

# BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

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Approved:

REGULAR MEETING

February 9th, 2022

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Barnard at 3:00 PM.

Present: Barnard, Burns, Sheets, Priest and Heller

Absent: none

Staff: Haase, Adams, Nye

Absent: Hahn, Wilkinson

Guests: 7

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Sheets to approve the agenda, Priest second. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes from regular meeting January 12th, as well as the special budget meetings of January 19<sup>th</sup>, February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Supported by Priest, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Report submitted by Burns. Priest made a motion to accept the report with Burns supporting, 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 January 2022 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. There is a pre-bid meeting scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 for general contractors for the fire barn. Bids will be due back March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Excavation bid request is out. Have received 2 responses so far. At BCRC meeting, it was stated that the brine mixture may be changing and costs could change due to this new formula. Board of Review meetings are set. The organizational meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup>, and the public meetings are on the 15<sup>th</sup> 3-6pm and the 16<sup>th</sup> 9-3pm.

Jane Perrino from the Benzie Conservation District gave a report on Aquatic Invasive Species work. She has entered a request to renew the 3-year plan starting in 2022. Scott Dianda and Ed Santangelo from Tranquility Fields gave a brief update on their property and plans for a Consumption Lounge.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: Chief Adams submitted his report for January 2022. There were 19 fire and 33 medical runs making the YTD total 52 runs.
2. Cemetery Sexton: No report.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: The final rule on the ARPA funds came down. There are 2 reporting options, which must decide by April. Public input to be gathered regarding ARPA fund distribution. Headlee rollback discussion are again on hold. There are 4 millages that are up for renewal this year. So far, the Merit internet survey has had a good response.
5. Zoning Administrator: 58 permits approved for 2021. Of those only 5 were Platte Twp. 1 ZBA request in process.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMUNICATION: Diana read a thank you letter from a constituent.

PENDING BUSINESS: Website updates, BS&A, FOIA rates

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: No report
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: No report
- Finance: Budget amendments to be finalized for March meeting.
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- ZBA: No report
- Blight: Sheets reported that items have been removed from the road front of the Narrow Gauge property.

NEW BUSINESS: Received bids from DMB Lawn Services and Signature Services for Cemetery and Park mowing for 2022. **Barnard made a motion to award the park mowing to Signature**

**Services. Supported by Sheets. Roll call vote: 4 ayes -Sheets, Heller, Priest, Barnard, Burns abstained, motion passed. Sheets made a motion to award cemetery mowing to DMB Lawn Services. Supported by Priest. Roll call vote: 4 ayes -Sheets, Heller, Priest, Barnard, Burns abstained, motion passed.**

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Nye made a statement of appreciation that the township is easy to work with. Bob French said Thanks for the continued cooperation with the Village. March 9<sup>th</sup> 2022, Public Hearing for the budget at 2:30 with regular board meeting @ 3pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Sheets, Supported by Burns.  
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 4:35 P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:**

- ❖ **Motion passed to award cemetery mowing bid to DMB Lawn Services**
- ❖ **Motion passed to award park mowing bid to Signature Services.**
- ❖ **Benzie Conservation District presented report about Aquatic Invasive Species and asked for renewal of 3-year contribution plan.**

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk