

## BENTON TOWNSHIP

The January 3, 2017 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: Treasurer Ann Couture, Clerk Jayne Passeno, Supervisor Andrew Archambo, Trustee Charles Beckwith and Trustee Mike Charboneau. In addition Commissioner Mike Newman and Constable Tim Fenlon and 21 electorates were present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Supervisor Archambo had an addition to new business regarding a request from assessor Clayton McGovern to contract services for mailing assessment notices and a letter from Cheboygan County Road Commission regarding crushing gravel for the township.

MINUTES AND BILLS: There was a motion by Trustee Beckwith supported by Treasurer Couture to approve the minutes and bills from the December 6, 2016 Benton Township Board meeting. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: A letter from Cheboygan County Treasurer, Buffy Jo Weldon, regarding the Board of Commissioners and Cheboygan County Tax Allocation Board adopting a resolution under MCL 211.44a (2) that allows townships to collect winter tax bills under \$100.00 or less on the summer bill.

A letter from County Administrator Jeffery Lawson outlining the Cheboygan County Road Loan Program was presented by Supervisor Archambo.

Cheboygan County Humane Society Executive Director, Mary Talaske, sent a letter thanking the Benton Township Board for the continued support for the Animal control Program.

REPORTS: Clerk Passeno mentioned a concern of Keith Fenlon's regarding the condition of the Community Center kitchen floors after the rental on December 26, 2016. Due to the melting snow and flooding conditions around the doors the Board agreed that retaining the \$50.00 deposit was not justifiable.

Clerk Passeno inquired about the term for the Benton Townships third member on the Alverno Fire Dept. Board. A discussion resulted with a consensus of a two year term. Clerk Passeno will review the term limits and report at the next month meeting.

Appreciation was extended to the Fire Dept. members for purchasing and planting two evergreen trees at front of Fire Hall #1.

Supervisor Archambo and Clerk Passeno requested authorization to attend the MTA Annual Conference in Lansing, April 10<sup>th</sup> through April 13<sup>th</sup>. Treasurer Couture made a motion to approve the attendance to the MTA Conference for Supervisor Archambo and Clerk Passeno. Trustee Beckwith supported the motion. Motion carried.

Board of Review members requested authorization to attend Board of Review Training in St. Ignace or Gaylord in the month of February. Trustee Beckwith made a motion to approve the attendance and expenses for the BOR training and was supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the attendance for Clerk Passeno to the "Building a Better Budget" seminar in Gaylord, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 was carried by all Board members.

A discussion regarding the Townships responsibility for street light maintenance brought to light the need to call Consumers Power to inspect the street lights at the corner of Orchard Beach Road and Black River Road and the light at the corner of South River Road and Orchard Beach Road.

A website company has been calling the office in regards to revising our website. The Board is not interested in changing the website provider and will continue to support the local business that provides this service.

AT&T no longer provides the discounted rate for service to the Community Center telephone. Cost will be \$50.00 per month plus tax and surcharges. Trustee Beckwith made a motion to suspend the telephone service at the Community Center. Supervisor Archambo supported the motion. Motion carried.

Passeno reported on the concern of a citizen regarding the condition of the bridge on Upper Mognrain Road. This situation has been reported to the Cheboygan County Road Commission numerous times and they are continuing to monitor the safety of the bridge.

Library liaison, Mary Ellen Enos, reported on the 25 Christmas Quilts that are being displayed throughout the library. In the past year the library has offered 76 classes for children and 54 classes for adults. The bank balance is \$92,785.97.

Fire Chief Gary Williams reported on the runs and training performed by the Alverno Fire Dept. for the calendar year of 2016. There were 93 active calls for aid consisting of 23 brush fires, 19 down power lines, 17 personal injury accidents, 10 EMS assists, 6 structure fires, 4 gas leaks, 2 appliance fires and 12 CO detector or smoke

investigations. In pursuit of the calls for aid the AFD logged 745 working hours. Of the active calls, AFD responded to 59 calls in Benton Township, 16 calls in Aloha Township and 14 calls in Grant Township. There were 24 training sessions that logged 453 paid training hours with an additional 240 unpaid hours. AFD is currently obtaining bids from C.S.I. Equipment and Sutphen for the body of the new truck. Five firemen are currently in training.

Groundskeeper, Douglas Felmlee was unable to attend the meeting but forward his comments to Supervisor Archambo. The recycling area has been busy with Christmas and New Years waste. Snowplowing is an ongoing project. The Kubota tractor had to have bearings and retainer flanges replaced.

