

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES  
8100 JACKMAN ROAD, TEMPERANCE, MI 48182  
September 6, 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: Tim Csurgo, Deputy Director of the Monroe County Drain Commission & Phil Westmorland, Spicer Group, 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.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A STREETLIGHT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR BROOKWOOD SUBDIVISION, PLAT II**

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by O'Dell to open the Streetlight Special Assessment District Public Hearing for Brookwood Subdivision, Plat II. Motion carried unanimously.

No one came forward to speak.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by O'Dell to close the Streetlight Special Assessment District Public Hearing for Brookwood Subdivision, Plat II. Motion carried unanimously.

Hershberger spoke, stating this special streetlight district would be for 3 streetlights to cover 30 lots in Plat II of the subdivision and would cost future homeowners \$14.10 per lot annually, based on the estimated usage fee of \$11.75 per light, per month. Tienvieri questioned the number of lights, and developer Dave Schmidt responded to the question, stating the number of streetlights was recommended by Consumers Energy, and there were streetlights already at the beginning and ending of the plat. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by O'Dell to approve the Brookwood Subdivision, Plat II Streetlight Special Assessment District at a cost of \$14.10 per lot, per year for 30 lots, 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 STREETLIGHT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR SUMMERLYN SUBDIVISION, PLAT III**

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by O'Dell to open the Streetlight Special Assessment District Public Hearing Summerlyn Subdivision, Plat III. Motion carried unanimously.

No one came forward to speak.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by O'Dell to close the Streetlight Special Assessment District Public Hearing for Summerlyn Subdivision, Plat III. Motion carried unanimously.

Hershberger spoke, stating this special streetlight district would be for 5 streetlights, to cover 36 lots in Plat III of the subdivision and would cost future homeowners \$27.20 per year based on the estimated usage fee of \$16.32 per light, per month. Tienvieri questioned the difference in cost between the Brookwood Plat II streetlight costs and the Summerlyn Plat III costs. Hershberger responded it was a different, more expensive type of lighting that accounted for the increased

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costs. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Pirrone to approve the Summerlyn Subdivision Plat III Streetlight Special Assessment District at a cost of \$27.20 per lot per year, for 36 lots, 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** – Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Steiner to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

Approval of the August 16, 2016 Township Board minutes.

Motion was made by Steiner, seconded by O'Dell to approve the consent agenda, with the minutes, as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Logan Tisdale, 1308 Brandywine – reminded everyone that 9/11 was coming up, and mentioned the importance of purchasing good proper equipment for our fire fighters and police.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED BY-LAWS FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS/CABLE COMMISSION*

Steiner presented the draft of the by-laws for the Communication/Cable Commission, stating this draft contained the changes requested by the board at the August 9<sup>th</sup> board meeting and asking for any additional suggestions, recommendations or comments. Discussion followed, with board members questioning the wording of points 1.1, 5.2.3, and 5.4.3. Attorney Goldsmith suggested possible wording changes to the board. Also during the discussion, the name of the commission was discussed, with the board agreeing by consensus to have the name become the Communications/Media Commission. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Steiner to adopt the By-Laws for the Communications/Media Commission with the changes read by Steiner, these changes to be recorded in the minutes, as follows: Under point 1.1 – Change the wording to say “These rules are adopted by the Bedford Township Board and will be adhered to by the Communications Media Commission”, point 5.2.3 - Change the wording to say “Act as the community representative for outside marketing and communication vendors, and in connection with that function make recommendations to the township board for action” and point 5.4.3 – to add “the possibility of an alert system”. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. 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-\$61,971.86, Fire District-\$19,297.85, Police Fund-\$548.19.03, Park Fund-\$15,357.61, Library Operating Fund-\$12,068.19, Water Revenue Fund-\$7,207.60, Wild Haven Park Fund-\$29.27, Downtown Development Authority-\$155,135.69, Sewer Operation & Main. Fund-\$16,336.50, and Trust and Agency Fund-\$11.675.90 for a total of \$299,658.66. Motion carried

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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 COMBINATION/RESTRICTION OF PROPERTY FOR LOTS 25 & 26 IN THE RESERVE AT SUMMERLYN SUBDIVISION**

Stewart spoke, explaining the memo from the Assessing Department regarding the combination of lots 25 and 26 in the Reserve at Summerlyn Subdivision. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by Tienvieri to approve the combination/restriction of property for lots 25 & 26 in the Reserve at Summerlyn Subdivision, 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 THE PURCHASE OF FIRE HOSES FOR THE BEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Stewart referred to the memo in the board packet in which Fire Chief Whipple recommended the purchase of new fire hoses because the current hoses are in need of upgrading, based on the last two hose tests. Chief Whipple recommended approval of the bid from Douglas Safety Systems LLC at a cost of \$11,092.00, plus shipping. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Steiner to approve the purchase of fire hoses for the Bedford Township Fire Department from Douglas Safety Systems LLC at a cost of \$11,092.00, plus shipping, 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 FINAL PLAT FOR BROOKWOOD SUBDIVISION, PLAT II**

Stewart and Hershberger both spoke to the issue, stating the checklist of requirements is complete and all monies paid for final plat approval of Brookwood Subdivision, Plat II. Motion was made by Hershberger, seconded by Tienvieri to approve the final plat for Brookwood Subdivision, Plat II, 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 THE PURCHASE OF A NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR THE BEDFORD LIBRARY**

