

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

Approved:

REGULAR MEETING

June 9th, 2021

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

Present: Barnard, Priest, Sheets, Burns and Heller

Absent: None.

Staff: Nye, Haase, Adams

Absent: Hahn, Jordon

Guests: 3

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 May 12th, 2021. Supported by Burns, Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Burns gave report. Heller 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 May 2021 along with payables. Motion by Sheets to accept report and pay the bills, seconded by Priest. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Barnard presented his report for May. Amanda McLaren from BPL updated the board on the Library meeting room and the repairs needed for continued use by the community. Burns made a motion to support the request from BPL with \$7000 of the Excise Tax funds for use on the meeting room, and any leftover funds to be used for educational materials. Second by Priest, Roll call vote 4 ayes, 0 nays, Heller recused herself. Hill property owners served hearing papers. BCRC repaving schedule this week is Moss, Pond, River Rd and Worden Rds. Bringing to start this week.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: Chief Adams submitted his report for May. There were 10 fire and 33 medical. YTD 184.
2. Cemetery Sexton: No report.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: Rhonda Nye reported that the DNR is in talks with county about leasing the property at the Outlet back to the county. Awaiting funding approval for a data collection survey on feasibility of Broadband for our county. Benzie County Road commission has acquired the Platte River School. Auction will be held Sat June 12th of surplus. Sewer down the corridor was added to the matrix for the ARPA funds. County treasurer reports there are 13 parcels in this year's foreclosure sale. It will be an online event. 4th of July events are being planned, Frankfort will not have a parade but Beulah will. Ticks are ever present this year. Health department has stated that persons can report location and photos of where ticks found.
5. Zoning Administrator: 21 permits approved to date, 1 minor SLU and 2 variances pending. West Benzie Joint Planning Commission met Sarah Kirk to assist with master plan update.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMUNICATION: Figura Law sent notice of hourly fee increase.

PENDING BUSINESS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: moving forward with estimates for walking trail after route restaked. Motion by Sheets,, support by Priest for a handicap accessible porta john to be placed at the Veterans memorial pavilion.
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: Ditch along 31 in Beulah, no new findings, Jason to continue searching old files.
- Finance: Audit went smooth
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- ZBA: No report
- Blight: Platte Rd- owner back to work so meeting will be set up. Property of Smitty's, letters are in progress.

NEW BUSINESS: Truth and Taxation public hearing to be held 7/14/2021 at 6:45pm

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Resident asked to confirm the location of the proposed walking trail mentioned in the Parks section. They also commented on blight issues in Twp and Village. Another resident was excited for the trail and happy for the sidewalks to shopping center.

Motion to adjourn made by Sheets, Supported by Burns
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:04 P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, June 9th, 2021

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ Motion passed for contribution to the BPL meeting room from Excise Tax fund.
- ❖ Motion passed for handicap porta john at Veterans memorial pavilion.
- ❖ Park walking trail discussions have resumed.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk