

BENGAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

December 13th, 2023 -7:00PM

Township Hall, 6586 West M-21 St. Johns MI

Regular Board Meeting

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was said and the meeting commenced.

**Call to Order** – Roll call – present: Sillman, Pung, Bassette, Boak; absent: McDonald

Trustee Sillman presented the **agenda** for review. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the agenda, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette presented the **November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes** for review. Changes to the roll call portion were discussed, and “2023” was added after March 7 for the Dexter Trail Discussion paragraph. Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes with changes, supported Treasurer Pung, motion carried.

**Public in attendance:** Lynda Roof, Suzy Williams

**Public Comment on Agenda Items** – Suzy Williams discussed the importance of getting the bridge on Dexter Trail road fixed, pointing out the extra time it will take emergency vehicles from Dallas Township to get to the properties on Dexter Trail.

## REPORTS

**Commissioner Report** – n/a

**Planning Commission Report** – n/a

Lynda Roof and Suzy Williams gave the **Delegate Report**, they shared information about what a delegate does within the township adding that Steve Lewis from Bath area leads the county delegates.

**Sheriff Report** – n/a

Treasurer Pung gave the **Treasurer Report** discussing that nothing was out of the ordinary for the township last month. Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, supported by Trustee Boak, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette gave the **Clerks Report**, she reviewed the monthly clerk's report stating it is inline with the Treasurer Report. An update on next years election cycles was discussed, there are four elections in the township next year, the February and November elections will include early voting. There is a clerk meeting with the state on December 19<sup>th</sup> and early voting training in early January, so more information will follow. Since Clerk Bassette will learn more over the next month about early voting and permanent absent voter processes, the cost analysis for the added deputy clerk (and elections) was tabled. Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the Clerk Report, supported by Treasurer Pung, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette presented the **bills to be paid**, Treasurer Pung made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$15,174.42, supported by Trustee Boak, motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Trustee Sillman discussed the **Dexter Trail bridge**, advising the new estimated amount of \$850,000. Doug Stephen will be at the January meeting to discuss the bridge estimate and answer questions the board may have.

Treasurer Pung discussed suggestions of the **Hall Rental contract and documentaton review**. There was discussion regarding the suggested rental increase for both township and non-township renters, no decision was made on the rental increase, Treasurer Pung will make discussed changes and bring back to the January meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Board Comments** – n/a

**Motion of Excused Absence** – Trustee Sillman made a motion to excuse Supervisor McDonald's absence from today's meeting, supported by Treasurer Pung, motion carried.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** - none

The meeting was **ajourned** at 8:22 pm.