Jodi Russ, Bedford Head Librarian spoke to the issue, explaining the three bids submitted were not "apples to apples" quotes. The bid from LaScalla was for the phone system only, the one from Buckeye was for the system and service, and the quote from Frontier is based on whenever the company has the capability to do the job. A long discussion followed with board members questioning Russ regarding costs for service and support. Russ offered to come back to the board with the additional information. Motion was made by Pirrone, seconded by O'Dell to table this item until the October 4, 2016 board meeting to allow the Head Librarian, Jodi Russ to get more information. 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 CONTRACT FOR DITCH MOWING ON LOCAL ROADS FOR THE YEARS 2017, 2018, & 2019**

Stewart spoke stating he had received the proposal from, Precision Irrigation, and had been informed by the Road Commission that the board needed to approve this three year proposal. A short discussion followed regarding the need to approve a contract for three years. Motion was

made by Tienvieri, seconded by O'Dell to approve the MCRC contract for ditch mowing with Precision Irrigation and Lawn Care Inc at a cost of \$19,800.00 per year for 2017, 2018 & 2019. 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 CONTRACT FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ON CLOVER LANE BETWEEN SMITH ROAD AND THE STATE LINE**

Stewart spoke, stating the paving part of the project has already been approved and approval of this contract will take care of the drainage portion. Motion was made by Tienvieri, seconded by Hershberger to approve the MCRC contract for drainage improvements to Clover Lane, between Smith Road and the State Line at a cost of \$89,200.00, with the township's portion of the cost to be \$87,000.00. Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows: Aye: Francis, O'Dell, Pirrone, Steiner, Tienvieri, Hershberger & Stewart. Nays: None. Excused: None

**PRESENTATIONS**

**WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT PRESENTATION**

Tim Csurgo, Deputy Director of the Monroe County Drain Commission and Phil Westmoreland from the Spicer Group gave a power point presentation of the findings from the SAW grant the board received. They gave a detailed report on the condition of the 3,000+ manholes and 130.9 miles of sewer lines in Bedford, the condition of the Sewer Treatment Plant and then spoke to the issue of the development of an Asset Management Plan and a Long-Term Funding/Capital Improvement Plan and the goal to apply for a low cost loan (2%) to help with the costs of needed repairs and maintenance for the sewer system. Tim stated he would be coming back to the board by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year with costs and suggested rate increases for board approval; he will then go to the state to apply for the low cost funding. Board members asked a few questions and thanked them for the excellent informative presentation.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Michelle Bork, 8153 Jackman – questioned who is responsible for maintaining the fire sirens and the striping and school zone marking of roads, mentioned Xfinity is owned by Comcast and has poor ratings although it's the largest company, and also commented on MCANS, the county's emergency alert system.

Ryan Lukasik, 8042 Douglas – reported on and complained about noise issues at 1:45 a.m. last night, coming from Forestview Lanes.

**REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS**

**Tienvieri** – thanked the Drain Commission for the information and report, read the information regarding the \$2,000 grant the fire dept. received from Michigan Gas, requested the remaining appointments to the Communication/Media Commission be on the next agenda, mentioned the sirens, applauded the MTA for the work they do for townships and mentioned an article in a recent MTA Magazine issue.

**Pirrone** – reminded residents that Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> is Downtown Temperance Day.

**Steiner** – asked Stewart and Csurgo for updates on the water meetings they are attending, thanked the Drain Commission for their work, referenced 9/11, stating we can't forget that day and the sacrifices made by police, ems, and firemen. He then said the Communication/Media Commission information will be completed for the next board meeting.

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**O'Dell** – applauded the work done by the sheriff's dept. and fire dept. in our area, stated he was encouraged by the information received from the Drain Commission, and invited everyone to Temperance Day on Saturday, 9/10.

**Francis** – stated summer taxes are due for payment on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, and said to call his office if anyone had any questions or concerns.

**Hershberger** - informed the board that the following ordinances are currently under active review for amendment: Development Design Standards Ordinance #65, Secondary Ag/Rural Residential Ordinance (new), Subdivision Ordinance regarding reserve strips and outlots, and Regulating no. of homes in a Development with one Access Drive/2015 Fire Code and Appendices. She also thanked Tim Csurgo and the Drain Commission for their work, and mentioned the fire sirens.

**Stewart** – thanked the Drain Commission for a great job, informed residents that open burning would begin on October 1, 2016 and continue thru November of 2016, trash bins for leaves will be available behind the township hall for the same time period. He also agreed that Xfinity is Comcast and the township cannot choose which cable companies come into Bedford and would like to see Verizon come in but that's up to the company. He also stated the Road Commission is responsible for striping the roads; the county runs/maintains the warning sirens and further stated our fire department also has access to the sirens as well. When the sirens went off recently in response to a possible tornado, two of the sirens did not work; they had not been hooked up as yet. That has been corrected, all sirens are working now. He also stated the sirens are simply a warning for people who are outside to take shelter, for a wake up type of disaster warning, it would be best to sign-up for MCANS, which is on the website and a voluntary disaster alert system through the county. He then mentioned the noise issue complaint, stating he would speak to Mr. Lukasik after the meeting, but saying if you have an ordinance complaint after 5:00 p.m. or weekends, to contact the sheriff's dept using either 911 or their non-emergency phone number 734-243-7070.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Trudy L. Hershberger  
Bedford Township Clerk

Garnet Francis  
Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary