

BENTON TOWNSHIP

The November 7, 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, Constable Tim Fenlon and 8 electorates were present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Clerk Passeno added a correction to the minutes from October 3, 2017. A transfer of \$2000.00 was approved from the Contingency Fund to the Road fund was listed as \$4000.00 in error.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Beckwith to accept the minutes from the October 3, 2017 with the correction of the \$2000.00 transfer from the Contingency Fund to the Road and the Board authorization of checks processed in October. Support was offered by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: State of Michigan before the Michigan Public Service Commission Notice of Hearing for the Electric Customers of Consumers Energy Company Case No U-18231 regarding the regulatory reviews, revisions, determinations and/or approvals necessary for Consumers Energy Company to fully comply with Public Act 295 of 2008.

A letter from Cheboygan County Road Commission Engineer/Manager Brent Shank to Donald Henkel regarding the Right of Way at the end of Beebe Road. The CRCC has not abandoned this property and the Quit Claim deed recorded by Mr. Henkel does not eliminate the CRCC's jurisdiction and any signs or a gate placed on the Beebe Road right of way will be removed. Supervisor Archambo provided a letter that was posted on a gate blocking the Right of Way on Beebe Road from the CRCC to Donald Henkel ordering the gate be removed within 30 days.

Treasurer Couture questioned the absence of correspondence from LARA regarding the census.

REPORTS: Treasurer Couture reported that Hentco Tennis Court Specialist repaired the courts at no cost to Benton Township.

Clerk Passeno reported that the message center from Kirby Built will be shipped Friday November 10th. Municipal Underwriters of Michigan's original invoice of \$6547.00 has been revised to \$6087.00 for the 2017/2018 policy year. This is a yearly 4% increase due to the increase in replacement values. A deposit refund for the Community Center Rental was denied for Kendra Brown. PIE & Gas Co-Op mailed a Capital Credit Refund for years between 1984 & 1999 in the amount of \$60.78. The Benton Township website is currently being revised by MCG Web Development, Inc. A synopsis of the loss of income due to Veterans Exemptions was presented. Jeff Chevalier will be contacted to update the server before the December Property Taxes are printed. Clerk Passeno asked permission to attend a MTA Conference on the subject of accounting and payroll on November 14 in St. Ignace. Treasurer Couture made a motion, Supervisor Archambo supported the motion. Motion carried by all. Review and updates on township policies will be discussed on a monthly basis.

Library Liaison, Mary Ellen Enos reported that Dan Welihan has been appointed to the Library Board replacing Dick Wheelock for the City of Cheboygan liaison. The new fiber optic internet has been installed and is increasing the speed of downloads. The September bank balance is \$175,412.57.

Pat LaCross reported on the various activities of Fire Department including the increase in training to twice a month.

Groundskeeper, Doug Felmlee reported on the winterizing of the playground and restrooms and the continued leaf removal. The job of power washing the exterior of Fire Station #4 will be awarded next summer. A picture of the recycle offenders has been posted for public viewing. The sheriff department will be contacted to help locate the offenders. Trustee Beckwith reported on the excessive dumping of large household furniture on Alpena State Road. The DNR is monitoring the situation.

OLD BUSINESS: The quality of the paving of the parking lot between the Hall and Community Center by Xtreme Asphalt was discussed. Repairs will be made in the spring and Trustee Charboneau suggested seal coating the area next summer. A motion to pay the invoice was made by Supervisor Archambo and support was offered by Trustee Charboneau.

Correspondence from Joe Kosanke regarding the two year audit was reviewed with no further questions. A motion to accept the audit was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Clerk Passeno.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion to accept the following budget transfer was made by Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Beckwith. Motion carried.

204-000-696.000	Road Fund Process from Long Term Debt.	\$200,000.00
204-446-802.000	Road Fund Construction and Maintenance	200,000.00
101-101-998.000	General Fund Contingency	20,600.00
101-446-966.020	General Fund Contribution to other funds	20,600.00
204-000-691.000	Road Fund Contribution from other funds	20,600.00
101-000-001.001	General Fund Cash	16,600.00
101-446-966.020	General Fund Contribution to other funds	16,600.00
204-000-001.001	Road Fund Cash	16,600.00
204-000-691.000	Road Fund Contribution from other funds	16,600.00
101-101-998.000	General Fund Contingency Fund	1,975.00
101-101-801.000	General Fund Professional Services	1,000.00
101-215-960.000	General Fund Clerk Education & Training	300.00
101-253-860.000	General Fund Treasurer Transportation	325.00
101-253-960.000	General Fund Treasurer Education & Training	350.00

The Board will research generators for the Community Center and Hall or other safety equipment that is needed and apply for the Par Plan Grant next spring.

A motion to decline the property offer by Cheboygan County Treasurer , Buffy Weldon for the unsold parcel at the 2nd auction was made by Trustee Beckwith and supported by Treasurer Couture. Motion carried

A discussion regarding the escheat check from DIRECTV Inc. resulted in a determination that funds were not owed to Benton Township for Personal Property. Supervisor Archambo signed the “do not re-issue” section of the letter.

Supervisor made a motion to pay CCRC the remaining balance of \$216,571.46 for the Canton Road/West Black Lane project and supported by Trustee Beckwith. Motion carried by all.

Treasurer Couture will distribute dump tickets to Benton Township home owners only. Veteran exempt and hardship properties owners will be able to pick up their dump tickets at the hall.

The newsletter for the winter property taxes was discussed and approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Marv Smith requested permission to allow a few local residents that pick up garbage in the woods of Benton Township to dump at the transfer station.

Commissioner Mike Newman spoke on the Meijer Store project and the possibility of mediation by the County between the City of Cheboygan and Inverness Township. The removal of the Gold Front building is continuing to move forward.

MTA will be hosted by Benton Township Hall on December 7, 2017 at 6:00 pm.

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 Treasurer Couture and supported by Trustee Charboneau to adjourn the November Benton Township meeting at 8:47pm. Motion carried.

November-17			
CHECK NUMBER	PAYEE	FUND	AMOUNT
	IRS	101	\$ 1,305.98
3812	State of Michigan	101	\$ 305.06
3804	AT&T	101	\$ 311.37
3805	Black River Sand & Gravel	101	\$ 1,700.00
3806	Cheboygan County Road Commission	101	\$ 216,571.46
3807	Dave Conlin	101	\$ 25.00
3808	Municipal Underwriters of MI	101	\$ 6,087.00
3809	National Office Products	101	\$ 210.92
3810	Rivertown Do-It Center	101	\$ 27.65
3811	Tractor Supply	101	\$ 31.98
DD1018	Andrew Archambo	101	\$ 1,122.64
DD1019	Charles Beckwith	101	\$ 277.29
DD1020	Michael Charboneau	101	\$ 243.72
DD1021	Ann Couture	101	\$ 1,477.68
DD1022	Clayton McGovern	101	\$ 2,525.03
DD1023	Jayne L. Passeno	101	\$ 1,285.02
DD1024	Deborah Berden	101	\$ 162.10
DD1025	Douglas Felmlee	101	\$ 358.42
DD1026	Keith Fen lon	101	\$ 39.64
DD1027	Chuck Getz Jr.	101	\$ 92.07
DD1028	Carol Neumann	101	\$ 358.64
DD1029	Marvin Smith	101	\$ 354.64
3813	AT&T	101	\$ 95.47
3814	Consumer Energy	101	\$ 302.16
3815	Dave Conlin	101	\$ 25.00
3816	Emmet County Dept. of Public Works	101	\$ 2,820.00
3817	PIE & Gas Co-Op	101	\$ 282.59
3818	Republic Services	101	\$ 3,993.31
			\$ 242,391.84
SUPERVISOR ANDREW ARCHAMBO			
TREASURER ANN COUTURE			
CLERK JAYNE PASSENO			
TRUSTEE MICHAEL CHARBONEAU			
TRUSTEE CHARLES BECKWITH			