

BENTON TOWNSHIP

The July 3, 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: Four board members were present: Supervisor Andrew Archambo, Trustee Chuck Beckwith, Treasurer Ann Couture and Trustee Mike Charboneau. Clerk Jayne Passeno was absent and Deputy Clerk Carol Neumann took minutes at the meeting. In addition Commissioner Mike Newman and 4 electorates were present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Supervisor Archambo added the authorization of the Election Committee to New Business. Treasurer Couture added road ends and Carmody lots on West Black Lane to Old Business. Treasurer Couture added Oak Hill Cemetery to Other Business.

MINUTES: A motion to accept the June 5, 2018 meeting minutes was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: State of Michigan Notice of Hearing for the natural gas customers of DTE Gas Company for the approval for the reconciliation of its Energy Waste Reduction plan cost reconciliation for the period ending December 31, 2017.

DEQ Notice of Authorization for Kevin Neuman to construct a permanent 6' wide by 48' long open pile dock on Cheboygan River.

DEQ Notice of Authorization for Black River Limited Partnership to temporarily draw down the Alverno Dam impoundment for concrete repairs. Impoundment may be drawn down at a rate not to exceed 6" in a 24 hour period. Refill of the impoundment may not exceed 6" in a 24 hour period. The total extent of draw down shall not exceed 3'.

REPORTS: Treasurer Couture reported that the Benton Township summer tax bills have been mailed. Trustee Beckwith reported that the Oak Hill Cemetery Committee has meet a few times including a work bee to remove all objects that are in violation of the rules and regulations. Treasurer Couture reported a series of telephone calls regarding the placement of headstones and the purchase of half lots for cremation burials. Trustee Beckwith gave an account of the situation and that a meeting will be held Thursday regarding the concerns of the parties involved. Treasurer Couture removed the addition of the Oak Hill Cemetery to the agenda under Other since the issue was addressed under Reports. Supervisor Archambo has received a large number of calls regarding the dust and rough condition of South River Road due to the added traffic re-routing around the road construction on Orchard Beach Road. Supervisor Archambo will contact the CRCC to grade the road and apply brine again.

LIBRARY LIAISON: Mary Ellen Enos correct last month's report of the new children's librarian name that should be Nancy DeWolfe and Mel Schmidt should be Mel Eno. The library has a lot of activities planned for the children in July. A library staff member is attending training sessions for the new 3-D printer. The bank balance is \$298,860.54.

FIRE CHIEF: Chief Williams was unavailable for report.

GROUNDSKEEPER: Doug Felmlee was unavailable for report but he did send an e-mail of updating the board on maintenance and a situation regarding the transfer station attendant, Marv Smith, passing out from the heat on Saturday. After assurance from Marv Smith that he is okay, the Board discussed options to improve the work conditions for the attendant. A suggestion of an open/closed sign for the transfer station be placed on the current sign by the Community Center was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS: Treasurer Couture re-introduced the subject of purchasing the road ends from the CRCC in Benton Township. Trustee Beckwith did not agree with the purchase of road ends due to the liability. Treasurer Couture brought up the issue of Adelaide Carmody being discontent with paying the special assessment on two lots on West Black Lane/Canton Road because she is a deed holder on one lot with her husband, William and one lot with her son Brian. Correspondence from the Assessor McGovern and legal counsel, MacArthur states that the properties are held in different entities and each can be charged the special assessment.

NEW BUSINESS: The approved 2018 Tax Rate Request L-4029 from the Cheboygan Area Schools was reviewed. A motion to renew the AT&T METRO Act Permit for five years, beginning December 31, 2018 was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the 2018 Election workers as presented by Clerk Passeno was made by Supervisor Archambo and supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Mike Newman stated that the demolition of the Gold Front building in downtown Cheboygan will begin on Monday, July 9th and that some issues have been mis-represented in the local newspaper. Treasurer Couture inquired about an issue regarding a local sanitation company parking vehicles and defying court orders regarding zoning to discontinue business at the location on Inverness Trail and Levering Road. An e-mail from Brenda Bergstrom inquiring about a Township Ordinance regarding long term, overflowing, dumpsters in a residential areas. No local ordinance exists and the Board concluded that it is a Health Dept. issue.

MTA will be held July 26, 2018 at Forest Township at 7:00pm.

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

ADJOURNMENT: There was a motion by Treasurer Couture and supported by Supervisor Archambo to adjourn the July Benton Township meeting at 7:52 pm. Motion carried.