

BENGAL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET and  
BENGAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – March 9, 2016  
7:00 P.M. at the Bengal Township Hall

The regularly- scheduled Bengal Township Board meeting as well as the Public Hearing on the Budget was called to order by Supervisor Schafer at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Deborah Schafer, Supervisor; Elizabeth D. Ayoub, Clerk; Denice Schultheiss, Treasurer; William Kushmaul, Trustee; and Nick McDonald, Trustee.

Members of the public present: Terry Thruston, Marcia Pung, Brenda Zlotek, Lori Pung, Sharon Bassette, George Ayoub.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The pledge of allegiance to our flag was said. It was recommended that "Forest Hill" be added to the agenda under "Old Business." Schultheiss moved, seconded by Kushmaul, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

After review of the minutes from the February 10, 2016 meeting, Kushmaul moved, McDonald seconded, that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Kushmaul, seconded by McDonald, and carried unanimously.

Schultheiss moved, Schafer seconded, to amend the **2015-2016** budget as follows: increase the supervisor's salary by \$24; increase the assessor's salary by \$102; increase election supplies to \$1,600; increase election salaries to \$1,400; increase the St. Johns standby fee to \$5,725; increase the Metro Authority Ditch Mowing to \$3,023; increase the drain-at-large by \$64. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to pay claims against the township in the amount of \$5,976.95 was made by McDonald, seconded by Schultheiss, and carried unanimously.

Schultheiss moved, Kushmaul seconded, that a transfer of \$150 from the general checking account be made into the hall-rental-security-deposit account. Motion carried unanimously.

Schafer opened the floor for comments on the proposed budget. Lori Pung stated that if the interim zoning ordinance is passed by the township board, there will need to be money allocated in the budget for a zoning administrator. She also commended the board on paying off the mortgage loan on the township hall, and then asked a question regarding delinquent taxes. George Ayoub asked if this budget is the first draft of the budget upon which the public can comment, and asked that the expenses for each activity center – supervisor, clerk, and

treasurer – be segregated. With no further comments from the public, Schafer closed the public hearing on the budget.

Commissioner Dave Pohl reported that it is likely that the 911 surcharge millage will be on the August primary ballot. He also reported that the county is expending funds to update printers which are currently in cars driven by the sheriff's department.

Deputy Wiswasser reported on incidences which required assistance from the sheriff's department in Bengal Township last month.

Resolutions for Board Member's Salaries were passed as attached. Salaries for the 2016-2017 year will be as follows: Supervisor - \$8,500; Clerk - \$9,500; Treasurer - \$9,500; Trustees - \$1,900 each.

Kushmaul moved, seconded by Schultheiss, that the township adopt the Collection Procedures Policy with changes that were requested to be made. Ayoub objected, on behalf of the township residents, positing that this policy might open the township up to more lawsuits. The motion carried.

The planning commission reported and had disseminated to the Board members the draft of the interim zoning ordinance. The planning commission requested that the Board allocate funds to have one section of the ordinance reviewed. The Board tabled the request until next month, when all members will have had a chance to read, review, and understand the entire final draft.

Ayoub moved, Kushmaul seconded, that the township hire Mark W. Holley as the township's new assessor pursuant to the terms outlined in the January 11<sup>th</sup> proposal received by Holley. Motion carried unanimously. Holley will become the new Bengal Township Supervisor effective April 1, 2016.

Nothing new to report under the agenda items of roads, ambulance, or Forest Hill Energy, and with no further business being before the Board, upon motion made the meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elizabeth D. Ayoub, Clerk

\*\*\*\*Pending Approval\*\*\*\*

Approved \_\_\_\_\_