

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

Approved:

PUBLIC HEARING – Approving Public Hearing for 2022-2023 Budget.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30pm, March 9, 2022 by Clerk Diana Heller. Roll Call was taken with those present: Jim Sheets, Karen Burns, Sheila Priest and Diana Heller. Jason Barnard was absent.

The clerk read the purpose of the Public Hearing which was to present the new budget for 2022 – 2023 to the general public and to answer any questions they might have. There being no public present, Jim Sheets made a motion at 2:40pm to close the public hearing, Sheila Priest supported. All voting Aye, motion passed and the public hearing was closed.

REGULAR MEETING

March 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: 5

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Sheets to approve the agenda as amended, Priest seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Sheets to approve the minutes from regular meeting February 9th, as well as the special budget meeting of March 2nd, 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 February 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. The BOR organizational meeting was held on March 8th 2022. The public meetings are March 15th 3-6pm and the 16th 9-3pm. **The poverty guidelines and asset test for 2021 were presented. Sheets made motion to accept with Burns supporting. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion passed.** Barnard reported that structures on the fire barn property are gone and tree work starting next week and soil borings should be completed within a couple weeks. The Township spring cleanup day will be May 7th, 2022 behind TriGas. Friends of the Betsie Valley Trail reported on a proposed pavement expansion from Beulah to Thompsonville. **They are asking for the township to be the fiduciary for a DNR Grant application to cover the project. Sheets made motion to assist FOBVT with grant, Burns seconding the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion passed.**

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: Chief Adams submitted his report for February 2022. There were 10 fire and 35 medical runs making the YTD total 97 runs. The 2% grant from Grand Traverse Band has been received in the amount of \$8,800.
2. Cemetery Sexton: No report.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: Nye stated that Registrar Amy Bissell retiring after 32 years of service. Benzie County Summit being held March 24th @ Grow Benzie. 911 will be holding an active shooter training. EDC reports True North applied for Brownfield dollars for the former Buds gas station property in Honor.
5. Zoning Administrator: 4 permits issued, ZBA to meet March 15th @ 9:30am for variance request. Barnard attended the Platte Twp quarterly meeting. The next planning commission meeting is April 7th.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMUNICATION: None

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: Gillison has a requirement list for the walking trail, with a request for bids ready to go out. Sheets to meet with a resident who is a very avid pickleball player to discuss regulation size court.
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report

- Township Roads: **Brining contract from BCRC presented, which included the Township Park and County Farm Road, with the cost estimate for first brining at \$4,687.88 and the second application at \$6,375.86. Sheets made a motion to accept the contract for 2022. Priest seconded. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion passed.**
- Community Activities: No report
- Finance: **Budget amendments presented. Burns made motion for Fire and General fund budget amendments. Priest seconded. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion passed.**
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- ZBA: No report
- Blight: Sheets reported progress came to halt on Narrow Gauge property, he will follow up with a letter to owner and land contract holder.

NEW BUSINESS: 2022-2023 Budget Resolutions presented by Heller and are as follows.

a) 2022-2023 Meeting schedule: Sheets moved to accept; Priest supported. Roll call vote: Sheets yes, Burns yes, Barnard yes, Heller yes, Priest yes. Meeting schedule approved

b) 2022-2023 budget: Sheets moved to approve; Burns supported. Roll call vote: Priest yes, Barnard yes, Heller yes, Burns yes, Sheets yes. Budget approved.

c) 2022-2023 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.

d). 2022-2023 Wage scale: Burns moved to approve Sheets supported. Roll call vote: Sheets yes, Burns yes, Barnard yes, Heller yes, Priest yes. Wage scale approved.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Motion to adjourn made by Sheets, Supported by Priest.
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 4:08P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ **Public hearing prior to Regular Meeting.**
- ❖ **Motion passed to accept 2021 Poverty guidelines and asset test.**

- ❖ **Motion passed to assist FOBVT with DNR grant for paving.**
- ❖ **Motion passed to approve budget amendments as of 3/9/22.**
- ❖ **Motion passed to approve 2022-2023 Budget Resolutions.**

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk