

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

June 6, 2017

7:00 pm

PRESENT:

Paul Pirrone, Supervisor
Trudy Hershberger, Clerk
Paul Francis, Treasurer

Michelle Bork, Trustee
TC Clements, Trustee
Rick Steiner, Trustee
Nancy Tienvieri, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Pastor Steve Hobbins, Lewis Avenue Baptist Church, Dave Manning, Finance Director, Paul Trinkka, IT Right

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Township Board was called to order by Pirrone at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A FARMLAND AGREEMENT FOR WAYNE LENNARD & SONS ON PROPERTY ID NO'S 5802-010-038-10, 038-15, 038-20, 038-25, & 038-30

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to open the public hearing for the request for approval of a farmland agreement for Wayne Lennard & Sons on property ID no's 5802-010-038-10, 038-15, 038-20, 038-25, & 038-30. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

No one spoke to the issue.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to close the public hearing for the request for approval of a farmland agreement for Wayne Lennard & Sons on property ID no's 5802-010-038-10, 038-15, 038-20, 038-25, & 038-30. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

Hershberger spoke, informing the board this request is from Wayne J. Lennard and Sons on five parcels, asking for a ten year approval from the township and then the state which in return for keeping the land agricultural, will allow them certain tax benefits. Included in the board packet is information on the P.A. 116 Farmland Agreement, giving answers to commonly asked questions. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to approve the request of a farmland agreement for Wayne Lennard & Sons on property ID no's 5802-010-038-10, 038-15, 038-20, 038-25, & 038-30, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A ROAD IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR MOHAWK TRAILS SUBDIVISION

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to open the public hearing for the request for approval of a road improvement special assessment district for Mohawk Trails Subdivision. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

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No one spoke to the issue.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to close the public hearing for the request for approval of a road improvement special assessment district for Mohawk Trails Subdivision. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

Hershberger spoke, stating there are 78 parcels in the proposed district, and 46 or 59% had signed the petition, which includes 61% of the land area. The estimated cost of the total project is \$573,300, or \$7,350.00 per parcel. This public hearing will be approval of the district, there will be one more public hearing to approve the cost of the road improvement. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to approve the road improvement special assessment district for Mohawk Trails Subdivision, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2017-18 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to open the public hearing for the request for approval of the 2017-18 General Fund Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

No one spoke to the issue.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to close the public hearing for the request for approval of the 2017-18 General Fund Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

Tienvieri stated she objects to several items in the proposed budget, among them is the ½% administration fee still in the budget, raises included that were not presented at a board meeting first, utilities costs split into departments instead of being a lump sum in the general fund only, the clerk, supervisor and treasurer's budgets are too high, capital outlay in departments are not defined, and legal fees being split by department. For those reasons she stated she cannot support approval of the budget. Francis responded to her comments, explaining the need to continue with the administration fee which amounts to approximately \$113,000.00, stating it's allowed by the state to help jurisdictions fund the assessing departments to assure assessments of properties are correctly and properly set. He also stated the only utility that is split among departments is the telephone bill, and the current budget format is approved by the State of Michigan. Steiner mentioned ways to use Excel to get the information Tienvieri requested in the format she prefers, and Finance Director Manning offered to put the budget on the township website in Excel format. Clements stated the issue of the administration fee should not be changed at this meeting without finding out what the board that approved the fee's intent was and whether or not it would be a permanent or temporary fee. Hershberger suggested voting on the budget tonight as it is presented, and amending it later on if the board determines the administration fee is no longer needed. Pirrone agreed the fee should be eliminated if it is no longer needed. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Clements to adopt the appropriations

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resolution for the General Fund, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: Tienvieri. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2017-18 SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS BUDGET

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to open the public hearing for the request for approval of the 2017-18 Special Revenue Funds Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

No one spoke to the issue.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to close the public hearing for the request for approval of the 2017-18 Special Revenue Funds Budget. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

Tienvieri spoke, questioning why some of the funds are not in balance. Both Manning and Francis spoke and explained the budget numbers. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Clements to adopt the appropriations resolution for the Special Revenue Funds Budget, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

The approval of the minutes of the May 16, 2017 regular Meeting of the Bedford Township Board;

The resignation of Diana Collins from the Library Advisory Board

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to approve the consent agenda as published. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION HONORING MILITARY VETERANS

Pirrone and Hershberger presented pins honoring 7 veterans of the military, thanking them on behalf of the board and community for their service to our country.

Vernon Chesney, Army – served in Vietnam

Tom Redmond, Army – served in Vietnam

James Puhl, Army – served in Vietnam

Todd Hershberger, Navy – served in the Gulf War & plays taps at Memorial Day services

Doug VanCleve, Marines – served in Vietnam

William VanCleve, Marines (deceased) – served in Vietnam

Dan Leslie, Army, served in Iraq

Members of the township board and the audience stood and applauded.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick Steiner, township trustee – spoke to the presentation honoring our veterans.

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Al Prieur, Deputy Supervisor – commented on the proposed veterans committee, explaining the history.

Tim Fitzgerald, 9195 Lewis – commented on the proposed veterans committee and read a handout given to board members.

Logan Tisdale, 1308 Brandywine – commented on veterans and named several friends who were both veterans and Michigan State police officers, mentioning their service to our country.

Tim McAfee, 9837 Pamela – commented on veterans and mentioned a charity called Folds of Honor.

Emily Piechowski, 8185 Mohawk – had questions regarding the Mohawk Trails SAD. Hershberger stated she would talk to her after the meeting.

Dan Leslie, 8927 Lewis – spoke in support of the proposed veterans committee.

STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2016-17 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Finance Director Manning spoke, explaining the percentage of change, stating this information had been sent to board members before the meeting, and offering to answer any questions. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Clements to approve the resolution amending the 2016-17 General Fund budget, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2016-17 SPECIAL FUNDS BUDGET

Finance Director Manning spoke and answered board members questions. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Clements to approve the resolution amending the 2016-17 Special Revenue Funds Budget, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A DEFICIT ELIMINATION PLAN FOR THE WILD HAVEN SUBDIVISION ROAD IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

Hershberger spoke to the issue, stating this resolution is required by the state to show how the deficit caused by an SAD. Francis spoke, further explaining the issue. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Hershberger to adopt the deficit elimination plan for the Wild Haven Subdivision road improvement special assessment district, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING INVOICES- Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to approve the following vouchers for payment: General Fund-\$108,415.96, Fire District-\$8,958.52, Police Fund-\$227.52, Park Fund-\$4,605.81, Transit System Fund-\$12,882.00, Metro Act Fund-\$1,394.74, Library Operating Fund-\$6,795.99, Water Revenue Fund-\$4,350.00, Chapel Creek SAD-\$89.25, Indian Acres SAD-\$8,152.00, Sandywell SAD-\$7,191.34, Mohawk Trails SAD-\$994.38, Downtown Development Authority-\$11,882.14,

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Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$2,079.72, & Trust and Agency Fund-\$825.90 for a total of \$176,844 97. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE FORMATION OF A VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

Deputy Supervisor Al Prieur spoke, reading the information board members received regarding this issue. This would be a 7 member volunteer board and their goal would be to provide assistance and direction to veterans. He also mentioned the support for this committee is getting from various business owners and the county Veteran's Administration representative. While answering board members questions, he stated this is a volunteer board, they will serve without pay, and no money has been budgeted for the committee at this time. Pirrone stated that no township money will be spent by this board without board approval. The committee will be appointed by the township board. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Steiner, to approve the formation of a Veteran's Committee based on the Committees Missions Statement and information regarding the services to be provided in the memo. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MCRC CHANGE ORDER CONTRACTS FOR SCHOOL AND PIEHL ROADS

Francis spoke, stating the two change order contracts came about after the Road Committee toured these roads, and decided to look into the cost of widening both School and Piehl Roads from 18 ft. to 22 ft. at the same time as the already approved road improvements are being done, due to the condition of the edges of these roads. Upon receiving the cost information, of \$56,692.00 for School Road and \$13,620.00 for Piehl, the Road Committee recommends rejecting these change orders because they feel this money can be better utilized in other road projects. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Clements to reject the MCRC change order for School Road to increase the width of the road to 22 feet wide at an additional cost of \$56,692.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Clements to reject the MCRC change order for Piehl Road to widen the road to 22 feet wide at an additional cost of \$13,620.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF NEW COMPUTERS

Hershberger stated this request came about after she had asked our new IT company, IT Right, to inventory the townships computer systems and software to make sure it's all up to date. IT Right came back with a recommendation to replace all of the township's outdated computers (aged anywhere between 5 to 9 years old) and upgrade our Microsoft Office software from 2007 & 10 to Office 2016, to help ensure the township records are adequately protected from hackers. She informed the board she did not get 3 bids because the proposed computers will be built by IT Right to our specifications, they have a 3 year warranty, and the cost is \$625.00 each including the warranty and installation. She searched the internet but could not find a better price.

