

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

Approved:

REGULAR MEETING,

March 10th, 2021

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Barnard at 7:02 PM.

Present: Barnard, Priest, Sheets, Burns and Heller

Absent: None.

Staff: Adams, Nye (zoom), Haase,

Guest: 5, 3 via zoom and 2 in-person

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Sheets to approve agenda, Priest second. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Priest to approve the minutes from the regular meeting February 20th, 2021 and special meetings February 3rd and 9th 2021. Supported by Burns. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Burns gave report. Burns made a motion to accept the report with Priest supporting, Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT:

The Clerk presented a Profit and Loss statement for both the General and Fire Funds for the month of February 2021 along with payables. Motion by Priest to accept report and pay the bills, seconded by Sheets. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Barnard presented his report for February. Putneys will not sign waiver for hill cut on Love Rd. Settling basin dredging bid approved by Village from Arcadia Marine in the amount of \$48,950. Twp vote tabled for discussion of trenches behind buildings north of Narrow Gauge Rd. Supervisor met with John Axe regarding new fire barn and township building. Resolution presented from Mary Haan regarding the complaint previously submitted, and was tabled.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: calls for February, 10 fire and 30 medical. YTD 78. New equipment has arrived and training to begin on Monday the 15th. 4 - EMR/MFR attendees.

- 2 - FF2 completions. Motion by Burns to accept Fire Recovery service agreement. Heller seconded. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.
2. Cemetery Sexton: no report
 3. Township Attorney: No report.
 4. Commissioners Report: Rhonda Nye reported that with administration changes coming up BOC decided to use an executive search firm to assist with candidate search. Sherry Taylor will be filling in to transition the new administration. Strategic plan being updated and word of privatizing the Maples was brought to light, however actual discussions have not begun on the subject. Venture North providing loans to businesses who are creating jobs in area. Michelle Thompson noted 34 parcels are in foreclosure, lowest number to date.
 5. Zoning Administrator: 6 permits approved to date with 2 pending.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Haan commented on the resolution submitted.

COMMUNICATION: Jane Purkiss will be putting a group together to clean gravestones in our cemetery in May.

PENDING BUSINESS: Cemetery ordinance draft presented for review. Assessor to have contract to Twp before April 1st. nothing new for website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: No report
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: Working on dates for the 2 collection days. Amanda at library said 78 pairs of skates were checked out. Thanks to be sent to Musgraves for the skate donation.
- Finance: Inland Twp has had success with the Fire Recovery service agreement. Burns made motion to do a 2020-2021 budget amendment for the 2% grant received for BACN, supported by Priest, Roll call vote, All ayes. Burns made motion to do a 2020-2021 budget amendment for Cannabis Exise money, supported by Sheets, roll call vote all ayes. See attached motions. Received quote from BS& A for accounting software.
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- ZBA: No report
- Blight: Attorney needed a couple more photos of the Hill property before requesting court date.

NEW BUSINESS: Four Budget Resolutions were voted on as follows:

a) 2021-2022 budget: Sheets moved to approve; Priest supported. Roll call vote: Sheets yes, Burns yes, Barnard yes, Heller yes, Priest yes. Budget approved.

b) 2021-2022 Treasurer; invest funds: Burns made a motion to approve, Sheets supported. Roll call vote: Sheets yes, Burns yes, Barnard yes, Heller yes, Priest yes. Motion carried.

c) 2021-2022 Wage scale: Burns moved to approve Sheets supported. Roll call vote: Sheets yes, Burns yes, Barnard yes, Heller yes, Priest yes. Wage scale approved.

d) 2021-2022 Meeting schedule: Sheets moved to accept; Priest supported. Roll call vote: Sheets yes, Burns yes, Barnard yes, Heller yes, Priest yes. Meeting schedule approved.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: none

Motion by Burns to adjourn, supported by Sheets
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:17 P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, March 10th, 2021

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ Motion for Fire Recovery service agreement.
- ❖ Motion for 2020-2021 Budget amendment for BACN 2% Grant for GTB
- ❖ Motion for 2020-2021 Budget amendment for Cannabis Excise money
- ❖ Motion for 4 2021-2022 Budget resolutions

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk