

BENTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

APRIL 6, 2021 7:00PM

The April 6, 2021, Benton Township board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance of the flag.

Roll call: Five board members were present: Supervisor Bruce Brandt, Treasurer Jayne Passeno, Clerk Carol Neumann, Trustee Pete Redmond, and Trustee Ron Fenlon. In addition Commissioner Mike Newman and 7 electorates were present.

Minutes and bills: Trustee Redmond made a motion to accept the March minutes and bills paid in the month of March and was supported by Treasurer Passeno. Motion was carried by all.

Correspondence: Supervisor Brandt read 2 letters from EGLE and a letter from Comsumer's Energy stating they will be line clearing (cutting trees and brush under lines) in this area. Treasurer Passeno read a resolution from the Cheboygan Road Commission on Local Bridge Bundling. Upon roll call: Supervisor Brandt is Aye, Treasurer Passeno is Aye, Clerk Neumann is Aye, Trustee Redmond is Aye, and Trustee Fenlon is Aye. No Nays. Clerk Neumann will be sending the resolution to Cheboygan County Road Commission . Treasurer Passeno made a motion to appoint Mary Ellen Enos as our Library Liaison for Benton Township. This position is a 3 year term. The motion was supported by Clerk Neumann and was carried by all.

Board comments: Treasurer Passeno sent in a grant for tire removal from EGLE. The grant is for 2 semi's of tires and Benton Township has one semi worth of tires right now and is hoping to have a free tire day this year. Supervisor Brandt informed the board that Matt Barber is willing to work at the township at an hourly rate on township construction needs. Trustee Redmond made a motion to accept Matt Barber's rates and was supported by Supervisor Brandt. The motion was carried by all. Archambo Electric Inc. gave the board a price on changing 11 parking lot bulbs with new LED 400 retrofit bulbs 400 watt equivalent for \$2635.00. Treasurer Passeno made a motion to accept the bid and was supported by Trustee Redmond. Motion was carried by all. Treasurer Passeno made a

motion to pay off the loan we have with the Cheboygan County Treasurer for the paving of Canton and West Black Line for \$85723.02. The motion was supported by Supervisor Brandt and was carried by all.

Library Liaison Mary Ellen Enos informed the board that the book inventory at the library is done and that every book has a bar code now. The Library balance for March is \$560,902.47.

Chief Gary Williams stated that the hose testing this year will be by June 4th and 5th and would like to use the play ground parking lot again. Because of the testing being on a weekend, Supervisor Brandt stated he will ask the church on Orchard Beach Road if we could use their parking lot.

Grounds Keeper Doug Felmlee stated 2 new benches and 2 new trash cans have come in that was ordered last fall. Doug is getting ready to open things up.

Clerk Neumann gave the board a policy and procedure on appointing the 3rd person to the Fire Board to review for next month's meeting. Supervisor Brandt has been talking to the Cheboygan County about the cost of taking over the Benton Township's recycling. Clerk Neumann gave the board reports on the cost of the recycling for the last 2 years. The board will be continuing this subject at next month's meeting. Supervisor Brandt made a motion to keep the Community Center closed for the month of May because of the rise in COVID and was supported by Trustee Redmond. The motion was carried by all.

Public Comments: Treasurer Passeno stated she would like to have different banks come to our meetings and discuss different options for us. Treasurer Passeno stated that townships will be getting money from the Bridge.mi.com. Benton will be getting \$306,084.00. Clerk Neumann stated she needs to amend the budget on 5 line items total of \$2725.00. Clerk Neumann made a motion to amend the budget and was supported by Treasurer Passeno. The motion was carried by all. Commissioner Newman reported that Marshall's is still wanting to come to town and that the VA Clinic is still in the process of getting a place.

Bills to Pay: Clerk Neumann read the bills to be paid in April and Supervisor Brandt made a motion to pay the bills with support of Treasurer Passeno. The motion was carried by all.

Adjournment: Supervisor Brandt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm and was supported by Trustee Redmond. The motion was carried by all.