

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2014

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

Present: Sheets, Heller, Burns, Priest.
Absent: Barnard. ***Barnard arrived at 7:40 p.m.**
Staff: Hanmer, Ferneilius.
Guests: 2 guests in attendance & G. Rineer, Comm.

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Burns to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Priest. Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 12, 2014 as presented. Supported by Priest. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

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

CLERK'S REPORT

(A) Approval of bills
Discussion.

Clerk presented bills for the month of December.

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 Priest. Roll Call Vote: Burns, yes. Priest, yes. Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Barnard, absent. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor updated the board on several items.

Request from BACN to apply for the 2% grant from the Grand Traverse Band:

Motion by Heller that the Supervisor completes the paperwork for BACN to receive the 2% grant from the Grand Traverse Band. Supported by Burns. Roll Call Vote: Burns, yes. Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Priest, yes. Barnard, absent. Motion carried.

Request from Sheriff Schendel asking for funding of the Snowmobile Trail program.

Discussion.

Motion by Heller to table the request from Sheriff Schendel for funding the Snowmobile Trail. Supported by Barnard. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS:

(A) <u>Fire Chief:</u>	Reported for the month of November: 10 fire runs; 11 medical runs. Chief updated the board on several items.
(B) <u>Cemetery Sexton:</u>	Report received.
(C) <u>Township Attorney:</u>	No report.
(D) <u>Commissioner Report:</u>	Mr. Rineer updated the board on several items regarding County business.
(E) <u>Zoning Administrator:</u>	Not present. No report.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comment received requesting the coat rack in the entryway be moved – making the men's restroom accessible by wheelchair.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Letter from Malene Wood, Recycling Co-ordinator – Goals & Objectives and Survey request.

ACTION ON COMMUNICATION ITEMS:

Survey request for individual response.

PENDING BUSINESS:

(A) Committee reports were received.

Community Activities:

Burns reported on a request from Dennis Pace – County Recs & Park – asking for support again of the ice skating rink program. Discussion.

Motion by Burns to give the \$1,000 support for the ice rink, and another \$1,000 in February if needed. Supported by Barnard. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: Burns, yes. Priest, yes. Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Barnard, yes. Motion carried.

Finance:

Burns reported about the possibility of a credit card for Tractor Supply. Discussion followed. ***Tabled until spring and further study about it.**

Discussion regarding Personal Property Taxes:

Motion by Burns to have the Assessor send postcard reminders to the businesses that have software to report their personal property for the year, and also have the Assessor only send the exemption forms to the businesses whose SEV is below 80,000. Supported by Priest. Discussion. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion Fireworks Ordinance.

Ongoing discussion followed - searching for information regarding it.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Diana L. Heller
Township Clerk