

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182
September 20, 2016
7:00 pm

PRESENT:

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

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

EXCUSED: Paul Pirrone, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Goldsmith, Lennard, Graham & Goldsmith, Dr. Kojo Quartey, President of MCCC, Dale Malone, Monroe County Sheriff, Ronald Walters, Senior Managing Partner of Endevis, Tim Lake, MCBDC, & David Manning, Finance Director

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

PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AT 222 LAVOY ROAD, PROPERTY ID NO. 58-02-101-002-11

Motion was made by O'Dell, seconded by Steiner to open the public hearing for the establishment of an Industrial Development District at 222 LaVoy Road, Property ID. 5802-101-002-11. Motion carried unanimously.

No one spoke to the issue.

Motion was made by O'Dell, seconded by Steiner to close the public hearing for the establishment of an Industrial Development District at 222 LaVoy Road, Property ID. 5802-101-002-11. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Lake, President of the MCBDC spoke, explaining Toledo Steel Supply is requesting approval of this Industrial District designation for their property, in order to file for an Industrial Facilities Exemption for a building they wish to construct on the property.

Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Francis to establish an Industrial Development District known as the "Toledo Steel Supply Industrial Development District" on parcel numbers 5802-101-002-00 and 5802-101-002-10, which when combined in 2017 will be parcel number 5802-101-002-11, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by O'Dell to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

The September 6, 2016 Township Board Minutes.

The General, Savings, Pooled Funds & CD Reports from the Treasurer.

The Revenue/Expense Report & Balance Sheet for the period ending August 30, 2016.

The Appointment of Corey Welch to the Communications/Media Commission for a term ending 12/31/2019.

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The Appointment of Deborah Merritt Lucius to the Communications/Media Commission for a term ending 12/31/2019.

The Extension of the Appointment of Lori Welling to the Communications/Media Commission for one year to end 12/31/2019.

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by O'Dell to approve the consent agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR FOUR NEW BEDFORD FIREFIGHTERS

Hershberger swore in new Bedford Township Firefighters Josh Hinojosa, Mark Damazyn, John Bills & Jeff Hall, then introduced them to the board. Board members congratulated and welcomed them.

PRESENTATION BY DR. KOJO QUARTEY, PRESIDENT OF THE MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dr. Kojo Quartey, President of MCCC and MaryKay Thayer, Trustee for MCCC spoke, informing the board and the public of the millage proposal that will be on the November 2016 ballot. The millage request is for .85 mills for 5 years, and will focus on improvements to the college's facilities, including the Whitman Center. The goal is to make the college safe, accessible and efficient to run. Board members thanked them for the information

PRESENTATION BY MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF, DALE MALONE

Monroe County Sheriff Dale Malone handed out information regarding deputies hours and number and types of calls they went to over the last year. He spoke to the heroin usage problems in the county and the steps he and his department are taking to stop it and mentioned the average response time for the deputies in Bedford is 11 minutes, 18 seconds. In addition, he reminded the board of the need to purchase two new police vehicles, because the current cars have very high mileage and need major repairs. Board members asked questions and discussed the issue of purchasing two new cars.

PRESENTATION BY RONALD WATERS, SENIOR MANAGING PARTNER OF ENDEVIS

Stewart introduced Ronald Waters, Senior Managing Partner of Endevis, a company that assists governmental and non-profits in finding candidates for employment, further explaining the personnel committee would like to use this company in the search for a new Fire Chief. Mr. Waters spoke, giving the background of his company, emphasizing the company's commitment to "finding the right candidate for the right place". Board members commented and asked questions of Mr. Waters. Board members discussed the issue in depth, with Tienvieri stating she believed the board should do the search the same way they have done in the past and save the cost. Discussion followed. Motion was made by O'Dell, seconded by Hershberger to engage the Endevis Company to assist in the hiring of a new Bedford Township Fire Chief, using pricing model level 1, which will identify potential candidates meeting the township's qualifications, at a cost of \$3,500.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: Tienvieri. Excused: Pirrone

PUBLIC COMMENT

Logan Tisdale, 1308 Brandywine – spoke in support of the need for patrol cars and the search for a new fire chief.

