

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

Approved:

REGULAR MEETING

July 10th, 2024

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

Present: Barnard, Burns, Gardner, Rose and Heller

Absent: none

Staff: Haase, Nye, Pitcher

Absent: Hahn, Wilkinson, Adams

Guests: 7

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes from the regular meeting June 12th, 2024 as presented. Supported by Gardner. All ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Report submitted by Burns. Burns made a motion to accept the report with Gardner supporting. All ayes, motion carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT: The Clerk presented a Profit and Loss statement for the General, Fire and New Building Funds along with a list of the payables. Motion by Burns to pay the bills with exception of Spence Brothers, until clarifications on breakdown and lien waiver information is complete. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Barnard presented his report. Barnard states that Igmar Johansen presented a resolution for creation of a Corridor Improvement Authority. This is to be a joint authority with Homestead Township and the Village of Honor. The purpose is for gaining funds to help with a southern access to the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore that butts up to US 31. Vote on hold until more information can be presented. Chief Adams on sabbatical this week. Supervisor read his report. A request was submitted of \$1157.00 for running boards for new med truck. Active shooter event was held at the Benzie High School. Calls for the month of June were 11

fire, 28 medical for a total of 234. The department attended a summer reading event at the Benzonia Library. A fire engine was on display and had 30 kids in attendance. The court date of July 9th for the case against Sunkissed Hills for non-compliance was postponed. New date not set yet. Also, a stop work order has been issued for the new site due to garages being started before the residence. Supervisor will be ready to present his recommendations on the Crystal Lake Watershed Overlay District amendments at the next meeting.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: see supervisors report.
2. Cemetery Sexton: No report.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: Nye stated that the Register of Deeds shared they had their first property fraud case in years. Nye dropped off some Fraud Alert pamphlets. AG Nessel was in the area on July 5th. They discussed how the county is utilizing opioid funds. Platte River school is down, road commission is preparing for a millage request. Sheriffs' department reported 2 water rescues and 1 life saving event with Narcan and 24 hr road patrol is going good. The bid was awarded to Gordy Fraiser for design and engineering services for paving of the Betsie Valley Trail from Beulah to Case Rd.
5. Zoning Administrator: 45 permits issued to date. Planning commission meets next on July 16th 6pm. RFP responses for the Zoning ordinance updates due back July 31st. Ms. Pitcher suggested a complaint form to be utilized. She presented a draft for review.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: Resident stated it was good to postpone the proposal by Mr. Johanson due to similar name as Area 31 Corridor, possible competition for grant dollars, and lack of info.

COMMUNICATION: A thank you card was received from the Conservation Resource Alliance.

PENDING BUSINESS: Website updates

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: 2 bids received for paving the walking trail, AJs and Ron Brown. With AJ's being significantly less **Gardner made motion to accept AJ's bid of \$52,210.20 to pave walking trail. Burns supported, roll call taken, motion passed.**
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: Clean-up day in August will be held at the park.
- Finance: No report
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report

- ZBA: No report
- Blight: No report

NEW BUSINESS: Proposed by clerk to ask Denny to clear the files from the old electronics so they can be disposed of at the County recycling day in August. The clerk presented the list of workers for the August 6th election.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: A fire dept volunteer wanted to state that there are issues within the department that need to be worked through.

Motion to adjourn made by Gardner, Supported by Rose.

Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 4:17 P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ **Motion passed to accept the bid from AJs Excavation to pave the walking trail.**
- ❖ **Motion passed to purchase running boards for new truck.**
- ❖ **Postponed acting on resolution for Corridor Improvement Authority.**
- ❖ **The clerk presented the list of workers for the August 6th election.**