

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182
January 19, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Meeting held through Microsoft Teams video-conferencing

PRESENT:	Todd Bruning, Trustee
Paul Pirrone, Supervisor	Joe Gore, Trustee
Trudy Hershberger, Clerk	Craig Montri, Trustee
Krista Jandasek, Treasurer	Rick Steiner, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Goldsmith, Township Attorney; Adam Massingill, Fire Chief; Damon Cecil, Ordinance Supervisor; Christine Eichler, Head Assessor

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 Pastor Greg Withrow, Assembly of Christians Church.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

- The January 5, 2021 Township Board Minutes;
- The General, Savings, Pooled Funds and CD reports from the Treasurer;
- The Revenue/Expense report and Balance sheet for the period ending December 31, 2020; Acceptance with regret the resignation of Erica Murawski from the Downtown Development Authority, effective immediately;
- Acceptance with regret the resignation of J. Henry Lievens from the Downtown Development Authority, effective immediately;

Motion was made by Montri, seconded by Bruning to approve the consent agenda as published. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Montri, Bruning, Steiner, Gore, Jandasek, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Feruze Elmazi, 3545 Wimbledon – the Liquor License applicant, spoke to item 8D and explained the delay in proceeding with work on Fireside Restaurant.

LaMar Frederick, 3254 Deercreek – questioned the process for the electrical bids.

Gail Keane, 1056 W. Temperance – spoke to many items on the agenda.

STAFF REPORTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE – Massingill updated the Board on the many grants the Fire Department has received in 2020 and the grant and bid documents they are working on for 2021.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD LIAISONS – Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Bruning to appoint Krista Jandasek as liaison to the Fire Advisory Board. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Bruning, Montri, Steiner, Gore, Jandasek & Hershberger. Nay: none. Absent: none.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Gore to appoint Rick Steiner as liaison to the Planning Commission. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Gore, Jandasek, Bruning, Montri, Steiner & Hershberger. Nay: none. Absent: none.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to appoint Trudy Hershberger as liaison to the Communication Committee. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Steiner, Jandasek, Montri, Gore, Bruning & Hershberger. Nay: none. Absent: none.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Jandasek to appoint Joe Gore as liaison to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Jandasek, Montri, Bruning, Steiner, Gore & Hershberger. Nay: none. Absent: none.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Gore to appoint Craig Montri as liaison to the Library Advisory Board. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Gore, Steiner, Bruning, Montri, Jandasek & Hershberger. Nay: none. Absent: none.

APPOINTMENT TO GRANT & LOAN COMMITTEE – Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Jandasek to appoint Comer Carey to the Grant & Loan Committee for a first term ending 12/31/2022. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Jandasek, Montri, Steiner & Hershberger. Nay: Gore & Bruning. Absent: none.

APPOINTMENT TO DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Gore to appoint Charles M. Scheib to the Downtown Development Authority for a first term ending 12/31/2024. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Gore, Jandasek, Steiner, Bruning, Montri & Hershberger. Nay: none. Absent: none.

APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION - Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Gore to appoint Kimberly Kuhn to the Planning Commission for a first term ending 12/31/2023. Motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Gore, & Montri. Nay: Jandasek, Steiner, Bruning & Hershberger. Absent: none.

NEW BUSINESS

VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT - Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Jandasek to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$136,622.62, Fire District-\$13,519.70, Police Fund-\$441.20, Park Fund-\$1,212.95, Fire Equipment-\$251.12, Transit System Fund-\$47.25, Library Operating Fund-\$1,711.23, Water Revenue Fund-\$125.00, Downtown Dev. Authority-\$144.03, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$456,431.07, & Trust and Agency Fund-\$338.47 for a total of \$610,844.64. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Hershberger, Jandasek, Gore, Montri, Steiner, Bruning, & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL TO FIX & UPGRADE LIGHTS AT THE BEDFORD LIBRARY – Joe Soria, GLIC Electrical explained the current ballasts cannot support the LED lights and therefore keep burning out. GLIC will rewire the lights to bypass the ballasts and install new LED fixtures. They are offering a five-year warranty on the lamps, fixtures and the rewiring. The \$7,004.36 cost of this project would be coming out of Library millage money. Bruning is not comfortable with just receiving one bid. It was mentioned that the Township has a contract with GLIC and it would be hard to put this project out for bid now that this quote is public. Motion was made by Montri, seconded by Pirrone to fix and upgrade lights at the Library with GLIC Electric. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Montri, Pirrone, Steiner, Gore, Jandasek & Hershberger. Nay: Bruning. Absent: none.

APPROVAL TO UPGRADE THE BACK & FRONT BAY LIGHTS AT FIRE STATION 2 – DEAN ROAD – Soria explained this project is to bypass the ballasts and install LED fixtures and would also include a five-year warranty. Massingill explained this would convert the four operational bays at Fire Station 2, which is about half the lights. The project cost of \$4,767.00 would come out of the operational millage money and budgeted funds are available for it. Motion was made by Gore, seconded by Steiner for GLIC Electric to address the light situation at Fire

Station 2 on Dean Road; it includes a five-year warranty which applies to workmanship and LED fixtures. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Gore, Steiner, Montri, Jandasek, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nay: Bruning. Absent: none. Bruning voted nay as he would like to see three bids for these projects.

