

# BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

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Approved:

## **REGULAR MEETING**

December 14, 2022

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Barnard at 3:01 PM.

Present: Barnard, Burns, Sheets and Heller

Absent: Priest

Staff: Nye, Adams, Haase

Absent: Hahn, Wilkinson

Guests: 2

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes from regular meeting of November 9th, 2022 and special meetings of November 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2022, supported by Sheets, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Report submitted by Burns. She stated that MI Class is paying 4.1% interest at this time. Burns made motion to accept the Treasurers report, Sheets second. 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 November 2022 along with payables. Motion by Sheets to accept report and pay the bills, seconded by Burns. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Supervisor stated Cathy Hahn Darcy Library Board appointment and the Friends of the Betsie Valley Trails Spark Grant resolution will be handled in new business. He also spoke with AJ's Excavating, they still plan on starting the trail this winter, but if not, we are first in spring. Township roads meeting will be January 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 @ 10am. Dec BOR will be last for Marc Rosseels as he is retiring. March BOR dates set. Organizational March 7<sup>th</sup>, Petitions March 13<sup>th</sup> 9-3pm and 14<sup>th</sup> 3-9pm. Jason expects a Sewer feasibility update in January. An ordinance amendment was initiated in 2017 for allowing vehicle towing businesses and impound yards. Over the years was lost track of. Jason will be reinvestigating.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: Chief Adams reports for the month of November a total of 58 calls for service. Of which 20 were Fire, 38 for Medical, bringing YTD total to 520 calls.
2. Cemetery Sexton: No report.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: Commissioner Nye stated Equalization Director Tom Longanbach has retired. Polly Cairns was brought in month to month to assist until position filled or Brianne Lindsay can take over. HR Manager Kristine Bosley has left, Jackie is replacement. New 911 director, Cory Ellis gave first update. Paula Eberhart Register of Deeds said they will no longer hand out forms as the expectation is they can help fill out and they legally cannot. The updates to the point-of-sale requirements at the health department have become uniform across Leelanau and Benzie Counties. Senator Bumstead supports the need for a 911 tower in Frankfort. The County website is being updated.
5. Zoning Administrator: 54 permits issued YTD. The next Planning Commission meeting is January 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 6pm.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: Resident asked status of fire barn, Supervisor stated that architect hired and design phase just started. More to come. Resident stated that at the BLDHD public meeting on Point-of-Sale evaluations, the Mollineaux Rd project was brought up about septic approval.

COMMUNICATION: None

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: Equipment back from Gillion's after maintenance.
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: No report
- Finance: No report
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- ZBA: No report
- Blight: Narrow Gauge – Sheets will initiate next step. New case on River Rd initiated.

NEW BUSINESS: **Sheets made motion to appoint Catherine Hahn to the Darcy Library Board.** Burns seconded. Roll call taken, 4 ayes, 1 absent, motion passed. **Burns made a motion to sign**

**the memorandum of understanding with the Friends of the Betsie Valley rail for the Spark Grant.** Heller seconded, roll call taken, 4 ayes, 1 absent, motion passed.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident wondered if snowmobiles would be allowed once trail paved? Supervisor said proposal includes a use of material that is safe for snowmobile traffic.

Motion to adjourn made by Sheets, supported by Burns.  
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 4:02 P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- Supervisor stated to resident updated status on fire barn.
- Motion passed to appoint Catherine Hahn to the Darcy Library Board
- Motion passed for assisting Friends of the BVT with the Spark Grant.