

**Bertrand Charter Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, June 9, 2022**

Bertrand Charter 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

Member Absent: None

Special Guests: Brian Scribner, SMCAS Director and a number of SMCAS paramedics; Dan Yerks, Wightman & Associates; Township Attorney Sara Senica

**Consent Agenda** (see attachments)

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

- Add Item #3 under New Business: Spending Limit for Supervisor
- Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes from May 12, 2022
- Accounts Payable for the period 05/13/22-06/09/22 as presented:

Total General Fund Expenses	\$171,190.00
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses	\$53,419.32
Total WRT Fund Expenses	\$149.41*
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$224,758.73</b>

\* April/May Street Lights

- Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2022

General Fund	\$1,648,499.82
Total Fire Dept. Fund	\$502,516.78
Total WRT Fund	\$2,229.29
<b>Total Fund Current Assets</b>	<b>\$2,153,245.89</b>

**Discussion:** Trustee Payton pointed out two errors in the Board Packet:

1. In the May 12, 2022 minutes under NATS Meeting: Clerk Vite corrected to indicate the meeting did occur and Payton gave a verbal presentation.
2. In the May 2022 Treasurer's Report re: Renewal of the Fire CD occurred on 5/31/22, not 5/31/21.

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

**Reports**

Sheriff's Department (on file)

Fire Department (on file)

Chief Knisely submitted the June 2022, monthly Fire Department report and gave a verbal report.

SMCAS (on file) – See Below

SE Berrien County Landfill (on file)  
Trustee Zelmer gave a verbal report.

Planning Commission  
Treasurer Kuhn gave a verbal report.

NATS  
Trustee Payton gave a verbal report. US12 repaving project moved to next year.

SMCAS  
Brian Scribner, SMCAS Director, gave a presentation to the board for the purpose of requesting a renewal of the Special Assessment District for Emergency Medical Services. His presentation included an overview of the financial breakdown of income and expenses and subsidizations through the existing SAD and other sources.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

1. SMCAS SAD Resolution #1 & Exhibit A

**Motion** made by Vite seconded by Payton to approve Resolution #1 – Resolution of Intent to Establish Special Assessment District; Tentative Designation of Special Assessment District; Notice of Public Hearing.

**Discussion:** Trustee Zelmer voiced concerns both for multi-parcel owners paying disproportionately into the assessment as well as the fact that Bertrand Township doesn't use the SMCAS service nearly to the extent as more populated jurisdictions.

Treasurer Kuhn wanted to see a deeper analysis of financials and understand their participation in the Federal CARES program.

Roll Call Vote: **Ayes: Vite, Payton, Hicks**    **Nayes: Kuhn, Zelmer**                      **Passed: 3-2**

2. BTFD New Hire

**Motion** made by Zelmer, seconded by Vite to approve the hiring of Chad Kring as a Certified Fire Fighter as recommended by Fire Chief Bill Knisely.

Roll Call Vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

3. Spending Limit for Supervisor

**Motion** made by Kuhn, seconded by Vite to increase the township Supervisor's emergency spending limit to \$7,500 and single-purchase spending limit to \$2,000.

**Discussion:** Supervisor Hicks had to purchase a new refrigerator for the Community Building that would exceed his current spending limit.

**Public Comments**

Chief Knisely said Firefighter Ethan Valentine has opened a BTFD Instagram account and is making posts and receiving great feedback.

**Board Member Comments**

Clerk Vite included in the Board Packet an approval letter from the USPS for Non-Profit status for election-related bulk mailings. He applied in late spring.

**Communications**

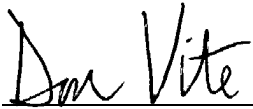
August 25 – MDOT Ribbon-cutting ceremony on the new connection from the By-Pass to I-94/I-196.

**Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule**

- The next township board meeting will be Thursday, July 14, at 7:00 p.m.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Vite  
Bertrand Charter Township Clerk

June 16, 2022

Date

DRAFT