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Rich Kenny, 7824 Jackman – stated he knows Mr. Waters and spoke highly of him. He also thanked the board for their support and congratulated Pirrone on the birth of his new baby.

Dale Track, 2842 Sanibel – spoke against the pension plan issue.

OLD BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND THE 401(a) GROUP PENSION PLAN

Francis spoke to the issue, stating this resolution will reduce the amount put into the employee's pension plan from 13% of their salary to 8% of their salary. This took effect as of July 1st but the resolution was delayed due to having to resolve potential union contract issues.

Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Tienvieri to approve the resolution amending the 401(a) Group Pension Plan for Bedford Township employees, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND THE 457(b) PENSION PLAN

Francis spoke to the issue, explaining this resolution establish a new clause in the plan which allows the township to match an employee's additional payment into the pension plan up to 5%. Tienvieri questioned this issue, with attorney Goldsmith responding to her concerns. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by O'Dell to approve the resolution amending the 457(b) Pension Plan for Bedford Township employees, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: Tienvieri. Excused: Pirrone

UPDATE ON STATUS OF PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF STAR MOTEL BUILDINGS, 6280 TELEGRAPH

Goldsmith spoke, informing the board of the status of this issue, and asking the board for direction. He stated that at the court date on September 14th, Judge Weipert heard the history of the case and stated he was inclined to rule in favor of the township. The property owner asked for more time and the judge allowed the attorneys for both sides to meet and possibly come up with a resolution. After discussion the following conditions were agreed upon:

1. The property owner has until December 31, 2016 to make repairs to the buildings and receive a C of O. There will be no extension of time.
2. The property owner must meet with the township building official within 10 days to compile a list of needed repairs.
3. If there are no repairs done, the township must write a letter to the court, and can then demo the buildings.
4. If the owner does attempt to repair or remodel either or both of the existing buildings, but does not get it done by 12/31/2016, any building on the property without a C of O will be demolished by the township, after a submission of an Affidavit of Non-Compliance and the cost of same to be put on the property owners taxes.

Goldsmith answered board members questions and asked the board to consider approval of this agreement. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to approve the agreement that was entered into at court on September 14, 2016, to give approval of that agreement as recited by

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

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-\$138,040.99, Fire District-\$45,587.14, Police Fund-\$9,636.26, Park Fund-\$8,925.22, Library Fund-\$5,450.38, Water Revenue Fund-\$2,220.00, Enchanted Forest Debt Fund-\$7,905.30, Canterbury Forest Debt Fund-\$2,229.70, Wildhaven Park Fund-\$454.88, Chapel Creek SAD-\$1,406.76, Green Hills and Other Debt Fund-\$13,100.00, Barbara Lee/Harmony/Etc.-\$4,602.50, Downtown Development Authority-\$739.00, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$12,870.71, and Trust and Agency Fund-\$1,606.00 for a total of \$254,474.84. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

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

David Manning, Finance Director explained this request to amend the 2016-17 Special Revenue Funds budget is for additional funding for the Library Fund to purchase counter tops and other remodeling and for the DDA to get the funding for the sidewalks at the intersection of Secor and Sterns. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to adopt the resolution amending the 2016-17 Special Revenue Funds Budget, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2016-17 GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY RESOLUTION

Francis spoke, stating this resolution sets the millage rate for the General Fund for the 2016 tax roll. This rate has been adjusted from last year by the Headlee Rollback. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to approve the resolution adopting the 2016 General Fund Tax Levy of .7852 mills, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2016-17 FIRE DISTRICT TAX LEVY RESOLUTION

Francis spoke, stating this resolution sets the millage rate for the Fire District Fund for the 2016 tax roll. This rate is a millage that was renewed this year, so is not affected by the Headlee reduction. Motion was made by Francis seconded by Hershberger to adopt the resolution for the 1.0 mill Fire District Tax Levy for the 2016 tax roll, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2016-17 TRANSIT SYSTEM TAX LEVY RESOLUTION

