

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

June 7, 2016

7:00 pm

PRESENT:

Greg Stewart, Supervisor
Trudy Hershberger, Clerk
Paul Francis, Treasurer

Larry O'Dell, Trustee
Paul Pirrone, Trustee
Rick Steiner, Trustee
Nancy Tienvieri, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Goldsmith, Lennard, Graham & Goldsmith

The Regular Meeting of the Bedford Township Board was called to order by Stewart at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Stewart suggested item 4-A, Resolution Honoring Violet Goldsmith-Howard be moved to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENTATION

RESOLUTION HONORING VIOLET GOLDSMITH-HOWARD

Hershberger read the Bedford Township Board's resolution honoring Violet Goldsmith-Howard on her 100th birthday. On behalf of the board, Hershberger and Stewart presented the resolution to Mrs. Goldsmith-Howard. Mr. Henry Lievens, Monroe County Commissioner, District 9, also gave Mrs. Goldsmith-Howard a resolution honoring her for her 100th birthday from the Monroe County Board of Commissioners. The entire board and audience stood and acknowledged Mrs. Goldsmith-Howard for her achievement.

PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2016-2017 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Pirrone to open the public hearing for the 2016-17 General Fund Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

No one spoke to the issue.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to close the public hearing for the 2016-17 General Fund Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Several board members spoke, commenting on the 2016-17 General Fund Budget.

Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to approve the 2016-17 General Fund Budget.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: Tienvieri. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2016-2017 SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS BUDGET

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Pirrone to open the public hearing for the 2016-17 Special Revenue Fund Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

No one spoke to the issue.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Pirrone to close the public hearing for the 2016-17 Special Revenue Fund Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by O'Dell to appropriate the resolution for the 2016-17 Special Revenue Fund Budget, covering 18 separate funds, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Steiner requested the addition of item 7-G, Discussion of Special Use Zoning/Variance Issue. Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Pirrone to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

The May 17th, 2016 Bedford Township Board meeting minutes.

Acceptance of the resignation of Bedford Firefighter Ron Strickler, effective immediately.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by Hershberger to approve the consent agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rich Kenny, owner of Forestview Lanes, spoke to the board explaining the problems and issue he has with the current ordinance regarding special use permits.

Michele Bork, 8153 Jackman, spoke in support of small businesses in Bedford Township and spoke to the issue of employee salaries.

Kathy Comstock, 7390 Creeksbend – spoke in support of Rich Kenny and Forestview Lanes.

Tim Janney, 3818 Consear – spoke in support of Rich Kenny and small businesses in Bedford.

Mary Jones, 9145 Summerfield – spoke in support of Rich Kenny and Forestview Lanes.

John Dimodica, 7724 Fir - spoke in support of Rich Kenny and Forestview Lanes.

Kelly Tucker, 7741 Indian - spoke in support of Rich Kenny and Forestview Lanes.

Eric Tucker, 7741 Indian - spoke in support of Rich Kenny and Forestview Lanes.

Scott Ruetz, 2816 Sanibel – spoke in support of Rich Kenny and commented on the budget workshops.

Joe Pello, 1497 Tennyson - spoke in support of Rich Kenny and Forestview Lanes.

Doug Wott, 2548 Chapel Creek - spoke in support of Rich Kenny and Forestview Lanes.

Austin Mack, 6388 Muirfield – spoke in support of Rich Kenny and commented on salary increases.

David Dunnigan, 354 W. Erie - spoke in support of Rich Kenny.

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-\$50,571.82, Fire District-\$7,985.14, Police Fund-\$1,052.45, Park Fund-\$722.85, Transit System Fund-\$12,942.51, Library Operating Fund-\$6,099.72, Water Revenue Fund-\$7,953.36, Wild Haven Park SAD-\$508.75, Chapel Creek SAD-\$508.75, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$1,830.94, & Trust & Agency Fund-\$1,072.80 for a total of \$91,249.19. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO REZONE A PORTION OF PARCEL NO 5802-022-065-11 & 5802-022-052-00 FROM R2-A SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO R-3, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL

Stewart spoke, stating all of the requirements and approvals have been received for this rezoning to go forward. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Pirrone to approve the rezoning of parcel no 5802-022-065-11 and 5802-022-052-00 from R2-A, Single Family Residential to R-3, Single Family Residential, as it meets the intent of the township's master plan. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AN MCRC CONTRACT FOR ROAD REPAIR TO RAUCH ROAD, BETWEEN MINX AND SECOR

Stewart and Francis spoke, stating this project would be a single seal at a shared cost with Ida Township and the Road Commission contributing 25% of the costs. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by O'Dell to approve the Monroe County Road Commission's contract for road repair to Rauch Road, between Minx and Secor at a cost to the township of \$41,111.00, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A SALARY INCREASE FOR KAREN KINCAID, PLANNING ADMINISTRATOR

Hershberger spoke, stating this request had been presented and discussed at the township's budget meetings. She stated a new a job description is available, and stated it's consistent with Dennis Jenkins responsibilities except she is still learning the GIS program. Discussion followed, with board members asking questions and Hershberger responding. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Steiner to approve the salary increase for Karen Kincaid, effective July 1, 2016, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A SALARY INCREASE FOR LINDA WILLING, BUILDING DEPT.

