

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

Unapproved Minutes

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Sheets at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Sheets, Mead, Burns, Delonnay, Case.
Absent: None.
Staff: Hanmer, Fernelius.
Guests: 5 guests in attendance.

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Mead to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Case. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2008 as presented. Supported by Mead. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer presented a financial report for the month of August from the General and Fire Funds. (Copy of report attached to minutes in the Record Book)

Discussion.

Motion by Case to approve the Treasurer's report for the month of August as presented. Supported by Burns. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

(A) Approval of bills

Clerk presented vouchers for the month of August from the General Fund in the amount of \$29,098.29. Vouchers #19273 thru #19332.

Clerk presented vouchers for the month of August from the Fire Fund in the amount of \$1,560.60. Vouchers # 6304 thru # 6316.

Clerk presented bills for the month of September.

Clerk presented to the board for their review, an end of the month Trial Balance.

Motion by Case that bills be allowed as presented by the Clerk. Supported by Burns. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: Delonnay, yes. Sheets, yes. Case, yes. Burns, yes. Mead, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. John Brakora – 85th District Judgeship – Manistee & Benzie County.

Mr. Brakora introduced himself as a candidate running for the 85th District Judgeship for Manistee-Benzie County.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor updated the board on several items.

STAFF REPORTS:

(A) Fire Chief:

Reported for the month of August:
5 fire runs; 23 medical runs.

- (B) Cemetery Sexton: Chief reported to the board on several items. Report received.
- (C) Township Attorney: Letter from Mr. Figurs regarding Health Insurance to be handled later in the meeting.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Clerk read communications which are on file in her office.

ACTION ON COMMUNICATION ITEMS:

None.

PENDING BUSINESS:

(A) Committee Reports

- 1. Cemetery: No report.
- 2. Building & Grounds: Burns reported on costs for purchasing Voice Mail service – an amount of \$696.57 which includes a governmental discount.

Motion by Burns that the Township has the voice mail installed at a cost of \$696.57 from Communications Solutions. Supported by Delonay. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: Sheets, yes. Burns, yes. Case, yes. Mead, yes. Delonay, yes. Motion carried.

- 3. Fire Department: Clerk reported. Discussed organizing a committee to study Fire Hall Plans.

Motion by Burns to purchase a smoke machine for the Fire Department in the amount of \$815.00. Supported by Delonay. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: Burns, yes. Mead, yes. Case, yes. Delonay, yes. Sheets, yes. Motion carried.

- 4. Township Roads: Case reported that the 2nd brining has been Done.
- 5. Community Activities: Burns reported about the Web Page plans.

Discussed publication of the Blight Ordinance.

Discussion regarding the Truth In Taxation

Motion by Burns to hold a Public Hearing on Truth In Taxation in conjunction with our Regular Meeting of October 8th, and also that the Clerk will advertise it in the local paper, after getting the information from the Supervisor and the Assessor. Supported by Mead. Discussion. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

- 6. Finance: Mead reported that the committee issue would be handled under New Business.
- 7. Personnel: No report.
- 8. Park: Burns reported.
- 9. Policy: No report.
- 10. County ZBA: No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Health Insurance

Burns reported on advice from Mr. Cool the accountant. Discussion. No action taken.

2. ORV Ordinance

Discussion.

Motion by Case that the Township Board reaffirm its position taken at the February meeting of the Township Board, in being opposed to granting the ORV Ordinance in Benzonia Township. Supported by Mead. Roll Call Vote: Sheets, yes. Mead, yes. Delonay, yes. Case, yes. Burns, yes. Motion carried.

***Case suggested a Work Session meeting to determine appointments for a Fire Hall Study Committee, and also regarding the Blight Ordinance and how to enforce it.**

***Supervisor scheduled a special meeting for Wednesday, September 24th at 10:00 a.m.**

Discussed possible dates for the joint meeting with Lake Township – suggested times of Wednesday, September 17th – A.M. meeting – or Friday, September 19th – A.M. meeting.

***Supervisor will confer with Bill Crawford regarding these dates and report back.**

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:

Clerk reported that we are exploring the possibility of moving the election into the Fire Hall.

***Brent Danielson introduced himself as a candidate re-running for the 85th District Judgeship for Benzie-Manistee Counties.**

Comment was received from DonTanner regarding a Public Input Session scheduled for September 22nd – taking public input on the new County Recreation Plan.

Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:53 pm.

The full proceedings of these minutes are on tape in the Clerk's office for thirty days after approval of them.

Submitted by:

Judy Herban
Recording Secretary

Patricia A. Mead
Township Clerk