

BENTON TOWNSHIP

The 4th day of December, 2018 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 Mike Newman and 14 electorates were present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Treasurer Couture requested the appointment of the Board of Review Members be added to old business. Supervisor Archambo added a price proposal from KCI for the Assessment Notices to new business. Jerry Svetcos requested an addition to new business regarding Medical Marijuana.

MINUTES: A motion to accept the November 13, 2018 meeting minutes and bills paid in the month of November was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Trustee Charboneau.

CORRESPONDENCE: A 2017 Shelter Report from the Cheboygan County Humane Society outlining the services provided in 2017 and a letter requesting appropriations for the upcoming year. Trustee Beckwith made a motion to approve the same amount of appropriations as the previous year of \$2,000.00. Treasurer Couture supported the motion. Motion carried by all.

DEQ draft permit for counter signature regarding a new dock construction for Kane & Kerry Morrish.

REPORTS: Treasurer Couture reported that the winter tax bills were mailed out December 1st. Couture spoke on the benefits of the MTA conference that she attended in November. Clerk Passeno updated the board on the progress with AT&T for a credit on the bill due to lack of service for 2 weeks and changing the plan for the telephone at the transfer station to a more cost effective option.

LIBRARY LIAISON: Mary Ellen Eno reported that the monthly meeting for the Library Board will not be held until next week. The library members participated in the Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 1st. The Friends of the Library are sponsoring a program for the children, with a Santa as a special guest. The children will each receive a new book.

Fire Chief and Groundskeeper were unavailable for comment.

OLD BUSINESS: Treasurer Couture made a motion to approve the Board of Review Members, Charlie Reager, Douglas Felmlee, and Jerry Svetcos for the next two years. Dick Cartmill volunteered to be an alternate for the Board of Review. Clerk Passeno supported the motion. Motion carried by all.

Treasurer Couture updated the Board on the procedure to add the Deputy Treasurer and Clerk to the bank accounts in case of an emergency situation where the Treasurer or Clerk were unable to sign checks. A suggestion of forms to be filed at Benton Hall, granting permission for emergency signatures was provided by First Community Bank. Per request of Passeno the issue was tabled until more research could be conducted.

NEW BUSINESS: A resolution allowing for payment of certain bills by the Clerk and treasurer between board meetings; authorizing emergency expenditures by the Supervisor and providing for post-audit review was presented for approval. Treasurer Couture presented opposition to the resolution and the issue was tabled until the next monthly meeting.

The Board reviewed an offer to purchase land located west of Fire Station #1 on Orchard Beach Road from Keith Niesen. A motion by Supervisor Archambo to decline the purchase of property was supported by Trustee Charboneau. Motion carried.

Supervisor Archambo presented an estimated proposal from KCI for the assessment notice mailing in March of \$1905.25.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jerry Svetcos presented a sample resolution and asked the Boards position on allowing medical marijuana distribution centers in the township. Discussion included the option of a temporary Opt Out Resolution, until the State has established clear guidelines. Dick Cartmill inquired about the passing of the

proposition for the 911 radio system and the cost to the township (Alverno Fire Dept.). Radios will cost upward of 4,000 to 5,000 each and will be purchased by the 911 system at this time.

Deb Berden inquired about the justification for her security deposit being withheld for the Community Center rental on November 10, 2018. After some discussion, Clerk Passeno made a motion to refund \$150.00 of the \$200.00 deposit and Trustee Charboneau supported the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Mike Newman gave an update on the progress of the County Building addition, that should be completed at the first of the year. Two new commissioners were elected in November, Mary Ellen Tryban and Steve Warfield.

Treasurer Couture gave an explanation of the \$39.19 amount for the property owners in the special assessment district of Canton Road/West Black Lane as a cost for the loan from Cheboygan County to Benton Township for the road project.

MTA will be hosted by Beaugrand Township Hall on December 6, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

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

ADJOURNMENT: There was a motion by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Charboneau to adjourn the December Benton Township meeting at 8:40 pm. Motion carried.