

**Bertrand Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, January 14, 2021**

Via Video-Conference during the historic COVID-19 Worldwide Pandemic

Supervisor Hicks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Member Absent: None

Special Guests: Darrick Engleman, Motorola Radio Representative; Steve Rennell, BS&A Software Representative; Todd Herter, Bertrand Township Building Inspector.

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

**Motion** made by Zelmer, seconded by Payton to approve the Consent Agenda as amended:

- Added confirmation of approval of Closed Session Minutes from November 12, 2020.
- Township Board Meeting Minutes from December 10, 2020
- Accounts Payable for the period 12/11/20-014/10/21 as presented:

Total General Fund Expenses	\$54,877.82
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses	\$26,157.62
Total WRT Fund Expenses	\$74.95
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$81,110.39</u></b>

- Treasurer's Report and month-end fund balances as of December 31, 2020:

General Fund	\$1,490,968.01
Total Fire Dept. Fund	\$355,425.86
Total WRT Fund	\$1,904.12
<b>Total Fund Current Assets</b>	<b><u>\$1,848,297.89</u></b>

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

**Reports**

Sheriff's Department *(on file)*

The report was mailed in.

Fire Department *(on file)*

Chief Knisely presented the January 2021 Fire Department report.

SMCAS *(on file)*

Matt Remmo emailed the report and gave a verbal presentation.

SE Berrien County Landfill *(minutes on file)*

Treasurer Kuhn and Trustee Zelmer gave a brief verbal report.

Planning Commission

Did not meet in December.

NATS

No meeting.

**Public Comments**

None.

## Unfinished Business

None.

## New Business

### 1. BTFD Radio Proposal

**Motion** made by Kuhn, seconded by Zelmer to direct Chief Knisely to purchase for the Fire Department six Motorola APX 6000XE handheld 800 MHz radios costing \$4,780.00 each and two Kenwood NX 5900K mobile 800 MHz radios for the base stations costing \$1,709.00 each for a total cost of \$32,098, whereby \$6,000 will come from the FD Fund and \$26,098 from the General Fund account 970.020.

**Discussion:** This is a 10- to 15-year investment, and the 800 MHz is a mandate coming from the state and county. The Motorola representative Darrick Engleman was on the Zoom presentation to answer questions of the board. While the Kenwood product is inferior and less expensive to the Motorola product, Chief Knisely and Asst Chief Remmo feel very comfortable of going with Kenwood for the mobile base stations and have had zero problems with their current Kenwood mobile units. After much research and interviewing other municipalities who have used both Motorola and Kenwood handhelds, the overwhelming consensus is the Motorola is far superior in durability and dependability, and Engleman confirmed Motorola owns the market share.

Roll call vote: **Motion Carried Unanimously**

### 2. BS&A Software Proposal

**Discussion:** Steve Rennell presented to the board a purchase proposal that includes the Financial Management and Personnel Management Applications for \$27,465 as well as the Community Development Application (for the township inspectors and Zoning) for \$11,775. He also said that the payment schedule would permit essentially one-third down in this Fiscal year, one-third down in next FY 21-22, and the following third in FY 22-23. The board decided to table the consideration until Supervisor Hicks and Clerk Vite queried other municipalities who use the system to get their pro- and con- comments.

## Board Member Comments

None.

## Communications

Budget Planning Workshop on January 30, 2021 at 9 a.m.

## Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule

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

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Vite

Bertrand Township Clerk

January 17, 2021

Date