

**Bertrand Township Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 14, 2017**

Bertrand Township Hall
3835 Buffalo Rd., Buchanan, MI 49107

Supervisor Hicks called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Hicks, Payton, Vite, Zelmer

Members Absent: Kuhn

Special Guests: Brian Scribner, SMCAS Executive Director; Derek Hall, Auditor from the State of Michigan

Consent Agenda *(see attachments)*

Motion made by Zelmer supported by Vite to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- Township Board Meeting Minutes from August 10, 2017.
- Accounts Payable for the period 08/11-09/14 as presented:

Total General Fund Expenses	\$49,925.96
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses	\$19,639.57
Total WRT Fund Expenses	\$ 100.66
Total Expenses	<u>\$69,666.19</u>

- Treasurer's Report as of August 31:

General Fund	\$1,531,512.14
Total Fire Dept. Fund	\$215,591.78
Total WRT Fund	\$2,746.32
Total Fund Current Assets	<u>\$1,749,850.24</u>

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

Discussion: None.

{The Public Hearing for the SMCAS Special Assessment commenced at 7:03 p.m. and concluded at 7:34 p.m. – see separate minutes}

Reports

Sheriff's Department *(see attachment)*

Deputy Uhrick presented the monthly report. Nothing extraordinary to report.

2016/2017 Annual Audit Report

Derek Hall presented the annual audit report for Bertrand Township. His findings were favorable, using comments such as "Keep doing what you're doing" and "The township funds are in excellent shape." Over all net position increased 1.6% or \$47,876. Fund balances increased 1.8% to \$1,725,286. The report will be made available in the township hall for the public to see.

Fire Department (see attachment)

Chief Bill Knisely presented the September, 2017, monthly Fire Department report. It's been an unusually busy year for traffic accidents. There have been 90 calls for the year which is significantly above average. The fire department is still actively looking for firefighters for the department. Finally, the annual Chili Supper is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 21.

SMCAS

Significantly covered in the special hearing – nothing else to report.

Landfill (verbal report)

Dave Zelmer updated the board:

- Appointed the environmental manager as the interim business manager
- Part of the new cell is now covered
- Considering going through headhunter to fill business manager vacancy
- Financially sound

Sexton

Steve Redman brought pictures of a fallen tree in Mt. Zion cemetery. He is getting estimates for its removal.

Public Comments

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

1. Resolution to Make Public Improvements (170914A)

Motion made by Hicks, supported by Vite to adopt Resolution 170914A – Determination to Make Public Improvements; Approval of Plans and Estimate of Costs; Final Determination of Special Assessment District; Preparation of Special Assessment Roll.

Discussion:

Trustee Zelmer shared his concern with the disproportionate contribution made by the township with respect to the number of calls made by residents compared to other member entities. He also expressed his opinion of preferring to use a privatized ambulance service.

Roll call vote: **Ayes** – Hicks, Payton, Vite; **Nays** – Zelmer

Passed 3-1

2. Resolution of Second SMCAS Public Hearing (170914B)

Motion made by Hicks, supported by Payton to adopt Resolution 170914B – Filing of Special Assessment Roll for Special Assessment District; Notice of Public Hearing.

Roll call vote: **Ayes** – Hicks, Payton, Vite; **Nays** – Zelmer

Passed 3-1

Public Comments

Resident Scott Wooster had two comments and asked Chief ~~Kuhn~~ Knisely where we stood with the sale of the Tanker. Chief ~~Kuhn~~ Knisely said it is listed for \$35,000 with a listing agency that has listed it nationally on its website, and there have been no inquiries. A local charity asked him if he would consider donating it to their organization. The board

encouraged the Chief to continue listing it and perhaps lower the asking price. Trustee Zelmer suggested he ask the township attorney if donating the tanker is even a possibility.

Board Member Comments

None

Communications

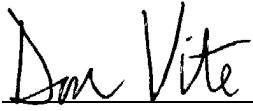
None

Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule

- The next township board meeting will be Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Hicks to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



September 17 2017

Don Vite

Date

Bertrand Township Clerk