

**Bertrand Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, November 8, 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

Special Guests: None

**Consent Agenda** *(see attachments)*

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

- Add Item #5 Budget Amendment to the Consent Agenda
- Township Board Meeting Minutes from October 11, 2018
- Accounts Payable for the period 10/12-11/08 as presented:

Total General Fund Expenses:	\$29,596.35
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses:	\$7,510.73
Total WRT Fund Expenses:	\$86.63
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b><u>\$37,193.71</u></b>

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

General Fund:	\$1,327,658.47
Total Fire Dept. Fund:	\$250,359.27
Total WRT Fund:	\$2,111.37
<b>Total Fund Current Assets:</b>	<b><u>\$1,580,129.11</u></b>

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

**Reports**

**Sheriff's Department**

None.

**Fire Department** *(see attached)*

Chief Knisely submitted the November 2018 monthly Fire Department report. Nothing extraordinary. The annual Chili Supper will be this Saturday, November 10, from 5 - 8 p.m. and sponsored by the Bertrand Township Firefighter's Association. Chief also requested the board's approval to permit the annual vaccination clinic at Fire Station #1 sponsored by the Berrien County Animal Control.

**Motion** made by Vite, seconded by Zelmer to permit the Berrien County Animal Control to hold the annual vaccination clinic at Station #1 on January 12.

Voice Vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

SMCAS (*see attached*)

Chief Knisely submitted a written report.

SE Berrien County Landfill (*see attachments*)

Dave Zelmer gave a verbal report.

- Work continues at the SBR. It was supposed to be completed on October 31, but now looking like the end of the year.
- New lighted sign with messaging at the main entrance.

Sexton

None

Planning Commission

See below.

NATS

Butch said there's a "Call for Projects".

Public Comments

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

1. Resolution 181108A

**Motion** made by Vite, seconded by Payton to approve Resolution 181108A – "Resolution to Approve Distribution of the Draft Bertrand Township Master Plan Update and Assert the Township Board's Right to Approve the Plan".

**Discussion:** PC Chairman Mark Wagner gave a brief presentation to the board re: the status of the Master Plan Draft. The Resolution is required by the state to distribute to neighboring communities and relevant agencies.

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

2. Marihuana Establishment Ordinance 2018-1108A

**Motion** made by Vite, seconded by Payton to adopt Ordinance 2018-1108A – "An Ordinance to Completely Prohibit Marihuana Establishments in Bertrand Township".

**Discussion:** Supervisor Hicks shared a communication from our township attorney with her advice for the board to consider that the state currently has weak and untested systems in place re: security and safety of commercial recreational marihuana establishments. By default, the township is "opted in", but Section 6.1 of the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act of 2018 ("MRTMA") that just passed on November 8 allows municipalities to completely prohibit them through the passage of an ordinance.

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

### 3. Review of Landfill Resolution & Study

**Discussion:** City of Niles has passed a Resolution and is urging each of the member municipalities of the SEBC Landfill to do the same to determine questions for a feasibility study. They were pressing for our board to pass this resolution at this meeting. Treasurer Kuhn and Trustee Zelmer, being our representatives on the landfill board, expressed their reservations in hastily doing anything without very diligent and careful deliberation. They have requested a special meeting to discuss the issues further and give time to consider the ramifications.

Supervisor Hicks called a Special Meeting for Thursday, November 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the township hall.

#### **Public Comments**

None.

#### **Board Member Comments**

Clerk Vite said the election was the largest mid-term turnout ever with 1,256 ballots cast. There were about 300 fewer than ballots cast for the 2016 Presidential election.

Treasurer Kuhn praised the Election Inspector team for their hard work and diligence in a long and grueling day.

#### **Communications**

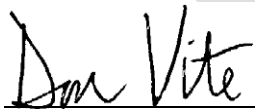
None

#### **Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule**

- Fire Department Chili Supper this Saturday, November 10 from 5–8 p.m. at Station 1
- Special Board Meeting on November 29 at 6:30 p.m.
- The annual Christmas Open House lunch with the board is at noon on December 13.
- The next regular township board meeting will be Thursday, December 13, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

With no further discussion, **motion** by Hicks to adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Vite  
Bertrand Township Clerk

November 9, 2018

Dated

**BERTRAND TOWNSHIP**  
**BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

RESOLUTION 181108A

At a meeting of the Bertrand Township Board, held at 7:00 p.m. on November, 8, 2018.

PRESENT: Hicks, Kuhn, Payton, Vite, Zelmer

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Vite and supported by Payton.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DISTRIBUTION OF THE DRAFT BERTRAND  
TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN UPDATE AND ASSERT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD'S  
RIGHT TO APPROVE THE PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Bertrand Township Planning Commission has prepared the draft 2018 Bertrand Township Master Plan, being an update to the version last revised on April 4, 2013;

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2018, the Planning Commission recommended distribution of the draft Master Plan update to neighboring communities and relevant agencies, as required by Section 41 of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, as amended.

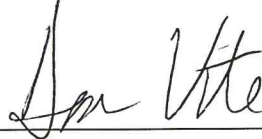
IT IS, THEREFORE, RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Board asserts its right to approve or reject master plan revisions and updates.
2. The Board hereby approves the distribution of the draft 2018 Bertrand Township Master Plan prepared by the Planning Commission and submitted at this meeting of the Township Board to neighboring communities and relevant agencies, as required by Section 41 of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act.
3. The Township Clerk shall distribute of copies of the Master Plan to the neighboring communities and relevant agencies entitled by law to receive copies of the draft plan; request comments within 42 days of receipt; and provide notification of the official Planning Commission public hearing date.

AYES: Kuhn, Payton, Vite, Zelmer, Hicks

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



November 8, 2018

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Don Vite  
Bertrand Township Clerk