

BENTON TOWNSHIP

The 8th day of January , 2019 Benton Township Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Five board members were present: Supervisor Andrew Archambo, Treasurer Ann Couture, Clerk Jayne Passeno, Trustee Charles Beckwith and Trustee Mike Charboneau. In addition Commissioner Mike Newman, Constable Tim Fenlon and 8 electorates were present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Clerk Passeno added correspondence from Cheboygan County Humane Society and State of MI Public Service Commission Notice of Hearing. Supervisor added correspondence from Charter Communications and State of MI DNR. Supervisor Archambo added to New Business Board of Review training.

MINUTES: Treasurer Couture requested that the wording "election of Board of Review members" be changed to "appointment of Board of Review members". A motion to accept the December 4, 2018 with the above adjustment, the minutes from the Budget meeting workshop and bills paid in December was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Supervisor Archambo.

CORRESPONDENCE: DEQ Notice of Authorization to install 6 pilings on Cheboygan River for Chuck Robiadek. DEQ Notice of Authorization to construct a 6' wide by 72' long permanent dock on Black River for Daryl Vizina. DEQ Notice of Authorization to remove an existing 61' long culvert and install a 74' long 8.6' span 5.3' rise corrugated metal arch with headwall and 2' recess on Elliot Creek by the Cheboygan County Road Commission. Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development provided brochures regarding the Farmland Preservation Program which are available at the Benton Township hall.

State of MI Public Service Commission notice of hearing for the natural gas customers of DTE energy regarding the determination of natural gas Calculation C to capture all remaining impacts of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.

State of MI Public Service Commission notice of hearing for the gas customers of DTE Energy Company regarding the approval of a temporary waiver of Rule 460.2351 and Rule 460.2352 for approval of alternative natural gas rotary meter and diaphragm meter inspection and testing procedures.

Cheboygan County Humane Society sent a thank you letter for the appropriations of \$2,000.00 to fund the Animal Control Program.

State of MI DNR with information regarding the intent to close certain forest roads to conventional vehicles, close certain roads to use by ORV's or open certain forest roads to ORV's in Northern Lower Michigan.

www.michigan.gov/forestroads

Charter Communications information regarding the Benton Township franchise renewal which expires in October 2021.

REPORTS: Supervisor Archambo will contact Wade Aubert to buff the Community Center floors. Supervisor Archambo made a motion to approve Clerk Passeno to attend the MTA Conference in Grand Rapids, April 1st through the 4th. Motion supported by Couture and approved by all.

The Budget Meeting date was set for March 5, 2019 at 6:30pm. Clerk Passeno briefed the Board on the current Bonding coverage with Municipal Underwriters of Michigan. Alternative options for the telephone at the transfer station were discussed.

LIBRARY LIAISON: Mary Ellen Enos reported on the tree removal and repair of the heated sidewalks at the library. The new flooring for Room B is scheduled to be installed. A new microfilm reader and printer will be ordered. The Library set record attendance in December of over 12,000 people. The bank balance is \$ 50,678.03.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Pat LaCross reported that AFD responded to a structure fire, personal injury accident and false fire alarms.

GROUNDSKEEPER: Doug Felmlee inquired about the fee for disposing of tires at the transfer station. Clerk Passeno made a motion to set a fee of \$2.50 per tire and support was made by Trustee Beckwith. Motion carried. Felmlee reported that the back blade on the Kubota is working out great.

OLD BUSINESS: Resolution for Post Audit Policy was addressed. Treasurer Couture suggested changes to the resolution and after a discussion the updated resolution will be presented at next month's meeting.

The topic of adding the Deputy Treasurer and Deputy Clerk to the signature cards was discussed. According to Treasurer Couture the Deputy Treasurer will not agree to be a signer on the bank accounts.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board will advertise for bids to snow plow at the transfer station for the year 2020. Contracts will be on a two year basis and will be on the same schedule as the bids for the Alverno Fire Departments snow plowing bids.

Transfer station tickets will be included in the summer tax bills. The permits will be for one year with an expiration date will be June 30th.

Supervisor Archambo and Trustee Charboneau will advertise for bids to repair the soffit and fascia on the Hall.

Supervisor Archambo requested approval for five members to attend Board of Review training in Harbor Springs on February 12, 2019. Treasurer Couture made a motion to approve the members of the Board of Review to attend the training and support was offered by Trustee Beckwith. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Newman reported that the new jail kitchen is fully operational as of the new year. The pods, cameras and control center will be re-located to a different secure area within the jail. Paula Hyde has been hired as the jail nurse. Probate court room is being remodeled.

MTA will be hosted by Grant Township Hall on January 31, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

BILLS: Clerk Passeno presented a list of bills for the Boards approval. A motion by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Beckwith. Motion was approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT: There was a motion by Treasurer Couture and supported by Supervisor Archambo to adjourn the January Benton Township meeting at 8:39 pm. Motion carried.