

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182
October 6, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.
Meeting held through Microsoft Teams video-conferencing

PRESENT:	TC Clements, Trustee
Paul Pirrone, Supervisor	Craig Montri, Trustee
Trudy Hershberger, Clerk	Rick Steiner, Trustee
Krista Jandasek, Treasurer	Nancy Tienvieri, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Goldsmith, Township Attorney; Fire Chief Adam Massingill

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Township Board was called to order by Pirrone at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer led by Phil Goldsmith.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Jandasek to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Steiner, Jandasek, Tienvieri, Clements, Montri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

The September 15, 2020 Township Board Minutes;

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Jandasek to approve the consent agenda as published. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Steiner, Jandasek, Montri, Clements, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

PRESENTATIONS

KOJO QUARTAY, PRESIDENT MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE – UPDATE ON THE WHITMAN CENTER – Quartay outlined the improvements made at the Whitman Center with monies from the previous millage and mentioned some future plans if the current millage gets approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gail Keane, 1056 W. Temperance – asked if any Board members knew what happened to the Cyber Center which was opened at the Whitman Center.

STAFF REPORTS

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TWELVE ADDITIONAL DUAL EBSS MANIFOLD/POUCHES FOR SCOTT 4.5 SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA) – Massingill explained this is a continuation of safety upgrades and would allow the firefighters the ability to share air if one of them gets in trouble during a fire. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Jandasek to accept the bid from Premier Fire Rescue for twelve SCBA for the price of \$749.00 per unit for a total cost of \$8,988.00, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Steiner, Jandasek, Clements, Tienvieri, Montri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT- Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Jandasek to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$83,048.96, Fire District-\$33,827.26, Police Fund-\$137.09, Park Operating Fund-\$30,786.10, Library Operating Fund-\$1,839.12, Stonegate SAD-\$10,816.33, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$1,365.79, & Trust and Agency Fund-\$475.00 for a total of \$162,295.65. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hershberger, Jandasek, Clements, Montri, Tienvieri, Steiner & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF THE 2020 STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION – Hershberger explained this needs to be approved each year and it is for streetlights in subdivisions and the residents pay this on their winter tax bills. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Steiner to approve the Resolution for the 2020 Streetlight Assessment, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hershberger, Steiner, Montri, Tienvieri, Clements, Jandasek & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2020/2021 GENERAL FUND BUDGET – There are two items to be amended. Hershberger applied for and received grant money which can be used for Elections in the amount of \$9,376.00. And the Planning Department would like to increase their postage budget to cover the cost of a mailing to all property owners within a newly proposed AG-2 zoning district. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Tienvieri to approve the Resolution amending the 2020/2021 General Fund Budget, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hershberger, Tienvieri, Montri, Jandasek, Steiner, Clements & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2020-2021 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND BUDGET – Jandasek mentioned the line item for Sewer office supplies was reduced in the current budget, and she needs to amend it back so she can purchase the necessary post cards for printing the sewer bills. Motion was made by Jandasek, seconded by Steiner to amend the Special Revenue Fund for line item Office Supplies from \$1,000.00 to \$2,700.00 for the 2020/2021 budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Jandasek, Steiner, Clements, Tienvieri, Montri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL TO COMBINE PARCELS 5802-590-037-00 & 5802-590-038-00 IN THE PACKARD PLACE PLAT – The applicants are looking to combine these two parcels so they can build a pole barn. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Montri to approve the land combination request of the platted property 02-590-037-00 and 02-590-038-00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Steiner, Montri, Clements, Tienvieri, Jandasek, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL TO TRANSITION A SEASONAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO PART-TIME IN THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT – Hershberger explained Katrina Ingram has been working in the Planning Department as a seasonal worker and with the anticipated retirement of the Planning Administrator, this transition would be beneficial to allow for more training. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Jandasek to transition Katrina Ingram from seasonal to part-time in the Planning Department at a rate of \$15.39 per hour with a maximum work week of 35 hours. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hershberger, Jandasek, Tienvieri, Steiner, Clements, Montri & Pirrone. Nays: none. Absent: none.

DISCUSSION ON A DESIGNATED ASSESSOR – Tienvieri asked to have this included on the agenda as she wanted to make sure each Board member was aware of what the State is requiring. Once the Monroe County Board of Commissioners nominates a Designated Assessor, it will come back to the Township Board for approval.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

LaMar Frederick, 3254 Deer Creek – asked for an update on the Union grievance; suggested that since the revenue sharing from the State will not be reduced, the money which were taken from the “rainy day fund” to balance the budget should be replaced; and questioned whether the Assessing department was keeping up on their required number of appraisals.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Montri – mentioned he was glad the Michigan Supreme Court determined the Governors executive orders as unconstitutional.

Steiner – cautioned drivers to slow down and not to text and drive, then he asked for an update on the Prairie Woods lawsuit.

Goldsmith – informed the Board that the case is pending in court.

Tienvieri – since the Governor’s orders have been determined to be unconstitutional, she insists on having live meetings going forward; mentioned she has contacted the MCRC regarding complaints she has received of drivers speeding near the Sterns/Secor intersection and has requested a meeting with the MCRC, the State Police, and another Township Official; and appreciated the budget amendments being brought to the Board prior to the spending.

Goldsmith – the Open Meeting Act, minus the Governor’s Executive Orders, requires a quorum to be present at a physical location, so he agrees meetings now need to be conducted in person. However, by order of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, face coverings would still be required unless a person has a legitimate health related problem, social distancing needs to be followed, and there would need to be a limit on the number of people based on square footage. Therefore, he suggests a contingency plan be in place to handle an overflow.

Clements – honored by a comment made by Tienvieri who inferred he would be elected as State Representative in November.

Jandasek – thanked the Board for voting in favor of her budget amendment.

Hershberger – inquired about meetings which have already been published as virtual meeting; asked for an update on the installation of the UV lights; explained to voters that Michigan does not have early voting, but voters can vote by absentee ballot; explained the difference between voting straight ticket vs. a split ticket ballot; mentioned how well the new Finance Manager is performing; and let the Board know the Audit will begin next week.

Goldsmith – regarding having live meetings which have been published as virtual meetings, he suggested maybe the media director could set it up so residents could participate virtually while still holding the meeting in person.

Pirrone – answered that the UV lights are on back order; shared that this Board is not cancelling Halloween as it is not part of their job to address this; mentioned the ultra-thin overlay road project being done at the Secor/Sterns intersection by the DDA is for maintenance purposes; and let residents know the Township building is fully open for business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger, CMC, CMMC
Bedford Township Clerk

Nancy Gin
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary