

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

APPROVED

REGULAR MEETING, July 12, 2017

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Barnard at 7:30pm.

Present: Barnard, Priest, Sheets, Burns, Heller
Absent: None
Staff: Fernelius, Miner, Adams, Carland
Guests: 0 guest in attendance

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Burns to approve the agenda as amended, supported by Priest. All Ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes from the Regular board meeting, June 14, 2017. Priest supported. All Ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

A financial report for the month of June from the General and Fire Funds was presented. (Copy of report attached to minutes in the Record Book.) Motion by Heller and supported by Sheets to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The clerk presented a Profit and Loss statement for both the General and Fire Funds and a list of Accounts Payable for the month of July for both accounts. Sheets made a motion to pay the bills for the month of July, supported by Burns. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Barnard, yes; Heller, yes; Priest, yes; Burns, yes; Sheets, yes. All Ayes, Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Barnard updated the board on several issues. An ad will go into the Newspaper for estimates for a new roof on the Township Hall building. There is discussion on implementing a truck route weight ordinance on Crystal Drive. Benzie County Road Commission already has signs on the road for load limits. It was decided to be tabled for now. Sheets reported on blight. Platte Road is somewhat resolved. He spoke with Tom Fountain at the Health department regarding Narrow Gauge Rd. Nothing yet on Homestead Rd. There will be a public hearing on July 27th at 9:30am regarding abandoning Henry Rd.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: Report given for the month of June.
2. CEMETERY SEXTON: Report given.
3. TOWNSHIP ATTY: No report, not present

4. COMM. REPORT: Coury Carland gave his Commissioners report for the month of June.
5. ZONING ADM: Barnard gave the report. Burns mad a motion to appoint James Sheets to the West/Benzie Joint planning commission to replace Jason, supported by Priest. Sheets abstained. Sheets will need to be sworn in.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMUNICATION: Thank you letter received from the Benzie Historical Society.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: None.
- Parks: At the Meeting on June 26th , cameras and surveillance were discussed. . A grant was applied for through the Par Plan to pay for it. Jim Evans gave a bid for the surveillance system of \$6,821.08. A report from Ken that the park doesn't seem to be as busy, so we may not be adding a new pavilion as was discussed before. Water heaters in the bathrooms are failing so the decision may be to just have them removed. Tire swing is being replaced and there is a possibility the drinking fountains may need to be also.
- Building and Grounds: Supervisor Barnard will look into; New roof for the Township Building and window for the Fire Hall
- Fire Department: We are getting new bids for the window in the Fire Department building and vinyl siding for the back.
- Township Roads: No emails as of now to who won the bids on Narrow Gauge and Eden Hill Rds.
- Community Activities: Working on getting clean-up day things ready for the August 12.
- Finance: None.
- Personnel: None.
- Policy: None.
- Parks: At the Meeting on June 26th , cameras and surveillance were discussed. A grant was applied for through the Par Plan to pay for it. Jim Evans gave a bid for the surveillance system of \$6,821.08. A report from Ken that the park doesn't seem to be as busy, so we may not be adding a new pavilion as was discussed before. Water heaters in the bathrooms are failing so the decision may be to just have them removed. Tire swing is being replaced and there is a possibility the drinking fountains may need to be also.
- ZBA: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- TRUTH IN TAXATION: Motion by Burns to levy the maximum allowed for each unit – operating for the Township at .7937, the Fire operating millage at .9786, and the Library operating millage at .5914 for the Winter tax 2017 year. Supported by Sheets. Roll Call vote: Sheets, yes. Burns, yes. Heller, yes. Priest, yes. Barnard, yes. All ayes, motion carried.
- Fire millage: The Attorney has been in contact to figure out when to add the Fire millage to the ballot. November would not be good because it would be the only thing on the ballot, so it was decided to go for May, August or December 2018.

- Memorial Park Surveillance: Motion by Burns to proceed with the system at a cost not to exceed \$7,500, supported by Heller. Roll call vote: Sheets, yes. Priest, yes. Heller, yes. Barnard, yes. Burns, yes. All ayes, motion carried.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Motion by Burns to adjourn, supported by Priest.

Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:28pm.

Submitted by:

Karin L. Miner,
Recording Secretary

Diana L. Heller,
Township Clerk

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- Ad in paper for roof estimate
- Truck weight ordinance discussion on Crystal Dr.
- Blight: Platte Rd, Narrow Gauge and Homestead Rd
- Motion appointing James Sheets to the West/Benzie Joint Planning Commission to replace Jason.
- Receiving 2 new bids for the window at the Fire Station
- No start date on the paving of Narrow Gauge Rd
- Working on getting ready for the August 12 clean-up day
- TRUTH IN TAXATION
- Discussion on when to hold Fire Millage; May, August or December 2018
- Motion to proceed with the Park Surveillance, not to exceed \$7,500