

**BENGAL TOWNSHIP BOARD
MEETING 7:00 PM**

MAY 12, 2021

The Bengal Township Board meeting was brought to order by Supervisor McDonald at 7:00 pm.

Members present: Nick McDonald, Sharon Bassette, Stan Sillman, Eric Boak, and Denice Schultheiss.

Community present: Dave Pohl, Mark Holley

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

Supervisor McDonald presented the **agenda and changes were made to add Mark Holley**. Supervisor McDonald moved to accept the agenda as updated, supported by Clerk Bassette, motion carried.

The **April 14, 2021 Board meeting** were presented by Clerk Bassette. A motion was made by Trustee Sillman, Treasurer Schultheiss supported, motion carried.

Treasurer Schultheiss provided the **Annual Report/Budget for the Township** and reviewed the Treasurer's Report for April, nothing out of the ordinary. Anything for the June Newsletter should be given to her soon, she will contact Lori for information from the Planning Commission. Trustee Sillman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Clerk Bassette supported, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette discussed the Clerk's Report and inconsistencies with the Treasurers Report less than \$250, and questions on posting transactions for the Chloride/Road accounts. Clerk Bassette will have a flyer ready to review for the Park Exploration Committee flyer for the June Bulletin. Treasurer Schultheiss made a motion to accept the Clerk's Report as presented, Trustee Boak supported, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette presented the **current bills to be paid**. Treasurer Schultheiss moved to approve the bills as presented, pending Lori Pung's approval on the McKenna bills, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: n/a

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Mark Holley discussed the Township being "unlocked" now, which means that the County has approved the reporting. **The L4029** was presented and signed for submission to the County. Mark advised of the effect of the CARES Act decision regarding non-payment of mortgages for people who struggled to pay their mortgage payments during Covid. He advised that we will possibly see taxable value go up 5% (the max amount possible), which have not changed since 1994. SEV's could possibly go up 10-15%. He added that ultimately, they will come back down. He suggested that we begin to prepare the community. We will put a notice in the November News Letter. Mark also advised that the township will be audited by the State next year.

David Pohl gave a **Commissioner's report** advising on letters being mailed by Spicer Engineering and the Drain Commission who have worked on a project to help identify properties within the Flood zone AE areas who may have potential for Map Amendment with FEMA based on recent LiDAR elevation data. The County plans for a scrap tire drive again in the fall. Emergency COVID plan for the County and online meetings. He discussed the two new Judges in the County and advise they work well with the county. He advised that the Road Commission will likely be looking at a new facility in the next couple of years. The County Fair Grounds will be used for a downsized 4-H fair. The Mint Festival will not be using the fair grounds this year. He asked everyone to get their friends to get vaccinated. Covid relief funds for the township could be coming in the future, more to come on this.

No **Sheriff's report** was given.

No **Planning Commission** report was given. Supervisor McDonald stated that there was not much going on right now.

OLD BUSINESS:

rustee Boak attended the last **Clinton County Area Ambulance Services meeting**, discussing that the budget was approved during that meeting.

Supervisor McDonald went over the **Agreement for Improvements on Clinton County Roads** for road work at Essex Center from Walker to Kinley, Grove from Taft/Centerline, Bauer from M21 to Townsend, Lowell from Walker to Kinley, Taft from Forest Hill to Francis, Grove from Taft WB to Parks, Townsend from Bauer to Wacousta, Walker from Lowell to Airport, Taft from Forest Hill to Wacousta, brush spray, Overband crack fill, various local grave roads gravel, and Bauer Rd S. of Kinley intersection, the total amount for the road work totaling \$160,725. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the road work as presented, supported by Treasurer Schultheiss, motion carried. Further, Treasurer Schultheis made a motion to approve \$3850 for mowing the shoulders on gravel roads in the amount of \$3850, Clerk Bassette supported, motion carried. Sharon to scan and send signed copies to the Road Commission and to Supervisor McDonald. Treasurer Schultheiss made a motion to increase the road work budget amount to \$161,000, supported by Clerk Bassette, motion carried.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the St. Johns Fire and Rescue contract for this fiscal year describing not change over last year. Treasurer Schultheiss made a motion to accept the contract as presented, supported by Supervisor McDonald, motion carried. Sharon to scan and send.

BOARD COMMENTS: We will wait an see what next month brings but plan on in person meeting.

ADJOURN MEETING:

The meeting ended at 8:20 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk Sharon Bassette.