

**Bertrand Township Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 13, 2018**

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

Supervisor Hicks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Hicks, Kuhn, Payton, Vite, Zelmer

Members Absent: None

Special Guests: Tyler Ganus, General Manager, Southeast Berrien County Landfill; Brad Paquette, Republican Candidate for District 78 State Representative

Consent Agenda *(see attachments)*

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

- Township Board Meeting Minutes from August 9, 2018
- Accounts Payable for the period 08/10-09/13 as presented:

Total General Fund Expenses:	\$51,865.47
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses:	\$9,466.12
Total WRT Fund Expenses:	\$89.20
Total Expenses:	<u>\$61,420.79</u>

- Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2018:

General Fund:	\$1,439,967.21
Total Fire Dept. Fund:	\$272,469.16
Total WRT Fund:	\$2,465.30
Total Fund Current Assets:	<u>\$1,748,537.82</u>

Discussion:

Clerk Vite submitted a memo to the board explaining the error pointed out by our auditor Derek Hall in the P&L re: FD Fund account 971 "Capital Outlay Apparatus Repl" which is budgeted for \$15,000; the intent of the board is to use the funds to set aside for future purchase. On May 23, treasurer Kuhn put this money in a CD for that purpose. Therefore, as of September's P&L report this budgeted amount will show 0, but the Balance Sheet will show the equity account "307 – Reservd for Capital Improvements" with a balance of \$15,000 and reducing Retained Earnings by the same amount.

Treasurer Kuhn pointed out that the Electrical Inspector hasn't submitted any invoices in this fiscal year yet.

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

Reports

Sheriff's Department (*see attached*)

Deputy Hureskin presented the July 2018 report. Nothing extraordinary to report. He said no breaks on recent larcenies in the township.

Fire Department (*see attached*)

Chief Knisely submitted the September 2018 monthly Fire Department report. Two recruits will be attending Firefighter I&II classes. He's still getting quotes for 13 packs, bottles, and masks before the grant gets written; they are coming in around \$100,000. Chief noted that of the three responses on US-12, only one was from a township resident. A FD near St. Louis has shown interest in the pumper for sale.

SMCAS (*see attached*)

Chief Knisely submitted the report.

SE Berrien County Landfill

Tyler Ganus introduced himself and gave a brief overview of landfill operations. He answered board member questions and updated the board as to current and upcoming projects.

Sexton

None.

NATS

Michigan State Police will present how they determine speed limits in rural areas at the next meeting. A resident has requested that a speed study be done on Bertrand Rd. near the intersection of Orange Rd.

Public Comments

Brad Paquette spoke and reiterated to the board that should he be elected as State Representative he wants to work closely with the board in empowering us to do our job as effectively as possible.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

1. Plumbing Inspector Resignation

Motion made by Hicks, seconded by Zelmer to accept Ray Cole's resignation as Bertrand Township Mechanical and Electrical Inspector effective September 13.

Voice vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

2. Mechanical and Plumbing Inspector Candidate Recommendation

Motion made by Hicks, seconded by Vite, to hire Ken Jewell as an independent contractor to be the Bertrand Township Mechanical and Plumbing Inspector – contingent upon his plumbing license receipt from the state (paperwork has been submitted).

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

3. Community Building Concrete Proposal

Motion made by Vite, seconded by Zelmer, to table discussion about hiring a concrete contractor for the community building steps and sidewalk until specific specs are defined by the board.

Discussion: Currently, two contractors presented bids to the board. However, they were difficult to compare because one included stamping and coloring while the other included tearing out the old steps. The board will define the specific needs and get a couple more quotes.

Voice vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

4. BTFD Recommendations

Motion made by Hicks, seconded by Kuhn, to hire Troy Stout and rehire Lee Ashcraft to the BTFD both with certified firefighter status.

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

Public Comments

Chief Knisely asked the board to consider guard rails on the portion of West River Rd where there is a 15' ravine. A traffic accident recently at that location could have been much worse had the car went down the embankment.

Board Member Comments

Vite said the township auditor Derek Hall performed his audit last week and will present it in the October board meeting.

Hicks gave an update on the tickets issued that they are still being held up in the court because of staff turnover and unfamiliarity with the procedures of handling our kind of ticket in the court.

Communications

- None

Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule

- The next township board meeting will be Thursday, October 11, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Hicks to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Vite
Bertrand Township Clerk

September 18, 2018

Dated