

BENTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

APRIL 4, 2023 AT 7:00PM

5012 ORCHARD BEACH ROAD CHEBOYGAN MI. 49721

The April 4, 2023 board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Present was four board members: Supervisor Bruce Brandt, Treasurer Jayne Passeno, Clerk Carol Neumann, and Trustee Pete Redmond. Absent was Trustee Ron Fenlon. In addition Commissioner Mike Newman, Constable Tim Fenlon, and 14 electorates were present.

No additions and deletions to agenda.

Minutes and bills: Treasurer Passeno made a motion to accept the March 7, Budget meeting minutes and the March 7, board meeting and the bills paid in March. The motion was supported by Trustee Redmond and carried by all.

Supervisor Brandt read 3 notices from EGLE. Trustee Redmond made a motion to buy \$30,000.00 of gravel for the roads this year. The motion was supported by Supervisor Brandt and was carried by all. Supervisor Brandt made a motion to hire Northern A-1 Services for brining Benton Township for 2023 at \$.33 a gallon and was supported by Trustee Redmond. The motion was carried by all. Supervisor Brandt talked about working on South River Road gravel part in 3stages to fix. Clerk Neumann made a motion to renew contract with MacArthur Law Firm for year 2023 and was supported by Treasurer Passeno. The motion was carried by all. Supervisor Brandt stated to postpone adopting the Resolution for paving Riveira and Addison Drive until May's meeting.

Board member comments: Clerk Neumann talked about her Clerk training in Mount Pleasant and the changes that will be coming on elections. New drivers licenses will no longer have a magnetic stripe on the back so on elections we will have to have barcode scanners. The state has changed the color on returning ballot envelopes to purple and white instead on green and white. The state is working on the 9 days of early voting. Clerk Neumann stated the budget for 2023-2024 was adopted and set in BSA. Treasurer Passeno stated she is putting two CD's in Huntington Bank at 4.25 percent interest. Treasurer Passeno stated she is taking one person to small claims court on personal property taxes.

Library Liaison Mary Ellen Enos stated the library is still looking for a Director. The library is replacing the boiler system. The library balance is \$610,863.97. Captain Chuck Beckwith stated the fire department had two fire calls this last weekend with no one getting hurt. Grounds Keeper Doug Felmlee stated that the township needs gravel around the recycle bins at both US 23 and Orchard Beach Road sites and also at the Transfer station after the frost laws lift.

Old and new business: Supervisor Brandt stated that the Blight Ordinance will start up again as soon as the snow leaves. Ms. Marsh and Mr. Hudson spoke on this. The Alverno fire board asked Benton Township about a new generator for Hall #1. The generator at hall #1 is about 15 years old and has

about one half hour of running. Supervisor Brandt made a motion not to purchase a new generator for Alverno Fire Dept. and was supported by Trustee Redmond. The motion was carried by all. Trustee Redmond made a motion to put two 10 foot ceiling fans at Alverno Fire Hall #1 and was supported by Treasurer Passeno. The motion was carried by all. Treasurer Passeno made a motion to accept the Bonham property split and was supported by Clerk Neumann. The motion was carried by all.

Public Comments: Commissioner Newman stated that the Mental Hospital in Cheboygan will be opening June 1, 2023 with open house on May 25, 2023. Mr. Ross asked the board about paving to the recycle on Orchard Beach Road. Mr. Beckwith asked how the Board of Review went and was told about 60 people presented. Double from last year.

Bills to pay: Clerk Neumann read the bills to be paid in April. Treasurer Passeno made a motion to pay the bills listed and was supported by Trustee Redmond. The motion was carried by all.

Adjournment: Clerk Neumann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm and was supported by Supervisor Brandt. The motion was carried by all.