

APPROVED MINUTES
Bertrand Township (Est. 1836)

3835 Buffalo Road, Buchanan, MI 49107

Regular Township Board Meeting

January 15, 2015

The regular board meeting scheduled for January 8th was canceled

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members present: Hicks, Kuhn, Lano, LeClaire, Zelmer Absent: none

Consent Calendar

Approval of agenda, Township board meeting minutes from December 11, 2014; approval of bills for payment; reports on file and Board of Review Resolutions 011515 A – Resolution To Establish Property Tax Poverty Exemption Guidelines for Tax Year 2015; 011515 B – Resolution Accepting Letters of Protest for March 2015 BOR; 011515 C Resolution To Provide for Alternate Starting Dates for March 2015 BOR.

Added to the agenda:

Item 6.B: Assessor requests

Item 7.B: Bertrand Crossing Annual meeting date of January 26, 2015 at 9 am.

On the Consent Calendar: Hicks stated that on the minutes from the December 11, 2014 meeting, on page two, he wanted stricken “Both Lano and Zelmer stated that they wanted it known that Supervisor Hicks appointing his wife to serve on the Planning Commission was a conflict of interest due to the financial gain the Hicks household would receive from this appointment.”

Item 2.E: Budget amendment was added. The specifics of this budget amendment were to move money into the attorney line item 266.801 in order to cover attorney expenses that have been incurred. Hicks said to move \$2,000 from Community Hall Repairs & Maintenance item 265.930 and \$2,500 from Community Hall Capital Improvements item 265.967 and \$3,264.41 from Cemetery Repairs & Maintenance for a total of \$7,764.41 being moved in to Attorney Legal fees item 266.801 bringing the total amount in the Attorney Legal fees line item to \$24,254.41. The original budgeted amount for this line item was \$4,000.

Motion was made by Lano seconded by Zelmer to approve the consent calendar as amended.

Motion carried unanimously

Fire Dept.: Chief Knisely gave a brief fire dept. report.

SMCAS: A written report was received from Nick Gowen who gave a thorough review of what occurred at the SMCAS Board of Directors meeting held on December 23, 2014. Brian Scribner was also present and gave a brief update. He spoke about the importance of MFR in the township and how we would benefit from having our fire dept. involved in a MFR program. Having a full-fledged MFR program will require the support of the full board and from the community.

Other Reports: Reports were received from the Treasurer and the Zoning Administrator.

Signal Point Resolution:

Mac Elliott legal counsel for Signal Point and Attorney John Campbell were present to address the board regarding a request to obtain approval for a Class G-1 License at Signal Point. No board action was taken at this time on this matter.

BTFD Ice Water Rescue Class:

Motion was made by Lano seconded by Zelmer to approve the Ice Water Rescue training to be held March 7th or whatever other date to be determined.

Motion carried unanimously

BTFD Truck Specification Review:

Motion was made by Lano seconded by Kuhn to put the truck spec out for bid with the exception of changing the number of days that the bid would be good from 60 days to 90 days.

Motion carried unanimously

BCRC Annual Meeting:

Motion was made by Lano seconded by Zelmer to notify the Road Commission that we would like our annual meeting to be held on March 3rd at 9 am. This date and time could be subject to change due to availability on the schedule.

Motion carried unanimously

Sheriff Report:

Deputy VanKampen arrived at 7:53 p.m. and when recognized, proceeded to hand out the Sheriff's Report of Statistics for November 2014 and briefly reviewed this info.

Renewal of Township Insurance and Form Authorizations:

Motion was made by LeClaire seconded by Zelmer to authorize the clerk and deputy clerk to be the signers on the three insurance forms; Authorized Individuals; Client Authorization to Bind Coverage; HCC Public Risk Application Declaration.

Motion carried unanimously

Brandywine School Board Request:

Motion was made by Kuhn seconded by Lano to authorize the treasurer to respond to the request from Brandywine Schools regarding the collection of their taxes at a price of \$1.50 per parcel.

Motion carried unanimously

Assessor Resolution 0111515 D

Motion was made by Lano seconded by Kuhn to adopt the Resolution 0111515 D which is the Resolution Adopting Policies and Procedures for the Public Inspection and Copying of Assessing Records.

Roll call vote: Yes: Hicks, Kuhn, Lano, LeClaire, Zelmer

Motion carried unanimously

Assessor Schedule Change Proposal

Motion was made by LeClaire seconded by Lano to approve the assessor's request to change her day and time to be in the township hall office from Tuesday's 9 a.m. to 4p.m. to Thursday's 9 a.m. to noon.

Motion carried unanimously

The next township board meeting will be Thursday, February 12, 2015

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jane Lano
Bertrand Township Clerk

dated