

BENGAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

November 8th, 2023 -7:00PM

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

Regular Board Meeting Agenda

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

Call to Order – Roll call – present: Nick, Lori, Sharon, and Eric; absent: Stan

Supervisor McDonald presented the **agenda for review**. “Assessor Report” was added after the Commissioner Report under #6 Reports; “Newsletter” was added under #9 New Business. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the agenda with changes, supported by Treasurer Pung, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette presented the **October 11th meeting minutes** for review. Treasurer Pung made a motion to approve the October 11th meeting minutes as presented, supported by Clerk Bassette, motion carried.

Public in attendance: Charles Hauser, Tim Krause, Lynda Roof, Dave Pohl, Mark Holley

Public Comment on Agenda Items – none

REPORTS

Dave Pohl gave the **Commissioner Report** updating on the broadband grant which may possibly begin in the spring; the new ORV ordinance; the EPA grant supporting Regional Brownfield redevelopment, the Youth Outreach program, the Waste Management request approval, the Pratt Road park 5-year plan, the septic code, and he reminded the board about the upcoming County Township Officers Association meeting at the Road Commission on November 21st at 7:00 pm.

Mark Holley gave the **Assessors Report** and discussed the a recent township audit which was very good, he also discussed the changes from the recently passed Bills [5120-23](#), where the Michigan Public Service Commission would have permitting authority over wind, solar and energy storage projects over the township, finally he requested that the board approve the Resolution for 2024 Poverty Exemption Guidelines which is done annually. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the Resolution for 2024 Poverty Exemption Guidelines, supported by Treaser Pung, a roll-call vote was taken, yes: Nick, Lori, Sharon, Eric; Stan absent.

Planning Commission Report – n/a

Lynda Roof gave the **Delegate Report**, she advised that the delgates are working on getting a description of what delgates do in their positions.

Sheriff Report – n/a

Treasurer Pung gave the **Treasurer Report** discussing that nothing was out of the ordinery for the township last month. Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the treasurers report, supported by Trustee Boak, motion carried.

Clerk Bassette gave the **Clerks Report**, she discussed the 9 days of voting before the election, absent voter changes, Stephanie Hirschman has been approached to be the Election Chair and to work with Jenna

Benjamin with the absent voter ballots. It is important to start to train someone from the township besides herself to know the election work. Clerk Bassette will work out the costs to add Stephanie and present it at the December Board meeting to adjust the budget. Trustee Boak made a motion to approve the clerks report, supported by Treasurer Pung, motion carried.

WE HAVE THE SCHEDULE FOR:

Clerk Bassette present the **bills to be paid**, Clerk Bassette made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$32,038.91, supported by Treasurer Pung, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Charles Hauser and Tim Krause, from **Granger Waste Services**, presented the background information regarding the Resolution Approving Amendment to Clinton County Solid Waste Management Plan. Trustee Boak made a motion to approve the **Resolution Approving Amendment to Clinton County Solid Waste Management Plan**, supported by Supervisor McDonald, a roll-call vote was taken, yes: Nick, Lori, Sharon, Eric; Stan absent.

Supervisor McDonald discussed the **Dexter Trail bridge**, on March 7, 2023 the Road Commission had advised by email and with a “very confident” project proposal \$566,000; at this time the Road Commission has advised that the bridge will now cost about \$810,000, which is approximately 43% more than the original proposal. The Road Commission is requesting to know if we will move forward next spring with the bridge work and how should we move forward. The board tabled the decision until the December meeting.

Hall Rental Contract review - tabled

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer Pung presented the **Newsletter** that will be sent with the tax bills, Clerk Bassette gave some changes for the election announcement, further discussion commenced. Lori will make appropriate changes and forward to Clerk Bassette to verify her changes.

Board Comments – Trustee Boak has advised that he has had two people approach him about the condition of the mud on the roads from the farm tractors carrying it from the fields, in some places it is very slippery for drivers to get through. We have been advised by the Road Commission to contact them and they can get the road cleaned in that area. An announcement will be added in the Newsletter to have residents contact the Road Commission.

Motion of Excused Absence – since Stan did not notify he would be absent from the meeting it will not be considered excused.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items - none

The meeting was **ajourned** at 8:39 pm.