

# BENZONIA TOWNSHIP BOARD

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Approved:

**PUBLIC HEARING** – Budget for 2025-2026 year,

The public hearing was opened at 9:00am by Supervisor Jason Barnard with all board members present: Julie Orr, Karen Burns, Alan Rose, Diana Heller and Jason Barnard. Also present was Fire Chief Steve Adams and six residents in the audience. Others came later.

The clerk read the purpose of the Public Hearing which was to present the new budget for 2025– 2026 to the general public and to answer any questions they might have, plus anything else that might come before the Board. Several members of the audience had questions concerning the budget which were answered by the Supervisor and/or the Treasurer.

The Public Hearing was closed at 9:13am.

The Board continued answering questions.

The Supervisor asked that the Budget Resolutions be brought forward:

#1. Administrative resolution to designate meeting schedules for the 2024-2025 year.

**Motion to accept made by Burns supported by Rose, roll call vote with all voting Aye.**

**Motion passed.**

#2. Budget Resolutions presented for the 2025-2026 budget. **Motion to accept made by Burns, supported by Rose, roll call vote with those voting Aye, Burns, Barnard, Rose and Barnard. Orr voted nay. Ayes passed resolution four to one.**

#3. Resolution stating meeting dates for 2025-2026. **Motion to accept made by Burns, supported by Rose, a roll call vote with all voting Aye. Orr, Burns, Barnard, Rose & Heller.**

#4. Treasurer Funds, 2025-2026. **Motion to accept made by Burns, supported by Orr. A roll call vote was taken with all voting Aye, Orr, Burns, Barnard, Rose and Heller.**

#4. Resolution for Treasurer to invest the Township funds: **Motion to adopt resolution #4 made by Burns, supported by Rose. Roll call vote was taken with all voting Aye: Orr, Burns, Barnard, Rose and Heller.**

The resolutions will be filed with these meeting minutes and in the resolutions book.

Supervisor Barnard brought up the Spence Brothers “pay app” which was held over from our regular Board meeting so Trustee Orr could review it. Barnard answered some questions on our new building including receiving an unofficial higher offer for our current building. He stressed that nothing was official and that he was in talks with both parties, including Benzie Conservation District who has been interested but not submitting a final offer. The bills for our new building have been coming in on budget and sometimes under. **A motion to pay the Spence Brothers bill was made by Burns, supported by Rose. A roll call vote was taken with all voting Aye to pay Spence Brothers their March pay app.**

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Clerk Heller brought up the 2025 Road Brining Authorization. The new amount was \$9,645.22 which included Township Park and County Farm Road as usual. The cost for a second application would be the same as the first. **A motion was made to accept the authorization from the Benzie County Road Commission Brining for 2025 was made by Burns/Orr supported. A roll call vote was taken with all voting Aye to the 2025 brining contract.**

Comment continued on the public hearing, giving each participant three minutes to voice their opinions. When available, a board member answered their questions.

Supervisor Barnard adjourned the meeting at 10:01am.

Respectively submitted:

Diana L. Heller,  
Benzonia Township Clerk