

# BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

---

Approved:

REGULAR MEETING,

April 14th, 2021

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Barnard at 7:00 PM.

Present: Barnard, Priest, Sheets, Burns and Heller

Absent: None.

Staff: Adams, Nye (zoom), Haase, Hahn, Jordon

Guest: 2 via zoom

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 March 10th, 2021 and special meeting March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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 Sheets 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 March 2021 along with payables. Motion by Priest to accept report and pay the bills, seconded by Burns. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Barnard presented his report for March. Spring clean up day is May 8<sup>th</sup> 2021, 7-11am behind Tri-gas. Since the Love Rd project has been postponed it was proposed to have **4 culverts replaced** with cost shared by BCRC and us. Motion by Burns, second by Sheets. Roll call vote, All ayes. Notice of American Rescue Funds to be received, awaiting restrictions of use. Park to open soon. Discussed the signs in cemetery regarding artificial decorations. Sara Kirk to assist with master plan update.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: calls for March were 16 fire and 19 medical. YTD 109. EMR to be completed end of April, there are 4 participants from our department.

2. Cemetery Sexton: Gates are open due to nice weather, already talked with Gaylord Jowett about starting spring burials.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: Rhonda Nye reported that Michelle Thompson confirmed the unpaid tax roll is at 3.99% the lowest that she recalls. Briefly touched on the State of Emergency and the open meetings act. The title of the Deputy Administrator has been changed to HR/Finance manager, they have an interested candidate. There are positions available at the Sheriffs department in corrections and 911. Also touched on the stimulus money and one suggestion is sewer down the corridor.
5. Zoning Administrator: 12 permits approved to date with a handful pending, a SLU pending and 2 variance requests.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMUNICATION: A Thank you was received for the Fire Dept on their response to a fire call.

PENDING BUSINESS: **Cemetery ordinance** draft and fee schedule was presented for review. Motion by Sheets, Second by Burns, Roll call taken, all ayes. Assessor 2021 -2016 was contract presented. Motion by Burns, second by Sheets, Roll call taken, all ayes. Website updates and BS&A discussion tabled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: No report
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: Cleanup Day May 8<sup>th</sup> 7-11 behind Tri-gas
- Finance: No report
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- ZBA: No report
- Blight: Attorney awaiting court date.

NEW BUSINESS: None

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Mentioned the big dirt piles to be spread on the trails, also mentioned that there is a need for indoor recreation, especially for the elderly in the area in winter.

Motion to adjourn made by Sheets, Supported by Burns  
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:01 P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, April 14th, 2021

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:**

- ❖ Motion for 4 road culvert replacements.
- ❖ Motion for revised Cemetery ordinance.
- ❖ Motion for 2021-2026 Assessors contract.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk