

**BENZONIA TOWNSHIP
1020 Michigan Ave.
Benzonia, MI 49616**

Special Meeting-Budget

January 14, 2025

Approved:

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Jason Barnard at 1:32PM.

Roll Call was taken with Burns, Barnard, Rose and Heller present, Orr was absent. Chief Adams was also in attendance.

The purpose of the meeting was to start the discussion of the new 2025 – 2026 budgets for Benzonia Township and the Fire Department and anything else needing attention of the Township Board.

Treasurer Burns opened the discussion by passing out the 2024-2025 budgets to everyone. Salaries and wages are typically the first budgets to be discussed and acted upon. For the Supervisor Treasurer and Clerk and Trustees a 7% cost of living raise will be proposed with the medical stipend raised to \$1,100.00 for Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk. The Trustees medical rate will be raised to \$800.00. This rate was in consideration of not raising the salaries for several years. The two deputies rate of pay will be raised to \$22.00 per hour. Chief Adams assisted with the firemen's rate of pay, including an increase as follows: Duty pay for the Fire Chief to \$34.00 per hour, Assistant Fire Chief (officer pay) to: \$29.00. Volunteer Firemen, raised to \$28.00. and the Probationary Firemen starting at \$22.00 per hour until trained.

Discussions continued on the Budget, plugging in new figures and the Treasurer asking for suggestions on other items. The Treasurer went over some line items and explained the amounts on last year's budget.

The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 1:30pm.

Fire Chief Adams proposed for membership in the fire department, Isaac Mead. A motion was made by Heller, supported by Burns to accept Mead into the Benzonia Township Fire Department, station 5. All ayes present. Orr was absent. Mead was accepted.

There was no public input.

A motion was made by Burns, seconded by Rose to adjourn the meeting at 2:37pm.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Benzonia Township Clerk