OLD BUSINESS: A bid for the refinishing of 1,756 square feet of the Community Center floors by Aubert Construction came in at \$6,505.00. Trustee Beckwith made motion to accept the bid from Aubert Construction with support from Supervisor Archambo. Motion carried.

Granger and Associates contacted Supervisor Archambo regarding the property split for Michael Rogers that was approved by the Board at the December 2016 meeting. The property split paperwork did not include the location of the buildings, therefore the setback requirements of 8' from a building were not met with the original split. Treasurer Couture made a motion to approve a slight line adjustment as suggested by Granger and Assoc. to meet the setback requirements. Trustee Beckwith supported the motion. Motion carried.

The proposed request for a resolution for the Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet Office of Emergency Management will be tabled until the February when the Board has had an opportunity for more research.

NEW BUSINESS: Assessor Clayton McGovern requested the approval of a bid from KCI to print, fold and mail 3,500 Assessment Notices. Clerk Passeno made a motion to approve the services of KCI for the Assessment Notice mailing and Treasurer Couture supported the motion. Motion carried.

CCRC sent a request for the quantity of gravel that Benton Township will require crushed for future use. Supervisor made a motion to match the previous order of crushed gravel. Support was provided by Clerk Passeno. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Doug Damm inquired about the status of the application to the Cheboygan County Commissioners for the Road Loan Program. Supervisor Archambo reported a request for \$200,000.00 will be requested from the County and he has requested \$25,000.00 from the CCRC. Dave Englehart inquired about the procedure for the second meeting.

Treasurer Couture updated the Board on the progress of the Straits View road paving. Attorney MacArthur reviewed the petitions and not all petitions meet the requirements. Mr. Ross is working on obtaining the proper paperwork and signatures.

MTA will be hosted by Grant Township Hall on January 26th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

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

ADJOURNMENT: There was a motion by Treasurer Charboneau and supported by Trustee Couture to adjourn the November Benton Township meeting at 7:55 pm. Motion carried.

<b>December-16</b>			
CHECK NUMBER	PAYEE	FUND	AMOUNT
12/15/2016	IRS	101	\$ 1,435.98
3542	State of Michigan	101	\$ 356.17
3543	Dave Conlin	101	\$ 25.00
3544	J Hancock	101	\$ 2,306.52
3545	Michael Charboneau	101	\$ 243.71
DD895	Andrew Archambo	101	\$ 1,122.64
DD896	Charles Beckwith	101	\$ 232.64
DD897	Ann Couture	101	\$ 1,430.90

DD898	Clayton McGovern	101	\$ 2,525.03
DD899	Jayne Passeno	101	\$ 1,285.02
3546	Sheila Thilhorn	101	\$ 50.00
3547	All-Phase Electric	101	\$ 262.50
3548	AT & T	101	\$ 219.83
3549	U-Verse	101	\$ 80.60
3550	Blaskowski Feed & Seed	101	\$ 48.00
3551	Cheboygan Daily Tribune	101	\$ 437.56
3552	Consumers Energy	101	\$ 376.81
3553	Emmet County Dept. of Public Works	101	\$ 831.60
3554	Gary Williams	101	\$ 1,015.98
3555	Ginop Sales & Services	101	\$ 5.20
3556	John Hancock	101	\$ 54.00
3557	Johnson Snow Plowing	101	\$ 105.00
3558	McKay Builders, Inc.	101	\$ 120.00
3559	National Office Products	101	\$ 22.99
3560	PIE & Gas Co.	101	\$ 591.74
3561	Republic Services	101	\$ 2,998.00
3562	Rivertown Do It Center	101	\$ 22.46
DD900	Deborah Berden	101	\$ 198.79
DD901	Maureen Engle	101	\$ 124.97
DD902	Douglas Felmlee	101	\$ 412.70
DD903	Keith Fen lon	101	\$ 39.65
DD904	Charles Getz Jr.	101	\$ 197.71
DD905	Carol Neumann	101	\$ 323.17
DD906	Marvin Smith	101	\$ 354.62
3563	Carolyn Scheele	101	\$ 50.00
3564	Linda Deloy	101	\$ 50.00
3565	Gary Williams	101	\$ 50.00
3573	Mindy Goza	101	\$ 50.00
			\$20,057.49
SUPERVISOR ANDREW ARCHAMBO _____			
TREASURER ANN COUTURE _____			
CLERK JAYNE PASSENO _____			
TRUSTEE MICHAEL CHARBONEAU _____			
TRUSTEE CHARLES BECKWITH _____			