Stewart spoke, explaining Ms. Willing started working at an entry level and has since taken on many additional responsibilities, combined with the fact many more permits are being issued, Dennis Kolar, building official is requesting an increase in pay, although she still wishes to remain part-time. An hourly rate based on an Administrative Assistant's salary has been proposed. Discussion followed, with many questions regarding details of this proposal. Motion was made by Pirrone, to table this issue until the next meeting. Motion failed due to lack of a second. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to approve the salary increase for Linda Willing, as presented. Motion was rescinded by Francis and Steiner. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Francis to table the issue until the next meeting, and ask Building Official Dennis Kolar to be in attendance to answer questions. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, & Hershberger. Nays: Tienvieri, Stewart. None. Excused: None

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO GIVE FULL TIME STATUS TO ADAM TRUNA,
MAINTENANCE DEPT.

Stewart spoke, stating the increased obligations in the maintenance department with regard to additional cemetery and park needs. He also mentioned one person had resigned 2 years ago and not been replaced. He requested a full time person at the standard union wage. Discussion followed, with Stewart being asked detailed questions about the increased obligations. Stewart asked for a motion to approve giving full time status to Adam Truna, Maintenance Dept. No motion was made, no action was taken.

DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL USE ZONING/VARIANCE ISSUE

Steiner spoke, apologizing to the board for adding this item at the last minute, but explaining the issue came up at the BZA meeting held on Monday, the 6th of June. Mr. Kenny had come to the BZA requesting a variance for special use for outdoor recreation, because the townships zoning ordinance does not address that issue. This variance has to be requested every year and is causing a hardship for Mr. Kenny. Steiner requested this board to authorize the planning department and legal counsel to move forward to make standards and amend or adjust our current zoning ordinance to address this issue. Discussion followed, with board members asking questions of the township attorney and how quickly could this be done. Motion was made by O'Dell, seconded by Steiner to approve a plan to write a new special use zoning ordinance for the board to adopt and for the issue to come back to the board in 30 days, or at the July 5, 2016 township board meeting. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim Janney, 3818 Consear – commented on the salary issues and why the salary amounts aren't available.

Rich Kenny, Forestview Lanes – thanked board members for their support and read a letter he had received from State Rep. Jason Sheppard regarding the issue.

Logan Tisdale, 1308 Brandywine – congratulated Mrs. Goldsmith-Howard on her birthday, reminded residents that today was D-Day, and commented in support of the fire protection millage renewal.

Scott Ruetz, 2816 Sanibel – questioned the status of the repair to Crabb Road between Sterns and Telegraph, asking who will be paying for the repairs, the township or the county.

BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

Tienvieri – requested the board hold a joint meeting with planning dept. to discuss antiquated ordinances, asked the status of the proposed Communications Committee, asked for an update on the Star Motel, and the status of the pavement striping in Temperance.

Pirrone – mentioned Steiner's idea for the township board to have a "tickler file", commented on ordinances that burden small business, and mentioned the article about the Farmer's Market that was not published in the township newsletter. Attorney Goldsmith responded to the Farmer's Market issue.

Steiner – commented the applications for the Communications Committee and steps taken to proceed with appointments, agreed with the need for a joint meeting with planning to look at

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ordinance issues, and suggested the board needs to look at additional areas in the township to encourage industrial companies to locate.

O'Dell – mentioned Kincaid has been working on the ordinances, and the board has approved the money Hershberger put in the budget to update old antiquated ordinances.

Francis – explained the Crabb Road improvement is a big project and the road commission is trying to get it qualified for State and Federal funding, he also mentioned his frustration over the lack of communication with the Road Commission regarding the scheduling of road projects that are to be done in Bedford this summer.

Hershberger – stated that due to the adoption of the Master Plan many of the township's ordinances need to be looked at and changed & Karen is moving forward with that issue. She also reminded residents they can apply for an absentee ballot for the upcoming August Primary election, call her office for more information.

Stewart – stated he has only received 3 or 4 applications for the Communications Committee and since the applicants will be filling specific positions he has been waiting for more applicants. He also spoke to the Farmer's Market comments, giving a timeline for the receipt of the article for the newsletter. He also stated township employee's salaries are on the township website on his page. In addition, he mentioned the Bedford Senior Center's Strawberry Festival and Samaria Day this Saturday, and congratulated the 385 seniors who graduated from Bedford High School.

Attorney Phil Goldsmith – thanked the board for the resolution honoring his mother, Violet Goldsmith-Howard and explained the latest developments in the Star Motel demolition issue. He also stated he expected the issue to be resolved quickly and would keep the board informed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger
Bedford Township Clerk

Garnet Francis
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary