk not doing her job
- No classes taken
- Need training

Carl was interrupted by Lydia to say let's get to the meat of the issue. Larry Nelson also stated before we get to the meat of the issue I want to state what Larry Grell said before about elections. For years the clerk has had help with the absentee ballots as long as I have been here. As far as the board is concern that is the only thing the deputy should be doing. Everything else should be done by the clerk for the elections. Brian brought up he went online for duties of a deputy for the clerk and supervisor. There was more discussions on the 3 levels of deputy responsibility which Lydia stated she had a print out. Larry Nelson said the board needs to see this. Discussion broke out among the board members concerning the deputy's duties not only for the clerk's office but the supervisor's office. Larry Grell said, I think that this is getting pass our issue. Carl said let's get back to the meat of this. Brian mentioned he had to leave in 4 minutes which would be 8:15 a.m. Larry Grell said you guys have anything more to say? Brian said that is all I have to say. Larry Grell said so, Lydia up to you if you want to stay; Larry Nelson said we need to discuss the issue. Lydia explained that Kathie was in to help with the W-2's and

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that is where it was discovered that no taxes were taken from her last 4 paychecks when she became clerk. Lydia explained the software was not set up on my account for my Social Security on the last four checks. So I ended up owing \$336.00 to the township because they put that in. So, I didn't have it at the time. I asked Larry Nelson I said, (I) we messed up on my paycheck didn't get Social Security but I can't afford it can I pay a little latter and you said that is ok. Lydia ...Yup. I remember I talked to you going into your office. Is it okay, can I pay later and you said fine? Larry Nelson, I am not going to sit here and say you didn't but I will sit here and say certainly I do not recall it. I'm sorry. Lydia, Ok, I would not have done it this way I was, and your right, my fault. If I couldn't make the lump payment, I should have made at lease what I set aside which is \$50.00 a month into the coffers, I didn't. I was planning on just paying all in one lump sum. Carl ... My question is how come it took you so long to do it until you were confronted? Then, you decided to pay it. Lydia said I didn't just decide. I put aside \$50.00 a month since February. I didn't have the money. Discussion continued between Carl and Lydia. Brian said she already said that we don't need to go over again. You're beating a dead horse. (Brian Johnson left at this time). Lydia decided to resign as Clerk for Billings Twp. The board recessed 8:43 a.m. to give Lydia time to type and hand in her resignation. Meeting reopened in 10 minutes at 9:53 a.m. Lydia presented a check to the township for the amount owed totaling \$337.40. Lydia turned in her resignation to the board. Motioned was made by Larry Grell to accept Lydia Goschke resignation, Carl Malott, 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. Motion carried. At this time Lydia turned in her keys and collected her personal effects. Board had a discussion about an interim clerk with Linda McSweyn. Motion made by Larry Grell to accept Linda McSweyn as Clerk, Carl Malott 2nd. Roll Call Vote: Carl Malott-Yes, Larry Nelson-Yes, Larry Grell-Yes. Motion carried.

No Public Comment. No Board Comment. Motion made by Larry Nelson to adjourn, Carl 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3ayes, 0 nays. Motioned carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Minutes approved at Billings Township Board meeting \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**LARRY GRELL, SUPERVISOR**

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**LINDA J. MCSWEYN, CLERK**