

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

Approved:

REGULAR MEETING

September 14, 2022

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

Present: Barnard, Burns, Sheets, Priest and Heller

Absent: none

Staff: Nye, Adams, Haase

Absent: Hahn, Wilkinson

Guests: 3

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Burns to approve agenda as presented, Sheets seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Priest to approve the minutes from regular meeting of August 10th, 2022, supported by Burns, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Report submitted by Burns. Heller made a motion with support of Priest to accept the report. All ayes.

CLERKS'S REPORT:

The Clerk presented a Profit and Loss statement for both the General and Fire Funds for the month of August 2022 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: Barry Hahn received a 50/50 cost share grant through Trees USA for the park. Tree planting will be October 8th 2022. Anavon Tech submitted a quote for replacing the security equipment at the park at a cost of approx. \$30,000. Approx ½ cost of a previous estimate. AJ's excavating has been notified of award and they stated that may be able to start this fall but best for them to start in spring. The ball park bathroom water line finally fixed. Jason received permission to use .gov vs our current .org URL

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: Chief Adams reports for the month of August, a total of 56 calls for service. Of which 12 were Fire, 44 for Medical, bringing YTD total to 372. Adams gave the board a heads up that the fire gear will be non-compliant by Nov 2023 and will be looking soon at replacements due to long lead times. Anna Longo has resigned due to relocating.
2. Cemetery Sexton: No report.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: Commissioner Nye reported that Rebecca Hubers, the county emergency manager, was happy to say the Ironman competition was successful with no complaints and no one transported with medical issues. Broadband status with EDC- an Ad hoc has been created to track public/private contracts. Housing: the county made a commitment for grant for the 17-unit complex in Frankfort. School resource officers may be rotated amongst all schools due to the verbiage from the recently passed ballot proposal. The organizers of the sewer feasibility study are looking to get the oversight committee organized. A balanced county budget has been approved.
5. Zoning Administrator: 44 permits issued to date, 3 pending. 2 SLU permits approved. The next master plan update meeting will be Oct 6th 2022.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: A citizen mentioned checking into Nest for the ball park security.

COMMUNICATION: None

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: No report
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: **Motion by Sheets to approve the 2022 Mitigation Rates for Fire Recovery. Supported by Burns. Roll call taken, all ayes. Motion passed.**
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: No report
- Finance: Burns proposed a budget amendment, see attached. **Burns made a motion to approve the proposed budget amendment. Sheets Seconded. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion passed.** The assessor requested payment for land division processing, as it is not part of the statutory requirements for assessors.
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- ZBA: Request received to appeal the dock situation at Pennington Park.
- Blight: Platte Rd property took a step backwards. Johnson, Smith and Nelson all sent letters no response as of yet.

NEW BUSINESS: Heller mentioned her term on the library board is expiring. **Motion by Sheets and supported by Burns to renew Hellers appointment to the Benzonia Library Board. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion passed.**

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Citizens stated they have concerns over the major excavation on the Becker property on Crystal Lake. Barnard gave a brief description of the project and followed up with them after the meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Sheets, supported by Burns.
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 3:52 P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- Motion by Sheets to approve the 2022 Mitigation Rates for Fire Recovery. Supported by Burns. Roll call taken, all ayes. Motion passed.
- Motion by Burns detailing budget amendments. Sheets Seconded. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion passed.
- Motion by Sheets and supported by Burns to renew Hellers appointment to the Benzonia Library Board. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion passed.