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Hershberger then introduced Paul Trinka from IT Right, who answered questions as to the brand of computer is being proposed, and offered to create an inventory of the computers for future replacement, which would be in 3 to 5 years. Clements stated he checked and couldn't find a better price for the computers and Bork questioned whether new monitors were needed as well.

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Clements to accept the quote from IT Right to purchase and install 21 new computers for the township hall at a cost of \$18,059.00, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Clements to accept the quote from IT Right to purchase and install new computers for the fire department at a cost of \$3,264.00, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, Bork, Clements, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Pirrone. Nays: None. Excused: None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tim McAfee, 9837 Pamela – commended the ordinance department for resolving an issue with a neighbor poisoning animals.

Greg Skiver, 1520 Meadowbrook – thanked township employees for all of the help they provide and asked the status of the road issue on Meadowbrook. Pirrone stated he would respond during his comment time.

Gary Jackson, 1774 W. Samaria – commented on noisy, speeding trucks and vehicles on Samaria Road, asking for something to be done. Suggested signage from MCRC and possibly an ordinance prohibiting trucks from using “engine compression”.

Carol Stephens, 7528 Wellsley – spoke to concerns regarding TAC and the money to be used for a veteran's memorial in Temperance. Stated she wished to have a monument to veterans, and would be glad to have volunteers to help with the project.

Ken Gonyea, 8311 Lambert – questioned why the intersections could not be mowed before holidays, and high grass and large real estate signage. He asked to have the ordinance department check on the problem.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Tienvieri – no report

Clements – informed the board that the skate board park at Parmelee has been repaired and now open, the Park Board is holding a public input session at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 12th, the annual fireworks display will be held Friday June 23rd, the Law Enforcement Committee has concluded its research and will be meeting on June 15th to begin analyzing the data, with hopes for a report to the board by August.

Steiner – stated he appreciates the recognition of veterans but reminded residents of the need to remember the fire and police departments as well. He also commented on safety issues in the homes of the elderly and asked the supervisor the status of the pavements issues on Dean Road.

Bork – no report

Francis – reminded residents that summer tax bills will be mailed out on or about July 1st and are due by September 14th, 2017.

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Hershberger – thanked everyone for kind words and wishes for her mom who was taken to the ER during the last board meeting, and thanked the fire dept for their help and reassurance at that time. She also congratulated her parents on their 69th wedding anniversary, reminded residents that mosquito dunks are available at the township hall, the Charter Cable agreement is up for a renewal and the Communications Committee will be looking at it before it comes to the board. In closing she mentioned the Tomahawk Archers World Shoot A Shoot Dragon Day fundraiser was a big success.

Pirrone – mentioned the informative townhall meeting that was held at 6:00 pm regarding the I-75 corridor study, and that Bedford Township has one site at Sterns & Crabb. He suggested that board members call the office before meetings to get their questions or concerns answered and stated he is waiting for a Consumers Energy audit on the township hall to see what is needed to switch to LED lighting. The Cyber Security program will be launched in both Bedford schools and MCCC in September, the lighting is complete at the library, with the cost coming in under budget by \$12,000, and the repair to Temperance Fire Hall #1 has been done for approximately \$10,000. He has someone new collecting leaves and grass behind the township hall and reminded residents that only leaves and grass can be dropped off, not sticks or bags. He is rethinking the need for a concrete pad for composting and recycling behind the township; citing the expense and the chance that Bedford will have a composting facility at Sterns and Telegraph in the near future. He stated the he and his deputy are working with the MCRC regarding the issue of the road problems on Meadowbrook Way. Regarding the issue of noise and trucks on Samaria, he is looking at an ordinance to help with the problem. As far as high grass and signage issues are concerned, the ordinance department needs to be contacted and given the location of the problem, they are complaint based and do not have the time to drive around looking for the problems.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger
Bedford Township Clerk

Garnet Francis
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary