

BENTON TOWNSHIP

The July 11, 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 Mike Charboneau and Trustee Beckwith. In addition Commissioner Mike Newman and Constable Tim Fenlon and 7 electorates were present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Supervisor Archambo added correspondence from County Treasurer Buffy Weldon to New Business and a Notice of Hearing from the State of Michigan regarding Consumers Energy to correspondence.

MINUTES: Treasurer Couture requested a clarification to the June 6, 2017 minutes regarding the Board's approval for hiring an employee and paying through direct deposit. There was a motion by Trustee Beckwith to approve minutes with the mentioned correction and support by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: State of Michigan Notice of Hearing for the customers of DTE Gas Company regarding a request that the Michigan Public Service commission approve the Reconciliation of its 2016 Energy Optimization Plan expenses. State of Michigan Notice of Hearing for the Natural Gas and Electric Customers of Consumers Energy Company regarding a request that the Michigan Public Service commission review and approve the Company's reconciliation of a 2016 Energy Optimization Plan and find that the Company has complied with the energy savings targets imposed by 2008 Public Act 295. State of Michigan notice before the Michigan Public Service commission for the gas customers of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-Op requesting a TIER Ratemaking mechanism review for the twelve-month period ending 12/31/16 for its Regulated Gas Division.

A letter from SBA Communications regarding the exclusive Commercial Wireless Telecommunications Site Management Agreement in partnership with the State of Michigan to manage and market all State properties and tower sites for commercial wireless builds and collocations. One MPSCS tower is located in Benton Township near Cordwood Point.

DEQ Notice of Authorization regarding a court ordered removal of a permanent dock and associated structures and pilings for James Nihls.

DEQ Notice of Authorization regarding a permit for riprap and stone placement along 100' feet of shoreline for Chuck Robiadek. A letter of thanks from Michigan Township Association regarding Benton Township's membership renewal.

An informational letter from Cheboygan County Administrator, Jeff Lawson, regarding the Cheboygan County Road Loan Program that is available to townships.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church sent notice regarding their evangelistic students that will be distributing free religious literature in the Benton Township area June through August 2017.

REPORTS: Trustee Beckwith reported on the maintenance and improvements at Oak Hill Cemetery. Trustee Beckwith provided a map of the Top of Michigan Trails Council Trail Network in northern Michigan. A biking path from Cheboygan State Park to the Pavilion in downtown Cheboygan is planned. Maps will be available in the future.

Supervisor Archambo reported on the Alverno Fire Dept. Board appointments that were voted on at the June 2017 meeting. Andrew Archambo is the Chairman, Steve Crusoe is the Vice Chairman and Rachel Vallance is the Treasurer. Aloha Township has opted to repair the roof of AFD Station #2 that was damaged in a storm last month.

Treasurer Couture reported that all property tax bills were printed and mailed by July 3rd.

Clerk Passeno reported on the audit that is being conducted by Nieland and Kosanke. Jeff Chevalier reviewed the computer system and suggested a battery backup for the server and bi-annual maintenance for the computer system. A computer system review will be conducted around the 1st of June and the 1st of November. A motion to update the website program with MCG Web Development, Inc. was made by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Beckwith. Motion carried. Consumers Power will be reviewing our street lights and sending out new contracts. A resident pointed out the error of the telephone number for Benton Township in the Phone Book. Clerk Passeno suggested that the Board review and sort the items in the storage area in the attic this fall. The newsletter that was mailed with the property tax bills was reviewed for errors regarding the cost per 30 gallon bag and open hours at the transfer station on Saturdays. The board will continue to monitor the cost of recycling and review the program at budget time next year.

Library Liaison: Mary Ellen Eno reported that the Library has contracted with Merit Network and anticipate that it will be fully operational in September. Ads for the library programs are in the Shoppers Fair. Lance Williams has been hired to removing a tree around the library. The account balance is \$ 252,198.02.

Fire Chief: Fire Chief Williams was unavailable, Captain Patrick LaCross reported that there has been a lot of calls for down power lines with the recent weather.

Groundkeeper: Doug Felmlee reported that the park water fountain has been plugged with sand. The frequency of the road end maintenance will be monitored for necessity. The Alberta Spruce trees on the north side of the Community Center are not in good shape and will be replaced with the Burning Bushes to match the west side of the building.

OLD BUSINESS: The property split/line adjustment for Robert Cyman was re-visited under advisement of Assessor Clayton McGovern. A motion to approve the property split per Clayton McGovern's request was made by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Beckwith. Motion carried.

Two bids for the cleaning of carpets in the Hall were accepted and the job was awarded to Straits Area Janitorial. The carpets will be cleaned on July 22, 2017.

The request for tires from the transfer station to Mr. Aubert for a negative carbon footprint building was tabled until a written request is received.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion to approve a request for a property split for Carol Neumann was made by Treasurer Couture and supported by Supervisor Archambo. Motion carried.

A proposed property split for Ruth Ann Snyder was denied until further information is received. The request needs to be on Benton Township's application form, authorization from the owner needs to be confirmed and confirmation of purchase agreements from the adjoining land owners will need to be obtained.

A Michigan Township of Governance was presented and signed by all Board members.

A proposed resolution for the Alternative Board of Review dates was tabled until specified dates in December are included in the resolution.

A motion to accept a bid from Pitch Black Asphalt was made by Archambo and supported by Charboneau for the seal coating of the playground parking lot and restriping 45 lines at the cost of \$2500.00 and seal coating the parking lot by roadway and restripe 20 lines at the cost of \$1200.00. Motion carried. Supervisor will request bids for the re-paving of the Community Center parking lot.

A motion to transfer \$75,000.00 from the Road Fund to the General Checking account was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

A motion to pay the Cheboygan County Road Commission invoice of \$250,745.27 minus the \$25,000.00 contribution from the CCRC was made by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Charboneau. Motion carried.

A motion to have the current copy machine repaired by Williams Office Equipment was made by Supervisor Archambo and supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion Carried. The subject will be revisited when the budget for the year is discussed.

A letter from Cheboygan County Treasurer , Buffy Weldon regarding the request from Treasurer Couture to have all millage rates voted on the year prior to taxes being levied to prevent rebilling the amount that was already included on the summer billing.

Public Comment: Commissioner Newman reported that the Cheboygan County Commissioners have received six applications for the District #1 position that was vacated by Chris Brown. A special meeting will be held on Friday, July 14, 2017 to fill the position.

Mary Ellen Eno inquired into the possibility of spot brining on the north end of Little Canada Road. Supervisor Archambo will make inquiries and follow up on the issue.

MTA will be hosted by Forest Township Hall on July 27th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

BILLS: Clerk Passeno presented a list of bills for the Boards approval. A motion to approve the bills was made by Supervisor Archambo and supported by Trustee Beckwith.

ADJOURNMENT: There was a motion by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Beckwith to adjourn the June Benton Township meeting at 9:10pm. Motion carried.

July-17			
CHECK NUMBER	PAYEE	FUND	AMOUNT
7/7/2017	IRS	101	\$ 1,382.66
3703	Ann Couture	101	\$ 2,379.14
3704	Carquest Auto Parts	101	\$ 260.99
3705	Jayne L. Passeno	101	\$ 108.98
3706	John Hancock	101	\$ 2,317.38
3707	National Office Products	101	\$ 279.02
3708	PIE & Gas Co-Op	101	\$ 409.80
3709	Rivertown Do It Center	101	\$ 12.99
3710	State of Michigan	101	\$ 317.12
3711	All-Phase Electric	101	\$ 31.76

3712	Apex Software	101	\$ 195.00
3713	AT&T	101	\$ 298.96
3714	Bavarian Inn Lodge	101	\$ 103.95
3715	Beckman Production Services	101	\$ 2,772.00
3716	Emmet county Dept of Public Works	101	\$ 3,490.00
3717	Jeff Chavalier	101	\$ 160.00
3718	Oakhill Cemetery	101	\$ 4,500.00
3719	Void	101	\$ -
3720	Williams Office Equipment	101	\$ 335.00
3721	Cheboygan Daily Tribune	101	\$ 87.80
3722	Bavarian Inn Lodge	101	\$ 103.95
3723	Cheb. County Road Commission	101	\$225,745.27
3724	Charlie Reager	101	\$ 92.35
3725	Gary Williams	101	\$ 92.35
DD969	Andrew Archambo	101	\$ 1,167.29
DD970	Charles Beckwith	101	\$ 411.25
DD971	Michael Charboneau	101	\$ 243.71
DD972	Ann Couture	101	\$ 1,430.90
DD973	Clayton McGovern	101	\$ 2,525.03
DD974	Jayne L. Passeno	101	\$ 1,285.02
3726	Dave Conlin	101	\$ 25.00
3727	Consumers Energy	101	\$ 328.22
3728	Great Lakes Fire & Safety	101	\$ 109.00
3729	PIE & Gas Co-Op	101	\$ 263.21
3730	Republic Services	101	\$ 3,841.90
3731	Straits Area Janitorial LLC	101	\$ 659.00
3732	Taylor Power & Supply Co.	101	\$ 37.36
3733	Williams Office Equipment	101	\$ 1,548.00
3734	Jayne L. Passeno	101	\$ 50.00
3694	Keith Fen Ion	101	\$ 50.00
3695	Lance Johnson	101	\$ 50.00
DD975	Deborah Berden	101	\$ 162.10
DD976	Douglas Felmlie	101	\$ 629.24
	Keith Fen Ion	101	\$ -
DD977	Chuck Getz Jr.	101	\$ 190.91
DD978	Carol Neumann	101	\$ 391.56
DD979	Marvin Smith	101	\$ 753.58
			\$261,628.75
SUPERVISOR ANDREW ARCHAMBO			
TREASURER ANN COUTURE			
CLERK JAYNE PASSENO			

TRUSTEE MICHAEL CHARBONEAU			
TRUSTEE CHARLES BECKWITH			