

BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

Approved:

REGULAR MEETING

Aug 9th, 2023

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Barnard at 3:00 PM.

Present: Barnard, Burns, Priest, Sheets and Heller

Absent: 0

Staff: Haase, Nye, Adams

Absent: Hahn, Wilkinson

Guests: 1

Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Sheets to approve the agenda as presented, Priest seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Burns to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 12th. Supported by Priest, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Report for July 2023 was submitted. Burns stated Michigan Class is now paying 5.4% interest. Priest made motion to accept the treasurers' reports. Sheets supported, all ayes, motion carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT:

The Clerk presented a Profit and Loss statement for both the General and Fire Funds for the month of July 2023 along with payables. Motion by Priest to accept report and pay the bills, seconded by Burns. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Barnard presented his report. An application was received to transfer an adult use recreational Marijuana license from GLNR to OUI-D Operations. **Burns made a motion to approve the license transfer, Priest seconded, roll call vote taken, all ayes, motion approved.** The new fire barn building design is in final stages, numbers are looking reasonable, Jason is working with Steve Burke about timeline for selling bonds. Lincoln Rd should be completed yet this fall. Cedar Street will be done next year. Assessor reported there have been 3 tax tribunals

filed, 216 transfers of ownership, 109 property transfer affidavits filed, 74 PRE filings, 13 legal description clean ups, 10 land divisions approved and a handful pending and 75 building permit follow-ups. Summer cleanup day is Sat the 12th from 7-10am.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. FIRE CHIEF: Chief Adams submitted his report for July 2023. There were 12 fire and 46 medical runs making the YTD total 320. In 2022 there were 316 and 2021 there were 282. Fire dept received a thank you note from the BCXC for the escort from State Finals. Medical response license renewal for 23/24 due the end of September. Chief will be on vacation Aug. 14th- 18th. Hunter Rose is interested in joining the department.
2. Cemetery Sexton: No report.
3. Township Attorney: No report.
4. Commissioners Report: Nye stated the BOC report says the Maples is at capacity. They will be having an open house Aug 18th and car show on Sept 9th. Doug Durand says Senior Resources gave a program service and fiscal update and all is in good shape. The county draft budget is available and there will be a public hearing Aug 22nd. Frankfort Area Community Land trust gave update on the Grove Place low-income homes. 2 of the 4 are nearing completion and homeowners have been selected.
5. Zoning Administrator: 43 permits to date and 5 pending. Sunkissed Hills in Independent review. Mary Pitcher is a good addition to our zoning department.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMUNICATION: None

PENDING BUSINESS: Jason talked with Revize, website designers, about an updated quote for the township website. He hopes to have the quote for Sept board meeting. BS&A transition is in the works with behind scenes, training in October for "go live". Sewer Authority – the feasibility study is with Wade Trim for finalizing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Cemetery: No report
- Parks: July meeting continued discussions on dog park expansion, Playground equipment ordered awaiting shipping.
- Building and Grounds: No report
- Fire Department: No report
- Township Roads: No report
- Community Activities: No report
- Finance: No report
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report

- ZBA: No report
- Blight: Sheets and Barnard are looking into current blighted properties.

NEW BUSINESS: Sheets made a motion to invite Hunter Rose to join the Fire Dept. Priest supported, Roll call vote taken, all ayes, motion passed.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Guest commented to see if Aubrey Parker would do photo of the fire department.

Motion to adjourn made by Sheets, Supported by Burns.
Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 3:35P.M.

Submitted by:

Diana L. Heller, Clerk

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ Motion passed to approve the license transfer from GLNR to OUI-D Operations.
- ❖ Motion passed to invite Hunter Rose to join the fire dept.