

Ontario Empire Zone Acreage Growing

By Jason Schultz – Wayne County Mail Reporter (excerpts from WCM article 5/1/08)

ONTARIO – The town of Ontario hopes to improve the health of its industrial base, with the addition Monday of more than 100 acres of Empire Zone to the town’s main industrial park.

The main news from the night’s town board meeting was the adoption of a resolution in support of the Wayne County Empire Zone Revision Plan.

Town Supervisor Bob Kelsch said the plan creates more Empire Zone land in the town’s industrial park, with the addition of Empire Zone acreages from elsewhere in the county.

“The way it works is that the state tells the county how many acres of Empire Zone they can dole out, and the

county distributes that to the towns as the county sees fit, but the town has to agree to the county’s allotment,” he explained. “The county’s plan was to add Empire Zone in this area, and we signed off on it.”

Kelsch said that as part of the redistribution, 51 acres of Empire Zone property were moved from north of the Industrial Park, and combined with Empire Zone from two other towns totaling 102 acres, to east of the Industrial Park on Dean Parkway opposite Lincoln Road.

Kelsch said the redistribution of Empire Zones enhances the possibility of businesses coming in, because of the tax benefits it confers.