

BENTON TOWNSHIP

Supervisor Archambo opened the public hearing on the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Supervisor Archambo asked for comments. Doug Damm mentioned that information should be more easily available for distribution by the office personnel. Mr. Damm inquired about the revenue line item with a \$300,000.00 transfer in amount that is entered every year. Clerk Passeno will make inquiries with the accountant regarding this entry on the yearly budget. Trustee Beckwith made a motion to close the budget meeting at 7:10 with support from Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

The March 6, 2018 Benton Township Board Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

ROLL CALL: Four board members were present: Supervisor Andrew Archambo, Treasurer Ann Couture, Clerk Jayne Passeno and Trustee Charles Beckwith, Trustee Mike Charboneau was absent. In addition and 9 electorates were present along with Constable Tim Fenlon.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Treasurer Couture requested that transfer station tickets be added to old business.

MINUTES: Treasurer Couture requested a change to the public comment from Roger Gauthier to include the wording "Fund Raiser" for clarification on the February 6th, 2018 minutes and to change the quote from Attorney MacArthur to read that "the Township was paying 25% of the project out of the road fund" vs general fund. Motion to accept the minutes with the above additions from the February 6, 2018 regular meeting and the January 18, 2018 special meeting and to approve the bills paid in February was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: A Notice of Hearing by the State of Michigan before the Michigan Public Service Commission for the customers of PIE & Gas Co-Op regarding the authority to implement a gas cost recovery plan and factors for the 12 month period of April 2018 through March 2018 for its Regulated Gas Division.

Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-Op regarding the gas cost recovery rate for each rate class that will be reduced \$6.37 as the GCR is lowered from \$0.4795 to \$0.4158 per CCF effective April 1, 2018.

REPORTS: Treasurer Couture reported on the information provided by the CCRC at the MTA meeting in February. Clerk Passeno reported on training that she attended for the States revisions to the QVF program. Clerk Passeno followed up with the representative, Adam Gandolfi from Par Plan regarding the changes in the grant program that would match funds for the purchase of generators. Adam stated that the Par Plan Grant Board will be discussing covered items for the program in April and he will contact us with an update.

LIBRARY LIASON: Mary Ellen Enos reported that the Children's Librarian, Sam King will be retiring in April. Sales of the used books through Amazon sale is going well. The balance in the bank for the Library is \$310,159.37.

FIRE CHIEF: Gary Williams reported 4 residential false alarms, 1 assist for EMS, 1 roll over car accident and 1 false alarm of a snowmobile through the ice on Mullett Lake. Firemen attended training for MIOSHA rules and regulations. AFD has obtained a hover craft and it will be stored at the Black Lake fire station and firemen will be attending training for the operation of the hover craft.

GROUNDSKEEPER: Doug Felmlee has been working on small maintenance projects. Treasurer Couture requested crushed stone be added to the transfer station roadway in the Spring.

OLD BUSINESS: Treasurer Couture presented a revised breakdown on the SAD for West Black Lane and Canton Road. Doug Damm still has concern regarding interest being charged more than one year at a time and the refunds to property owners that have already paid the SAD in full. He requested correspondence to the 56 residents affected by the SAD, regarding the final cost, yearly amount to be added on to the winter taxes and total payoff amounts. Treasurer Couture will prepare a letter for the SAD residents on West Black Lane and Canton Road. Treasurer Couture made a motion to accept the SAD figures as presented. Motion carried by Archambo, Beckwith, and Couture. Passeno abstained until review of the figures could be completed.

Treasurer Couture distributed 100 transfer station tickets to Alverno Grocery, 60 for the Benton Township Secretaries for distribution/sale and 20 tickets for the Transfer Station attendant. Treasurer Couture will no longer be responsible for transfer station tickets. Supervisor Archambo tabled further discussion of the transfer station ticket sales until next month.

NEW BUSINESS: Clerk Passeno presented 2018/2019 proposed budget. A motion was made by Trustee Beckwith to accept the budget as presented and seconded by Supervisor Archambo. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the monthly meeting dates for the 2018/2019 year. Trustee Beckwith made a motion to accept the agreed upon dates and support was offered by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

Clerk Passeno presented the 2018/2019 Oak Hill Cemetery budget and gave a synopsis of the Oak Hill Cemetery budget meeting. It was suggested to present to the Aloha, Grant and Benton Boards the possibility of Oak Hill Cemetery establishing its own entity and maintaining a monthly payroll for the Clerk. The subject was tabled until next month. A motion to accept the 2018/2019 Oak Hill Cemetery budget was made by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Beckwith.

Clerk Passeno presented the following budget adjustments and line item transfers for approval.

2017-2018 Budget Adjustment

204-446-802.000	Road Fund Const. & Maintenance	\$242,400.00
General Fund		
101-101-998.000	Contingency Fund	\$25,350.00
101-101-900.000	Gov. Body Printing & Publishing	\$1,000.00
101-101-955.001	Gov. Body Bank Fees	\$100.00
101-215-960.000	Clerk Education & Training	\$500.00
101-257-832.000	Assessor Contractual Services	\$500.00
101-265-850.000	Bldg & Grounds Communications	\$800.00
101-333-920.000	Fire Dept. Utilities	\$800.00
101-333-970.004	Fire Dept. Capital Outlay #4	\$1,200.00
101-526-801-002	Sanitary Land Fill - recycling	\$20,000.00
101-751-920.000	Park & Rec Utilities	\$400.00
204-101-955.001	Road Fund Bank Fees	\$50.00

A motion was made by Treasurer Couture and seconded by Trustee Beckwith. Motion carried by all.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Doug Damm attended the CCRC meeting and asked why Benton Township was not represented. Supervisor Archambo explained that he had a conflict of schedules with the BOR Training session and the CCRC meeting and he will appoint a representative in the future.

MTA will be hosted by Mentor Township Hall on March 29, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Benton Township Board of Review will be held Monday, March 12, 2018 from 9:00am until 3:00pm and Tuesday, March 13th from 3:00pm to 9:00pm.

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 Supervisor Couture and supported by Supervisor Archambo to adjourn the March Benton Township monthly meeting at 8:28pm. Motion carried.

