

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2015

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

Present: Sheets, Heller, Burns, Priest, Barnard.

Absent: None.

Staff: Guests: 1 guest in attendance & C. Carland, Comm.

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**\*Supervisor added to the agenda under New Business – Poverty Exemptions for 2015.**

Motion by Barnard to approve the agenda, as amended, and presented. Supported by Priest. Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2015, and Special Meetings of January 22<sup>nd</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, and February 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as presented. Supported by Barnard. 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)

Motion by Heller to approve the Treasurer's report for the month of January as presented. Supported by Burns. 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 Barnard that bills be allowed as presented by the Clerk. Supported by Burns. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: Burns, yes. Barnard, yes. Sheets, yes. Priest, yes. Heller, yes. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor updated the board on several items.

- 1. Noted there is a scheduled Township Board Meeting with Lake Township – there at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> – regarding Deadstream Rd. Supervisor has invited Heather Jamison & Ingemar Johansson.**
- 2. Supervisor asks to waive the fines for the Turner's on Aylsworth Rd. – regarding a blight issue. Discussion followed.**
- 3. Supervisor noted the need to adopt the resolution for the Poverty Guidelines for 2015.**
- 4. Supervisor also noted that the resolution for the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan needs to be adopted.**
- 5. Reported that the Board of Review begins on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 which conflicts with the Township Board Regular Meeting. Discussion. \*Supervisor rescheduled the Township Board Meeting for March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for the Budget Hearing – with the Regular Meeting following.**

6. Supervisor received an email from Alison – Platte Township regarding the planned WBJPC meeting on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> - at a time of our choosing. Their trustees will not be there but that there will be a quorum. \*Supervisor set the time for the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

7. Supervisor is considering a cancellation of the MTA Chapter Meeting scheduled at Benzonia Township on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. – due to the weather.

**Blight Issue Aylsworth Rd:**

Motion by Barnard to disregard Turner’s infractions, and to leave the defendant and his mother up to the Supervisor and Blight officer, Dave Negier’s decision. Supported by Heller. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Priest, yes. Barnard, yes. Burns, yes. Motion carried.

**Poverty Guidelines Resolution 2015:**

Motion by Burns to adopt the Benzonia Township Poverty Guidelines for 2015 as presented. Supported by Priest. Roll Call Vote: Barnard, yes. Burns, yes. Priest, yes. Heller, yes. Sheets, yes. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

**Resolution Natural Hazard Mitigation:**

Motion by Burns to adopt the Benzonia Township Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Supported by Barnard. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: Burns, yes. Sheets, yes. Heller, yes. Barnard, yes. Priest, yes. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| (A) <u>Fire Chief:</u>           | Reported for the month of January:<br>1 fire run; 7 medical runs.<br><br>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. Carland updated the board on several items regarding County business.  |
| (E) <u>Zoning Administrator:</u> | Report received. Presented a 2014 Year End Report.   |

**BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Email to Clerk from Fire Chief – Public Officials Workshop on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the Government Center.

**ACTION ON COMMUNICATION ITEMS:**

None.

**PENDING BUSINESS:**

- (A) Committee reports were received.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**L Discussion Fireworks Ordinance.**

Supervisor reported that there is no new legislation pending.

**2. Snowmobile Patrol – Sheriff’s Dept.**

Motion by Barnard to contribute to the Sheriff’s Dept. Snowmobile Patrol not

to exceed \$300.00. Supported by Sheets. Roll Call Vote: Barnard, yes. Heller, yes. Burns, no. Priest, yes. Sheets, yes. Motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:26 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,

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Diana L. Heller  
Township Clerk