DISCUSSION ON REQUESTING THE RETURN OF THE LIQUOR LICENSE FROM FIRESIDE RESTAURANT – Goldsmith spoke on the status of the Class C Liquor License which the Board granted to Jeff, LLC for property located at 7495 Secor Road. He then explained the process by which the Board could hold a public hearing in order to either revoke this license or to extend the time allotted for the applicant to open for business. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Bruning to put the Liquor License for Fireside Restaurant on the next available agenda for a public hearing to determine whether to revoke the license or not. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Steiner, Bruning, Montri, Gore, Jandasek, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL FOR ALL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEES TO USE MICROSOFT TEAMS WHEN MANDATED – Discussion ensued regarding using Microsoft Teams or Zoom for some Township committee meetings. Since Zoom seems to be the less expensive option, Hershberger and Welling will look into setting up a Township account.

APPROVAL TO RESTORE \$25,000 TO THE ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT BUDGET – Cecil gave a history of his time in the Ordinance department and the changes he's made. The Ordinance budget was cut due to a projected state-sharing revenue reduction. He is asking the Board to add \$25,000.00 back to his budget in order for his department to keep the two seasonal workers they have hired. Discussion followed regarding the need for these seasonal workers and what their season actually was. Hershberger suggested a reorganization to the department to include one part-time worker instead of two seasonal. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Gore to restore the \$25,000.00 to the Ordinance department for the reasons being it was budgeted for in last year's budget, the Township has the money and Pirrone thinks they offer a great service to the community. Motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone & Gore. Nay: Steiner, Jandasek, Bruning, Montri & Hershberger. Absent: none. Steiner stated it was not included in the budget.

Motion was made by Montri, seconded by Pirrone to add \$20,000.00 to the Ordinance department's budget for salary and wages. Motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Montri, Pirrone & Gore. Nay: Steiner, Jandasek, Bruning & Hershberger. Absent: none.

APPROVAL OF A SALARY INCREASE FOR ASSESSOR POSITION – Discussion occurred regarding the amount of this increase, as it would be over a 27% raise. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Montri to approve the Assessors salary to be increased to \$75,000.00, effective immediately. Motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone & Montri. Nay: Bruning, Steiner, Gore, Jandasek & Hershberger. Absent: none.

Discussion continued regarding a gradual increase. Hershberger recommended an increase to \$62,000.00 which would be approximately a 5 ½ % raise, as this position is not included in the 2% annual cost of living increase afforded to the other employees. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Jandasek to raise the Assessor's pay to \$62,000.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Hershberger, Jandasek, Gore, Montri, Steiner, Bruning & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL TO ALLOW HEAD ASSESSOR TO ADD AGENDA ITEMS – According to the Township Policy manual, only Board members can add items to the agenda. To eliminate confusion, Board members felt the chain of command should be followed and she should just give her requests to one of the Board members. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Gore to deny anyone but Township Board members to be able to put items on the board agenda. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Steiner, Gore, Jandasek, Bruning, Montri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

LaMar Frederick, 3254 Deer Creek – spoke to the budget and the rainy-day fund.

Gene Stock, 8222 Twin Creek – spoke to the posting of public hearings and meeting documents.

Gail Keane, 1056 W. Temperance – spoke to Planning department appointment, electrical/HVAC contracts, and other committees the Board officials sit on.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Bruning – felt it was a good meeting.

Gore – appreciates the comments and conversation of tonight’s meeting and sends his condolences to the Toledo Police Department and the Stalker family.

Steiner - his thoughts and prayers are with the Stalker family: asked Goldsmith for an update on Prairie Woods; after the audit is complete, he would like the board to get back to reviewing the budget on a regular basis; mentioned that Bob Miller is doing a fine job providing information, and hopes we will have peace across the nation tomorrow on inauguration day.

Jandasek – also extends her thoughts and prayers to the Stalker family. She informed residents that due to the pandemic, the woman from RSVP who usually helps with the homestead property tax credit will not be available this year so Jandasek suggested those residents contact MCOP.

Hershberger – mentioned that the Finance Manager, Bob Miller has sent out revenue and expenditure spreadsheets with links that open up to show what’s being spend under each account; and as requested by the Board, a walk-through temperature scanner was purchased and will be set up by the front doors of the Township.

Pirrone – let residents know that COVID vaccines are being handled by the Monroe County Health Department; he plans to bring an ordinance amendment to the next meeting which would allow music on patios; the Sheriff is having a meeting tomorrow with all the local Supervisors; he plans to continue to work on the Police memorial; and let Gore know that he is available to help with the Lewis Avenue Redevelopment committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger, CMC, CMMC
Bedford Township Clerk

Nancy Gin
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary