

BENGAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

July 9th, 2025

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was said and the meeting commenced at 7:00 pm

Roll call was taken McDonald, Tipper, Bassette, Sillman, Solomon all in attendance, no absences.

Community in Attendance: Jodi Smith

The **agenda** was reviewed and the Foster Swift Overlay Engagement Letter, and McKenna Billing were added as b. and c. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the revised agenda, Trustee Sillman supported, motion carried.

The **June 11th meeting minutes** were reviewed, Treasurer Solomon made a motion to approve the June 11th minutes as revised, Trustee Tipper supported, motion carried.

Public Comment on Agenda Items – n/a

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items - n/a

REPORTS

Commission Rudat gave the **Commissioner Report**. The Commissioner discussed the National Opioid Settlement of \$3.3 million over 18-year period, The County still has some funds remaining, Clerk Bassette suggested the Safe Center. He gave an update on the County jail discussion, noting that the county prefers to go for a new build rather than a remodel. Bassette asked “Why not send our inmates out instead of bringing inmates in?”. Also discussed was the master plan for the 4-H Fair Grounds, and ITC Power Lines upcoming attendance at the Clinton County Weights and Means meeting on July 24 at 8:30 am.

Trustee Tipper gave an update on the **Planning Commission** stating that the last PC meeting was short, they approved the minutes, and there were no other significant topics reviewed.

Library Report - n/a

Township Assessor Report - n/a

Sheriff Report - n/a

Delegate report - n/a

Jodi Smith gave the **Clinton Transit Report**, she discussed their annual report, history of the Blue Bus starting with Bill Richards and volunteer drivers, a time when it was dependent on the good will of the community. It is/was an exciting time to be part of the organization.

Trustee Solomon gave the **Treasurer Report**. General ledger checking beginning balance is \$37,572.07 ending balance is \$10,559.63; Savings ledger beginning balance is \$845,834.74, ending balance is \$869,376.34. Trustee Solomon gave an update on the website editing issues with Blue Host. Blue Host, we must do an upgrade with Blue Host now to make changes to the account, so he is working through this as the zoning ordinance needs to be updated soon. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report, Trustee Tipper supported, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette gave the **Clerks Report**, Trustee Sillman made a motion to approve the Clerk Report, Trustee Tipper supported, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette presented the **Current Bills to be paid**. Clerk Bassette made a motion to pay the current bills in the amount of \$49,897.95. Trustee Sillman supported, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Supervisor McDonald and Clerk Bassette will review the **Hall Cleaning Bids** to see who is the cheapest.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the bid to create a **path to the Rails to Trails** behind the Township Hall, he recommended going with the lowest bid at \$13,641.25 by T.H.Miller; the board agreed to follow the supervisor's direction and Trustee Sillman will contact T. H. Miller to get on their calendar.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the **Fire and Rescue contract – St. Johns**, the price is increasing, the Fire Chief is scheduled to attend the next township meeting.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the cemetery **tree trimming bids**, he is working on getting more bids.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Chief visit (SJFD), discussed previously.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the **Foster Sift Overlay District**; it will need to be updated on the ordinance and other processes; the cost could be up to \$5000 dollars to update the

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ordinance from Foster Swift. This discussion was tabled; Supervisor McDonald will discuss this with the Eagle Township supervisor since they have just worked on their ordinance.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the **McKenna expenses increasing on invoices**; he will discuss this with Chris Khorey from McKenna again.

Board Comments - The annual audit date is 7/24.

Motion of Excused Absence – n/a

Adjournment at 8:45 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk Bassette