

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2013

Approved Minutes

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

Present: Sheets, Heller, Burns, Priest, Barnard.
Absent: None.
Staff: Hanmer, Fernelius, Neiger.
Guests: 2 guests in attendance.

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2013, and Special Meetings of January 23, & 31, 2013 as presented. Supported by Priest. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

Discussion.

Motion by Heller to approve the Treasurer's report for the month of January as presented. Supported by Barnard. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

- (A) Approval of bills
Discussion.

Clerk presented bills for the month of February.

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

Motion by Burns that bills be allowed as presented by the Clerk. Supported by Barnard. Roll Call Vote: Barnard, yes. Burns, yes. Priest, yes. Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Motion carried.

***Clerk presented a copy of the New Reports to be given each month, as a result of the new bookkeeping system.**

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor updated the board on several items.

1. Presented a request from the Sheriff's Dept. for financial support of the Snowmobile Program.
Discussion.

Motion by Barnard to give \$300 to the Snowmobile Patrol Fund for the Sheriff's Dept. Supported by Burns.. Roll Call Vote: Barnard, yes. Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Burns, yes. Priest, yes. Motion carried.

2. Presented a proposed new burial fee schedule for the cemetery by the Sexton. Discussion.
***Will be adopted by resolution at the March meeting.**

3. Poverty Guidelines Resolution .
Discussion.

Motion by Burns to adopt the Benzonia Township Poverty Guidelines Resolution as presented by the Supervisor. Supported by Priest. Roll Call Vote: Burns, yes. Priest, yes. Heller, yes. Sheets, yes. Barnard, yes. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

***Supervisor noted the Public Notice has been sent to the paper for the Board of Review Meeting Dates and Times.**

***Board concurred to change the meeting date for the March meeting to Tuesday, March 12th. The Budget Hearing to be held at 7:00 p.m. – with the Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

STAFF REPORTS

- (A) Fire Chief: Reported for the month of January:
4 fire runs; 12 medical runs.

Chief updated the board on several items.
- (B) Cemetery Sexton: Report received.
- (C) Township Attorney: No report.
- (D) Commissioner Report: Mr. Rineer updated the board on several items regarding County business.
- (E) Zoning Administrator: Neiger reported on several items.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

ACTION ON COMMUNICATION ITEMS:

None.

PENDING BUSINESS:

- (A) Committee reports were received.

- 1. Cemetery:

***Resolution for new Burial fees to be adopted at the March meeting.**

- 2. Community Activities: Supervisor and Burns reported on contributing the 2nd payment of \$1,000 for the skating rink.

Motion by Barnard to send the additional \$1,000 for the skating rink. Supported by Burns. Roll Call Vote: Barnard, yes. Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Priest, yes. Burns, yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Poverty Exemptions

***Handled under the Supervisor's Report. Resolution to be adopted at the March meeting.**

- 2. Blight Elimination Ordinance

Motion by Barnard to adopt the Blight Elimination Ordinance as presented by the Blight Enforcement Officer, subject to Mr. Figura's opinion, which will supersede the other ordinance, language of Section 6. Effective Date. Supported by Burns. Roll Call Vote: Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Priest, yes. Burns, yes. Barnard, yes. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

3. Municipal Civil Infraction Notice and Citation Ordinance

Motion by Barnard to adopt the Municipal Civil Infraction Notice and Citation Ordinance as presented. Supported by Priest. Roll Call Vote: Priest, yes. Heller, yes. Barnard, yes. Burns, yes. Sheets, yes. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

***Clerk noted that the Salaries, Wages and Contracts For Fiscal Year 2013-2014 submitted to the Township Board at their Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2013 has been laid on the table.**

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comment was received regarding the Watershed Regulations, and also discussion of the wetlands behind the Crystal Lake Mini Golf area.

Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

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

Diana L. Heller
Township Clerk