

**Bertrand Charter Township Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 11, 2022**

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

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

Members Present: Kuhn, Payton, Vite, Zelmer

Member Absent: Hicks

Clerk Vite nominated Treasurer Kuhn to moderate the meeting in the absence of Supervisor Hicks. Voice Vote and unanimous consent.

Special Guests: Mark Heyliger, new Director of Berrien County Road Department who introduced himself and gave a brief update; Sara Senica, township attorney

Consent Agenda (see attachments)

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

- Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2022
- Accounts Payable for the period 07/15/22-08/11/22:

Total General Fund Expenses	\$22,543.44
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses	\$18,382.78
Total WRT Fund Expenses	\$73.14
Total Expenses	<u>\$40,999.36</u>

- Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2022

General Fund	\$1,800,081.87
Total Fire Dept. Fund	\$516,953.50
Total WRT Fund	\$2,063.24
Total Fund Current Assets	<u>\$2,319,098.61</u>

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

Reports

Sheriff's Department (on file)

Fire Department (on file)

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

SMCAS (on file)

SE Berrien County Landfill (on file)

Trustee Zelmer and Treasurer Kuhn gave a verbal report.

Planning Commission

Treasurer Kuhn gave a verbal report.

NATS

No meeting.

Unfinished Business

1. SMCAS SAD Resolution #2 & Exhibit A

Motion made by Vite seconded by Payton to approve a revised/amended Resolution #2 – Determination to Make Public Improvements; Approval of Plans and Estimate of Costs; Final Determination of Special Assessment District; Preparation of Special Assessment Roll (see attachment with full wording paying special attention to alterations in items #3, #5, and the addition of #10.

Discussion: Attorney Senica provided comments for alternative options to funding the SAD. She clarified that Article 17 says funding by each municipality should be done by a percentage of their population to the whole. Since inception, SMCAS has been funded a straight \$20/parcel, and the parcel definition was expanded just a few years ago. Trustee Zelmer voiced opposition to approving any SAD until adequate financials were provided to the board by SMCAS for detailed analysis and determination of the true need. Clerk Vite suggested continuing the current funding mechanism for a year while the board had time to thoroughly evaluate the SMCAS funding language for owner-municipalities as well as their detailed budget demonstrating the specific financial need. All members participated in the lively discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: **Kuhn, Payton, Vite** Nays: **Zelmer** **Passed: 3-1**

New Business

None.

Public Comments

Two residents spoke during Chief Knisely’s Fire Dept. report asking about a neighbor who regularly burns rubbish in his back yard. Treasurer Kuhn asked them to file a formal complaint for the Zoning Administrator to review.

Board Member Comments

Clerk Vite updated the board re: the Primary Election results.

Communications


None.

Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule

- The next township board meeting will be Thursday, September 8, at 7:00 p.m.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


 _____ August 18, 2022
 Don Vite Date
 Bertrand Charter Township Clerk