

BENGAL TOWNSHIP BOARD

MEETING 7:00 PM

May 11, 2022

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

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

Community present: Nolan Soloman

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

Supervisor McDonald presented the **agenda** for review, the Special meeting held on 4/27/2022 was added to review them. Trustee Sillman made a motion to accept the agenda with changes, Trustee Boak supported, motion carried.

The **April 13th and April 27th meeting minutes** were presented by Clerk Bassette. Clerk Bassette made a motion to accept the April 13th meeting minutes as presented, Trustee Boak supported, motion carried. Trustee Sillman made a motion to accept the April 27th meeting minutes with changes, supported by Trustee Boak, motion carried. Treasurer Schultheiss abstained due to her resignation from the Township Board at this meeting.

Treasurer Schultheiss presented the **Treasurer's Report**. Clerk Bassette made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Trustee Sillman supported, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette gave the **Clerk's Report** and is in line with the Treasurer's report for the month. Clerk Bassette asked Nolan Soloman, from the Park Exploration Committee, to present the second questionnaire from the Park Exploration Committee to be sent with the newsletter, all were fine with the questionnaire. A discussion was had regarding the Mercantile Autobook application for billing and receiving customer invoices/payments, Treasurer Schultheiss stated that Clerk Bassette was already setup with access. The hall cleaning announcement was reviewed and changes were made. Clerk Bassette will make the suggested changes and get it posted on the website. Trustee Sillman made a motion to accept the Clerks Report as presented, supported by Trustee Boak, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette presented the **current bills to be paid**, Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the bills presented for a total of \$11,351.16, Trustee Boak supported, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Nolan Soloman inquired on the process for temporary swimming pools and the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

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No **Commissioner's Report** was given.

Lori Pung, the **Planning Commission** chair, discussed updates with ordinance language for solar and other language changes. She discussed township violations and other situations, and advised that she has updated the Zoning Compliance application to include the land split application.

Supervisor McDonald discussed **Township Board, Planning Commission, and ZBA membership changes** effective May 20th. Treasurer Schultheiss has given her resignation to the Board since she is moving out of the Township. Clerk Bassette moved to accept **Denice's resignation** and thanked her for 10 years of services as the Treasurer of the Township, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried. Denice has agreed to continue as **Deputy Treasurer** indefinitely. Lori Pung was offered, and accepted, the **appointment of Treasurer**, Clerk Bassette made a motion to appoint Lori Pung as Treasurer, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried. Lori and Denice will work together on the arrangements for Denice's contract and add Lori to the Mercantile checking account.

With Lori's appointment to the Board, Nolan Soloman from the Park Exploration Committee has agreed to accept the position of **Planning Commission Chair** as well as continue with the Park Exploration Committee. Clerk Bassette made a motion to add Nolan Soloman as the Planning Commission chair, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried. At this time incoming Treasurer Pung will temporarily act as the Planning Commission liaison and Trustee Boak will step back temporarily so that Lori can work together with Nolan in his new chair position and finish up changes to wording on the Township Ordinance. Clerk Bassette made a motion to have Lori Pung act as the Planning Commission liaison from the Board, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried.

With the departure of Tom Miller from the **Planning Commission** this June, Samuel Nielson, from the Park Exploration Committee has agreed to step into one of the member positions for the Planning Commission. Clerk Bassette made a motion to add Samuel Nielson to the Planning Commission membership, supported by Trustee Boak, motion carried

Audrey Tipper, from the Park Exploration Committee, has agreed to become a **ZBA Alternative member** replacing Kurt Fedewa as he moves off the committee. Clerk Bassette made a motion to add Audrey Tipper to the ZBA membership alternate position, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor McDonald discussed the **township land rental** for the land behind the township hall, Alex Taylor will be renting it for one year only.

No updates on the **Ambulance board**.

Supervisor McDonald presented the **road work contracts**. Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve: mowing local gravel roadsides - \$3,400; foliar brush spray - \$6563.16; Parks from Wacousta to Francis chipseal - \$56,251.20; Wacousta from M21 to Townsend gravel - \$31,575.00; Taft from Grove to Airport, gravel - \$16,560.00; various local gravel roads, gravel - \$6,425.00; Lowell from M21 to Walker, emulsion, slag stone, fogseal - \$28,475.60; overband crack fill - \$4,999.62. Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve these contracts in the amount of \$154,249.58 + \$108,636.00 (for last year's 8 miles of gravel), for a total of \$262,885.58, supported by Clerk Bassette, motion carried. Treasurer Schultheiss

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stated that the budget needed to be increased by \$43,000 from \$220,000 to \$263,000 for roads and bridges. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the budget increase for roads and bridges by \$43,000 as discussed, supported by Trustee Sillman, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk Bassette.