

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182
May 11, 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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

The April 20, 2021 Township Board Minutes;

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

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY AS ALS AWARENESS MONTH – Hershberger shared some information about ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease which she received from Bedford resident, Barry Thomas. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Pirrone to adopt this Proclamation in which the Bedford Township Board recognizes May as ALS Awareness Month and asks the people of Bedford Township to join the Board in urging our citizens to learn more about ALS, help combat the disease, and extend support to all families living with ALS. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Hershberger, Pirrone, Montri, Steiner, Bruning, Gore & Jandasek. Nay: none. Absent: none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Wexler, 4105 St. Anthony – spoke to the Mulch King issue, the Library Carpeting bid, and the metal roof for Banner Oak School.

Andrew Nycz, 110 Smith – was surprised Mulch King was back on the board agenda.

Gail Keane, 1056 W. Temperance – spoke to various agenda items.

Daniel Haaser, 7318 Twin Canyon – spoke to Mulch King issue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DISCUSSION REGARDING A CARPETING & INTERIOR MODIFICATIONS RFP FOR THE BEDFORD LIBRARY – Pirrone would still like this to be bid out as two separate items. He would also like to remove Library Manager as being one of the people inspecting the project at its conclusion. Harry Lambers, Chair of the Library Advisory Board called in to explain that the LAB would like to bid it out as one project so the two jobs could be coordinated together. Discussion continued as the Board would like local businesses to be able to bid on the project. Lambers has

included many local companies on the list of contractors which would be sent the RFP and mentioned Board members could add to the list. Lambers has agreed to add his contact information to the bid documents in case contractors have questions. Motion was made by Bruning, seconded by Jandasek to approve the carpet bid package as requested by the Library Advisory Board, removing the wording Library Manager from the bid document and with all bids going through the Clerk's department. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Bruning, Jandasek, Montri, Gore, Steiner, Hershberger & Steiner. Nay: none. Absent: none.

MULCH KING DISCUSSION AND BOARD ACTION – Steiner stated the Township Board would like to see Mulch King succeed with their business in Bedford Township, but the Township has been trying to get this property into compliance for four years. Steiner, Gore, and representatives from both the Building and Planning departments had met with the owner, Nycz along with his architect to go over the issues. He was given two options: either come to the Planning department and comply with his latest site plan or resubmit to BZA by their May meeting the changes he would like. Nycz phoned in and stated he revised his site plan and was all ready to move forward but he did not realize there was a deadline and he would like to wait until there are in-person BZA meetings. Gore mentioned the deadline was very clear at their meeting and he would have at least liked to have seen Nycz take some steps towards compliance. For example, Nycz had mentioned at their meeting that EGLE had declared the west part of the property as wetlands so all Nycz would have to do was present this report to the Planning department and one issue would be resolved, but he did not even do this. Steiner and Gore agreed to meet with Nycz again to go over his issues, not to advocate for him, but so they could help him explain the issues at the BZA meeting. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Bruning based on this evening's discussion and the comments made by Nycz, that Nycz will submit his application for the June BZA meeting. If no action is taken for the June BZA meeting, then at the June 1st Township meeting, the Board would authorize Township legal to start proceedings. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Steiner, Bruning, Gore, Jandasek & Hershberger. Nay: Montri & Pirrone. Absent: none. Steiner stated he is not making it conditioned on when the work is to be completed, but conditioned on when the plan is submitted for review by the BZA. Pirrone stated he voted nay because he is not for shutting a business down. Gore stated no one is shutting a business down.

APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION – Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Montri to appoint Rick Martin to the Planning Commission for a first term ending 12/31/2023. Motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Montri & Gore. Nay: Bruning, Jandasek, Steiner & Hershberger. Absent: none. After the vote, Pirrone mentioned this was one of the original applicants.

APPROVAL TO BID OUT FOR A METAL ROOF FOR BANNER OAK SCHOOL – Pirrone explained he would be working with the Historical Society to help with the specifications and that he checked the attic and there does not seem to be any rotting. Since no bid document was included, Pirrone will submit one to the Clerk's department for review. Jandasek confirmed that all bids received would be submitted to the Clerk's department. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Montri to move forward bidding out the metal roof project for Banner Oak School. He will include in the specs that all material will be disposed of according to EPA standards. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Montri, Jandasek, Bruning, Steiner, Gore & Hershberger. Nay: none. Absent: none.

NEW BUSINESS

VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT- Hershberger explained the General Fund is high due to moving the money for the Adler Road project into a reserve fund plus it includes a Bond payment. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Jandasek to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$329,139.03, Fire District-\$12,178.26, Police Fund-\$1,287.06, Park Fund-\$500.49, Fire Equipment-\$31,835.13, Library Operating Fund-\$3,801.16, Lewiston Estates SAD-\$806.64, Downtown Dev. Authority-\$243.91, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$334.74, & Trust and Agency Fund-\$3,736.50 for a total of \$383,862.92. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Hershberger, Jandasek, Montri, Gore, Steiner Bruning & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE WESTBOUND LANE OF CONSEAR ROAD BETWEEN SECOR & DOUGLAS ROAD FOR THE ENDURANCE ATHLETICS 2nd ANNUAL 5K FOR THE KIDS – Hershberger explained this event is being done in conjunction with the Indian Creek Zoo and the road is being closed for the safety of the participants. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Bruning to approve the Resolution for Enhanced Athletics to close down the westbound lane of Consear Road between Secor and Douglas Road for the event on August 14, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Hershberger, Bruning, Steiner, Jandasek, Gore, Montri & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

APPROVAL TO TRANSITION AN ASSESSING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO ASSISTANT ASSESSOR WITH A PAY INCREASE – Pirrone stated Therese Vitale is the only full-time employee in this department and has taken on more responsibility. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Montri to approve Therese Vitale as Assistant Assessor with a pay increase to \$45,000.00/year. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Pirrone, Montri, Hershberger, Steiner, Bruning, Gore & Jandasek. Nay: none. Absent: none.

APPROVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE BEDFORD SENIOR CENTER – Pirrone mentioned the Bedford Senior Center makes this request every year and the money goes towards the overall Senior Center operations. Hershberger questioned whether this was allowable since the Senior Center is no longer under the Bedford Schools. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Hershberger to approve giving the Bedford Senior Center \$12,500.00 contingent upon Pirrone checking with MTA to confirm it is legally allowable. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Steiner, Hershberger, Montri, Jandasek, Gore, Bruning & Pirrone. Nay: none. Absent: none.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

LaMar Frederick, 3254 Deer Creek – agrees with the LAB that a project manager is needed so work can be coordinated; mentioned Mulch King should not have been allowed to open before it was in compliance; and asked if the Township could get credit for the Banner Oak roof that is being removed.

Gail Keane, 1056 W. Temperance – asked if the Board could get an accounting of how the Senior Center spends the money it receives and spoke about an alleged text message read at a board meeting.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Steiner – thanked Gore for taking the time to meet again with Nycz and him, and thanked Nycz for listening and hopefully moving forward.

Pirrone – thanked Michigan State Police and Sheriff’s as it is Police week in Michigan; he is working on festivals; thought the budget process went well; mentioned Adler Road is close to being started; asked residents to call 734-243-7070 – the central dispatch number for illegal burns; asked residents to continue to support local restaurants; and mentioned a BBA and Bedford Community Foundation golf outing.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger, CMC, CMMC
Bedford Township Clerk

Nancy Gin
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary