

**Bertrand Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, November 14, 2019**

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: None

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

**Motion** made by Zelmer seconded by Kuhn to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- Township Board Meeting Minutes from October 10, 2019
- Township Board Special Meeting Minutes from October 18, 2019 for Community Hall lighting
- Accounts Payable for the period 10/11/19-11/14/19 as presented:

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Total General Fund Expenses    | \$137,820.54               |
| Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses | \$11,782.92                |
| Total WRT Fund Expenses        | \$81.26                    |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>          | <b><u>\$149,684.72</u></b> |

- Treasurer's Report and October Month-End Fund Balances:

|                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| General Fund                     | \$1,493,397.37               |
| Total Fire Dept. Fund            | \$311,691.97                 |
| Total WRT Fund                   | \$1,984.29                   |
| <b>Total Fund Current Assets</b> | <b><u>\$1,807,073.63</u></b> |

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

**Reports**

Sheriff's Department *(on file)*

Deputy Baggett presented the monthly report.

Fire Department *(on file)*

Chief Knisely submitted the October 2019, monthly Fire Department report.

SMCAS

Chief Knisely presented a verbal SMCAS report.

- \$77K shortfall for September, however \$102K better than a year ago
- 100% staffed
- Replacing outdated laptops on all rigs
- Sept 30 audit being finalized

### SE Berrien County Landfill

Trustee Zelmer gave a verbal report.

- Feasibility study is underway
- Gas well expansion
- New compactor is needed
- MI PFAS contamination issue increasingly discussed

### Planning Commission

None

### NATS

Trustee Payton gave a verbal report.

### Public Comments

One resident had a comment.

### Unfinished Business

None

### New Business

1. Niles District Library

Stevyn Compoe, the new Director of the Niles District Library has reached out to Bertrand Township regarding the cancelled contract we had with them for residents of the library district. We paid \$1,000 annually to the library and in turn they provided library service to the residents. Supervisor Hicks will invite Compoe to next month's board meeting to present the library's proposal for reestablishing resident use of the library and its services.

2. Redbud Meadows Drain

Clerk Vite has received complaints from Redbud Meadows residents regarding drainage problems on the first bend of the road. He reached out to the County Drain Commissioner, who provided a couple of scenarios for possible solutions.

The board will invite residents and the Drain Commissioner to a future board meeting where they will be informed of the solutions and learn how the project would be paid for.

3. Community Building Foundation Landscaping

**Motion** made by Vite and seconded by Zelmer to accept North Star Landscape Design & Installation's proposal to landscape the specified portion of the Community Hall grounds for a total of \$10,349.02, including a \$1,500 upcharge to install fabric in bed areas.

Roll Call Vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

4. Community Building 2020 Bed Maintenance

Table discussion until December meeting.

5. BS&A Agreement

Treasurer Kuhn presented the 2020-2021 Tax Processing Agreement with the County regarding usage of BS&A software which the township must compensate the county for.

Voice Vote: **Agreement carried unanimously**

6. Review Event Hall Rental Documents

Supervisor Hicks presented to the board proposed Community/Event Hall rental documents and rates for review and discussion.

**Discussion:** Clerk Vite suggested a tiered rental rate including weekday rates and weekend rates.

No action taken.

**Public Comments**

None.

**Board Member Comments**

Supervisor Hicks updated the board on the status of the demolition of the 4630 US12 property. The township is still waiting for a review from the judge regarding the filled-in pool. The township's Building Inspector declared the project failed his approval.

**Communications**

- 2019 Township Open House at both the Community/Event Hall and Township Hall from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. “Dinner with the Board” is from 5:15 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Township residents are invited to attend and encouraged to bring a dish to pass.

**Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule**

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

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Vite

Bertrand Township Clerk

November 21, 2019

Date