Francis spoke, stating this resolution sets the millage rate for the Transit System Fund for the 2016 tax roll. This rate is a millage that was renewed this year, so is not affected by the Headlee reduction. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Steiner to establish the Transit System Tax Levy at .2462 mills for the 2016 tax roll, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE 2016-17 POLICE TAX LEVY RESOLUTION

Francis spoke, stating this resolution sets the millage rate for the Police Fund for the 2016 tax roll. This rate has been adjusted from last year by the Headlee Rollback. Motion was made by Francis, seconded by Hershberger to approve to establish the Police Tax Levy at .3966 mills for the 2016 tax roll, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BID TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL REPLACEMENT TREES AT THE BEDFORD MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY

Hershberger spoke, explaining she attempted to get three bids for the replacement of trees that had died due to storms and soil conditions. Only two companies submitted quotes, Housel's Nursery quoted \$3,024.00 (trees and installation, 1 year 100% guarantee & 1 year 50% guarantee) and Floral City Tree Service \$4,800.00 (trees and installation, 1 year guarantee). Hershberger recommended Housel's Nursery due to the lower cost, longer guarantee, and they are a locally owned business. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by O'Dell to approve the bid from Housel's Nursery for the purchase and installation of replacement trees at the Bedford Memorial Gardens Cemetery at a cost of \$3,024.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: Pirrone

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Dale Track, 2842 Sanibel – wished to clarify his comments on the pension issue and commented negatively on the upcoming MCCC millage request.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Tienvieri – stated she had no pity for the Star Motel owners because this has been an ongoing problem for several years. She also mentioned she was sorry Mr. Manning had to wait until late in the meeting to present his resolution amending the Special Funds Budget, mentioned the South County water rates and the increase, read a memo from the Road Commission regarding mowing bids which explained how roadside mowing contracts are handled.

Steiner – stated South County Water needed to communicate better with regard to rate increases and agreed Mr. Manning should not have had to stay so late. He asked Mr. Stewart to keep the board informed of the status of the Star Motel issue and said he is pleased the board is going forward with the Fire Chief search and thanked the clerk and planning dept for their work on updating the ordinances.

O'Dell – stated the board should have put Manning on the agenda earlier and stated the board had received a lot of good info tonight.

Francis – stated some residents may have received a “double whammy” on their water bill if they water their lawns and do not have a secondary meter that would reduce the sewer usage costs because the secondary meter only meters sewer usage for water usage inside the home. He has put this information in the township newsletter. He also mentioned the water line infrastructure is in need of updating/upgrading nationwide and the Federal Government should

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help with this issue also stated he felt it might be a good idea to look into a regional water system.

Hershberger – stated the township audit began on Thursday, September 15th, and the auditor expects to have the report to the board by the end of November. She also informed the public that the last day to register to vote for the November election is Tuesday, October 11, and congratulated the four new Bedford firemen.

Stewart - stated the price increases for city water were increased last spring, and the public was notified by South County Water of the increase. He also said the higher costs on the latest water bill had to do with increased watering of yards because of the hot, dry summer; a secondary meter would help alleviate the costs. He mentioned a study done by Sylvania Township that South County Water helped pay for in which they looked at 1. Going to a separate system for the areas around Toledo. 2. A redundant system with Toledo. 3. To reshuffle and make it a regional authority with a redundant water system. He also said the Toledo water intake on Lake Erie is in a very bad spot, the water level is low and there isn't a lot of water movement, which is why we have had the algae issue in the past. The water rates will not be going down so the only way to lower your bill is to conserve usage, the cost for a secondary meter is about \$300.00 but will help cut sewer usage costs. He will be attending the executive meeting w/TMACOG on the 21st and supports a regional district.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger
Bedford Township Clerk

Garnet Francis
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary