

BENTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 11, 2020 7:00PM

The August 11, 2020 Benton Township Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Five board members were present: Supervisor Andy Archambo, Treasurer Ann Couture, Clerk Carol Neumann, Trustee Charles Beckwith, and Trustee Mike Charboneau. In addition Commissioner Mike Newman and Constable Tim Fenlon and 9 electorates were present. Due to Coronavirus State restrictions we held the meeting outside Township Hall.

Minutes: Trustee Beckwith made a motion to accept the July 7, 2020 minutes and bills paid in the month of July and the motion was supported by Trustee Charboneau. Motion was carried by all.

Correspondence: Supervisor Archambo read four EGLE notices, three Charter notices, and two State of Mich. notices. Dollar General sent Benton Township a notice that they are withdrawing from the property on North Black River Road.

Board Member Comments: Supervisor Archambo stated that the County is getting the roads ready for brining and the brining should start this Thursday. Clerk Neumann stated that the elections went very good. Benton Township had about 290 people show up to vote and almost 700 Absentee ballots. Treasurer Couture made a motion to approve the 2020 Tax Rate Request and was supported by Supervisor Archambo. Motion was carried by all. Library Board Liaison stated that the Library has 14 computers to use. The Library is getting 50 new chairs. Library balance for July is \$44198.46. Fire Chief Gary Williams stated July was a busy month with 3 assist, 1 smoke alarm, 2 personal, 1 property, 1 water accident, 14 lines down, 5 gas leaks, and 1 structure fire. Chief Williams stated they have cancelled all trainings and meetings until further notice. Chief Williams stated that 2 fireman have tested positive for having had Corona and 3 firemen having to quarantine from exposure. Groundskeeper Doug Felmlee reported that the 2 new recycle bins are here. Doug is contacting 2 companies for removal of tires at the transfer station. Doug will be putting up signs on the walking trail and courts to do weed spraying in the next few weeks.

Old Business: Treasurer Couture made a motion ,when the new maintenance building plans gets a seal, to put it up for bids. The motion was supported by Trustee Charboneau and the motion was carried by all. Supervisor will be putting bids in the paper for replacing the ramp at Benton Township hall and new cement slab at the Community Center. Clerk Neumann will be contacting Rich Clements on getting an Architect seal on new maintenance building plans and sending them out for bids. Supervisor Archambo reported that Matt Barber will be putting cement slabs under the recycle bins by this fall and will fix the drain at the end of driveway at hall at the same time. Trustee Charboneau stated he ordered parts to install new exhaust in the Fire hall #1 but it will be awhile for the parts to come in. Trustee got one bid for painting the inside of Alverno Hall #1 from Brian Johnson for the amount \$1850.00. Treasurer Couture made a motion to accept the bid and was supported by Supervisor Archambo. Motion was carried by all.

New business: The Board decided to cancel all Hall rentals for the month of September and to go month to month on deciding on closure of Hall rental. Supervisor Archambo will be getting prices on new tables and chairs for the Community Center for next month's meeting. Groundskeeper Felmlee stated he will be removing about 6 old tables that the township low'n's out because they are in bad shape plus a few broken chairs. Treasurer Couture will be getting prices on finishing curbs at the park also Couture will be getting prices on 2 more metal benches for the court area. Treasurer Couture stated that the two garbage cans at the park are in rough shape and should be replaced.

Public Comment: Commissioner Newman stated that with the passing of Cal Gouine that his postision will be appointed. John Brown and Ron Williams both showed interest in postison.

The MTA for August at Munro Township has been cancelled due to Coronavirus state restrictions.

Clerk Neumann read the bills to be paid in the month of August. A motion was made by Supervisor Archambo to approve bills and was supported by Trustee Beckwith. Motion was carried by all.

A motion by Treasurer Couture to adjourn the meeting at 7:49pm with support by Supervisor Archambo was made and carried by all.