

**Bertrand Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, March 10, 2022**

**Including Public Hearing for the purpose of considering Saratore Company, LLC's  
request to establish an Industrial Development District**

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

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

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

Member Absent: None

Special Guests: Zach Vaughn – Cornerstone Alliance

{Public Hearing commenced at 7:00 p.m.}

Zach Vaughn from Cornerstone Alliance presented the purpose of Saratore Company's request to establish an IDD for receiving a state tax identifier as the first step in the process to build a new facility in the Industrial District.

With no public comment, the Public Hearing ended at 7:03 p.m.

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

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

- Add Item #6-Sturgis Bank Account under New Business
- Township Board Special Budget Hearing Minutes from February 26, 2022
- Accounts Payable for the period 02/11/22-03/10/22 as presented:

Total General Fund Expenses	\$48,031.46
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses	\$16,813.32
Total WRT Fund Expenses	\$81.18
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$64,925.96</u></b>

- Treasurer's Report as of February 28, 2022

General Fund	\$1,798,359.77
Total Fire Dept. Fund	\$532,222.75
Total WRT Fund	N/A
<b>Total Fund Current Assets</b>	<b><u>\$2,330,582.52</u></b>

- Budget Amendment

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

**Reports**

Sheriff's Department *(on file)*

Fire Department *(on file)*

Chief Knisely submitted the March 2022, monthly Fire Department report.

SMCAS (on file)

Assistant Chief Remmo gave a verbal report.

SE Berrien County Landfill (on file)

Treasurer Kuhn and Trustee Zelmer gave a verbal report.

Planning Commission

No meeting.

NATS (on file)

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

1. Resolution to Establish an IDD for Saratore Company, LLC

**Discussion** – the Board unanimously wanted to table this resolution until April to give Saratore Company an opportunity to respond to the townships request for attorney reimbursement from their former lawsuit against the township as well as assurances those former issues will not happen again.

2. Board Member Salary Resolutions 220310C-201311F

a) **Motion** made by Vite, seconded by Payton to adopt Resolution 220310C to establish township officer's salary for the position of Supervisor at \$30,758.

Roll call vote:

**Aye:** Kuhn, Payton, Vite, Zelmer                      **Abstain:** Hicks                      **Carried 4-0**

b) **Motion** made by Kuhn, seconded by Zelmer to adopt Resolution 220310D to establish township officer's salary for the position of Clerk at \$27,308.

Roll call vote:

**Aye:** Hicks, Kuhn, Payton, Zelmer                      **Abstain:** Vite                      **Carried 4-0**

c) **Motion** made by Zelmer, seconded by Payton to adopt Resolution 220310E to establish township officer's salary for the position of Treasurer at \$27,308.

Roll call vote:

**Aye:** Hicks, Payton, Vite, Zelmer                      **Abstain:** Kuhn                      **Carried 4-0**

d) **Motion** made by Vite, seconded by Kuhn to adopt Resolution 220310F to establish trustee pay at \$5,947.

Roll call vote:

**Aye:** Hicks, Kuhn, Vite                      **Abstain:** Payton, Zelmer                      **Carried 3-0**

3. Adopt 2022/2023 Proposed Township Budget/General Appropriations Act

**Motion** made by Kuhn, seconded by Zelmer to adopt Resolution 220310A – Bertrand Township General Appropriations Act (Budget) for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
General	\$810,002.00	\$810,002.00
West River Terrace	\$ 869.00	\$ 1,300.00
SMCAS	\$ 32,020.00	\$ 32,020.00

Roll call vote: **Motion passed unanimously**

4. Adopt 2022/2023 Proposed Fire Protection Special Assessment District General Appropriations Act

**Motion** made by Payton, seconded by Vite to adopt Resolution 220310B – Fire Protection Special Assessment District General Appropriations Act (Budget) for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
\$244,800.00	\$244,800.00

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

5. 2022/2023 BTFD Officer Appointments

**Motion** made by Zelmer, seconded by Payton to accept the Bertrand Township Fire Department officer appoints:

- Fire Chief – Bill Knisely
- Assistant Chief – Matt Remmo
- Captain – Tyler Knisely
- Lieutenant – Jason Campbell

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

6. Open Account with Sturgis Bank

**Motion** made by Vite, seconded by Zelmer to direct Treasurer Kuhn to open an account with Sturgis Bank

Voice vote: **Motion carried unanimously**

#### **Public Comments**

Resident Scott Wooster commented.

#### **Board Member Comments**

None.

#### **Communications**

None.

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

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

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



March 16, 2022

Don Vite  
Bertrand Township Clerk

Date